ECMTA

AUTUMN CONFERENCE

The Art of Dialogue

20–22 November 2026 Gdańsk, Poland





Photo: Aleksander Szpakowicz

Program

Friday, 20/11

Stanisław Moniuszko Academy of Music in Gdańsk

12:00	ECMTA Board Meeting
12:00	Registration
14:00	Opening of the ECMTA Autumn Conference
14:15	Keynote Speaker:
	Prof. **Robert Kwiatkowski** (Stanisław Moniuszko Academy of Music in Gdańsk): ***From Individual Voices to One Musical Mind: The Practical Art of Chamber Music***
15:00	Keynote Speaker:
	Prof. **Levon Chilingirian** (Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London): ***Evolution of Interpretation and the Music Profession Since the 1970s***
15:45	*Coffee Break*
16:30	Master Classes
19:00	Concert
20:30	*Welcome Dinner*



Photo: Karol Makurat



Saturday, 21/11

Stanisław Moniuszko Academy of Music in Gdańsk

11:00	**ECMTA Members´ Forum**
13:30	*Lunch*
14:30	Master Classes
17:00	*Coffee Break*
17:30	Working Group for Secondary-Level Education: ***Creativity in Chamber Music Teaching***
19:00	Concert
20:30	*Dinner*

Sunday, 22/11

Stanisław Moniuszko Academy of Music in Gdańsk

10:00	Master Classes
14:00	Conference Closing



Photo: Lukasz Rajchert

Robert Kwiatkowski

A versatile artist – soloist, chamber musician, concertmaster and educator. He is a graduate of the Stanisław Moniuszko Academy of Music in Gdańsk, where he studied violin with Krystyna Jurecka and chamber music with Anna Prabucka-Firlej. He further developed his artistic skills under the guidance of many distinguished musicians, including Henry Meyer, Joseph Kalichstein, Sebastian Hamann, Marine Jaszwili, Jadwiga Kaliszewska, Stefan Kamasa, as well as members of the LaSalle and Miro String Quartets.

As a soloist, he has performed with the Beethoven Academy Orchestra, Orquesta Sinfónica de Tenerife, Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile, Polish Sinfonia Iuventus Orchestra, Sigyn Sinfonietta, Radom Chamber Orchestra, Hanseatica Chamber Orchestra, as well as the symphony orchestras of the philharmonics in Gdańsk, Częstochowa, Kalisz and Zielona Góra. He is currently concertmaster of the Polish Baltic Philharmonic Orchestra in Gdańsk. He also frequently appears as a guest concertmaster with renowned orchestras in Poland and abroad, including the Beethoven Academy Orchestra, Orquesta Sinfónica de Navarra and Orquesta Sinfónica de Galicia.

As a chamber musician, he performs both in Poland and abroad, collaborating with leading figures of the Polish music scene. While still a student, he achieved success in national and international chamber music competitions as first violinist of the Dali Piano Quartet.

His discography includes more than a dozen recordings. In recent years, he has recorded, among others, Mozart – Pearls from Paris (Anagram), Double Concertos – Mendelssohn, Chausson (Acte Préalable) and Simon Laks – In Between (CD Accord). In May 2023, his album My Story, recorded with pianist Dominika Glapiak (CD Accord), was released. Maxim Vengerov wrote of the recording:

“Mr Kwiatkowski’s violin sound is captivating, with a rich palette of colours that can satisfy even the most demanding listener.”

In December 2023, the artist released his latest album, Mozart – Violin Concertos, recorded with the Polish Baltic Philharmonic Orchestra. On the

recording, he appears in the dual role of soloist and conductor (CD Accord). For this album, he received a “Distinction for a High Score” in the “Soloist” category, as well as a “Gold Diploma” in the “Phonographic Album” category at the Muzyczne Orły 2023 competition.

In 2003, he founded the Hanseatica Chamber Orchestra, serving simultaneously as its concertmaster and director. During its ten years of activity, the ensemble received numerous awards, including the Pomeranian Artistic Award and the Griffin of Pomerania statuette, the Medal of the Mayor of Gdańsk and the Award of the Marshal of the Pomeranian Voivodeship.

In 2016, Robert Kwiatkowski was awarded the postdoctoral degree in the musical arts, and in 2023 he received the title of Professor. For many years, he has taught violin and chamber music at the Academy of Music in Gdańsk. The results of his pedagogical work with students performing in chamber ensembles include a total of 43 prizes and distinctions won at music competitions in Poland and abroad. He has also given master classes in Kraków, Vilnius, Turin, Rome, Turku, Bremen and Odense.

