

PROTOCOL

of the Jury board of the 42nd International Festival of Orthodox Church Music “Hajnówka 2023” which was held from 25 to 28 May in Białystok

Jury, consisting of:

1. prof. Romuald Twardowski – chairman
2. prof. Wioletta Miłkowska
3. prof. Stanisław Krawczyński
4. Rev. Jerzy Szurbak
5. prof. Yevhen Savchuk
6. Michał Łaszewicz

after hearing the choirs’ performances awarded the following prizes and places:

Category of amateur choirs

III place and was awarded to:

- „Art Vox” Female Choir from Chisinau (Moldova) conducted by Ștefan Macovei

II place and was awarded to:

- „Credo” Church Chamber Choir from Lutsk (Ukraine) conducted by Kateryna Tokalo

I place was awarded to:

- “Holy Apostle Carpus” Representative Choir of the Stara Zagora Diocese from Bulgaria conducted by Stara Zagora Metropolitan Ciprian

Category of professional choirs

III was awarded to:

- „Orthodox Singers” Ensemble from Tallin (Estonia) conducted by Valery Petrov

II place was awarded to:

- Byzantine Choir of Athens from Greece conducted by Georgios Chatzichronoglou

I place and was awarded to:

- the Choir of the State Opera and Ballet Theatre “Astana Opera” from Astana (Kazakhstan) conducted by Yerzhan Dautov

Furthermore Jury awarded special prize to „Concordia” Choir representing Free Belarus for popularization of the Orthodox Church music by the Belarusian composers.

During this year's Festival the audience listened to 9 choirs from Bulgaria, Estonia, Greece, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Moldova, Romania, Ukraine and USA.

Presence of listeners filling the concert hall of Philharmonic confirms, that every year competition auditions attract the interest of people.

The choirs competed in 2 categories: amateur and professional presenting interesting repertoire.

Special achievement of the Festival is promoting not only well known compositions from huge heritage of Orthodox Church music, but also presentation of newly discovered songs in this field.

Special events commemorating the 90th anniversary of late Krzysztof Penderecki's birth took place during the Festival: the exhibition "Maestro Penderecki and the Festival" and the Inaugural Concert performed by the National Philharmonic Choir, conducted by Bartosz Michałowski. In addition, the audience listened to an exciting concert of Orthodox Church music of Belarus "Mahutny Bozha"/"Almighty God" - The Singing Soul of Belarus. The culmination of the Festival is the Gala Concert with the participation of the winners of the Festival.

Jury would like to thank the organizers for huge effort put in the realization of this year's edition of the Festival, especially to its director – Mr. Mikołaj Buszko, Ms. Irena Parfieniuk - manager of the Festival office and coworkers.

We are glad that the 42nd International Festival of Orthodox Church Music is widely accepted and receives support of the government authorities, media and other institutions.

This year's performances will undoubtedly remain in memory of music enthusiasts as an exceptional event, both in terms of artism and spirituality.