He is also active as a competition jury member. Among other appointments, he served as a member of the jury of the 9th International Johannes Brahms Chamber Music Competition in Gdańsk.

In 2017, he received the honorary badge “Meritorious for Polish Culture”, and in 2021 he was awarded the Griffin of Pomerania statuette for publishing his own cadenzas for violin concertos by Joseph Haydn, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Ludwig van Beethoven. In 2023, he was awarded the Bronze Cross of Merit by the President of the Republic of Poland, and in 2025 he received the Bronze Medal “Gloria Artis Medal for Merit to Culture” from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland.



Photo: Aleksander Szpakowicz



Levon Chilingirian

Born in Cyprus, began violin with his great uncle, Vahan Bedelian. After emigrating to the U.K., he later studied with his uncle, Manoug Parikian, Hugh Bean, and the Amadeus Quartet. Chilingirian's partnership with the late Clifford Benson was launched by winning first prizes in the 1969 BBC Beethoven Competition and the 1971 ARD Munich Duo International Competition.

Founded in 1971, the Chilingirian Quartet continues today as one of the most celebrated string quartets on the international scene, its highly regarded recorded repertoire spanning classical to contemporary works. Most recently, the Quartet has performed the Brahms and Mozart Quintets with Andrew Marriner in London. It celebrated the 50th anniversary of its residency at Liverpool University with a concert at the wonderful new Tung Auditorium.

Chilingirian also performs as a soloist and with other chamber music partners. He has been co- artistic director and soloist of the Pharos Festival (Cyprus), director of Mendelssohn on Mull, and has coached chamber music around the world, including for El Sistema in Venezuela. He continues annually at the UK's West Dean College Chamber Music Course as well as other courses and academies around Europe and the U.S. He was soloist and artistic director of Camerata Nordica in Sweden where he performed and recorded many concertos, including the world premiere of the second violin concerto of Tigran Mansurian. An exciting opportunity came to play the solo violin part of the Sinfonia Concertante by Mozart in Peter Schafer's Amadeus film with Sir Neville Marriner and the Academy of St Martin in the Fields. As a soloist Chilingirian has appeared with the Bergen Philharmonic, London Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic, the Philharmonia, the Armenian National Philharmonic Orchestra and Armenian National Chamber Orchestra.

Chilingirian has given master classes at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, at the Royal Danish Conservatory in Copenhagen, at the Manhattan School of Music, NYC, and the New England Conservatory in Boston. As well as being chair of the Trondheim String Quartet Competition, he has served on numerous international competition juries such as the Osaka, ARD, and Sibelius Violin competitions. He is a regular mentor at the chamber music festival at Domaine

Forget, Quebec, where the most talented young string players from North America rehearse and perform with established masters.

Levon Chilingirian received the Cobbett Medal for services to music and in January 2000, an OBE in the Queen's Honours List. He is Professor of Violin and Chamber Music Artist in Residence at the Royal Academy of Music (London) as well as Professor of Violin and Chamber Music at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama (London).



Foto: Maciej Rybicki

ECMTA Members' Forum

Saturday, 21/11

11:00–11:15 **Bogna Czerwińska-Szymula** (Poland)
Master's Degree Programme in Chamber Music at the Academy of Music in Gdańsk

11:15–11:30 **Joanna Maklakiewicz** (Poland)
Piano Chamber Cathedral at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music – Ideas and Achievements

11:30–11:45 **Evan Rothstein** (United Kingdom)
Guildhall String Ensemble Update: Strategies for Exploring Chamber Music Skills in Informal Contexts

11:45–12:00 **Tobias Granmo** (Sweden)
The Chamber Music Landscape of Sweden – A Network of Organizations!

12:00–12:15 **Kristin Reigstad** (Norway)
Improving Dialogue through Representation

12:15–12:30 **Ērika Jākobsone** (Latvia)
Discovering Pēteris Plakidis: A Hidden Gem for Chamber Music

12:30–12:45 **Katarzyna Ewa Sokołowska** (Poland)
The Scharwenka Brothers' Piano Duos: In Search of a Polish Idiom

12:45–13:00 **Daiva Stulgytė-Povilaitienė** and **Asta Krištaponienė** (Lithuania)
Chamber Music by Kaunas Composers

13:00–13:15 **Indrė Baikštytė** (Lithuania)
Beyond Survival: 20 Years of Artistic Independence – The FortVio Story

13:15–13:30 **Nikola Novak** (Croatia)
Varaždin School of Music as a Centre of Cultural Life in Varaždin County

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