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# krakow POST

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## THE GREAT EURO 2012 STAY-AWAY



### Philharmonia falling?



“...risk of imminent collapse

### Big brother blinks



“...20m zł project dropped

### Indie screens go dark



“...the dream is over

### Wisła edged out



“...seven rounds of penalties



**Anthony Casey**

While Krakow prepares to welcome up to 100,000 football fans for this summer's European championship, some experts have warned that the tournament could have a negative effect on tourism in the city.

Krakow will not host any Euro 2012 matches, but with England, Italy and the Netherlands set to make the city their base for the duration of the tournament, many fans from each of these nations are expected to descend on the city to be close to their idols. However, the influx of football fans could put off other tourists, who would otherwise have come to

Krakow in June.

Hoteliers in the city centre have reported changes in their usual booking patterns for summer. Some say that numbers are down by as much as 10 per cent, while others say that the loss of regular summer tourists has been compensated for by visitors coming to Krakow for the tournament.

Zbigniew Janczur, manager of the Capanile hotel, told the newspaper *Gazeta Wyborcza* that bookings were noticeably down compared to last year.

He said: “Our regular customers are not interested in reservations for June. They were with us in April, and we expect them to arrive again in July.”

It was a similar story at the Qubus hotel, and, at a prestigious hotel on the main square the manager added: “In June, it is mostly tourists who come to us. This year, however, we have a few empty spaces. In our opinion, this is because of Euro 2012. The average tourist who is not interested in the championships does not want to come to the city; paradoxically, the championship has damaged us.”

However, at Radisson Blu, the tournament is expected to have a positive impact. Wojciech Liszka, sales director, told *Gazeta Wyborcza* that regular summer business was down. But, he added: “The deficiency is completely compensated for by groups strictly >>2

## CATHERINE Z. MURDER TRIAL

A bus driver accused of the murder of a British student in Krakow last summer has told a court that the death was accidental.

The body of 21-year-old art history student Catherine Z. was found in a ditch on July 30. A student at the University of Kent, she was in Krakow to pursue a career in journalism.

Mirosław L., 45, was arrested on suspicion of murder in August last year. His trial began in Krakow on April 24.

The bus driver admitted attacking Catherine Z., who was a passenger on

the late night 610 route. But he told the court that he ‘lost control,’ and had not meant to kill her. He claims that a series of ‘annoyances’ – a ticket machine that was out of order, and noisy late night passengers among them – preceded the attack. When Catherine realised that she had missed her stop and asked him to turn back, he said, he ‘snapped.’

The newspaper *Gazeta Wyborcza* reports him as saying: “I feel sorry for what happened.”

The prosecutor in Krakow carried out

a nine-month investigation ahead of the trial. The case against Mirosław L. is that he was aware of what he was doing. The prosecution claims that the driver beat Catherine Z., and when she fell into a water-filled ditch, leaned on her. The cause of her death was recorded as drowning.

The prosecution further suggests that Mirosław L. acted rationally after the event. They will seek to prove that he disposed of evidence carefully, and then left Krakow, for ‘rational’ fear of the consequences of his actions.

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# Philharmonic hall, falling down?

Anthony Casey

One of Krakow's top venues is being monitored by building inspectors – for fear that it may be at risk of imminent collapse.

The Philharmonic Hall shows signs of wear and tear – caused by damp in the basement and vibrations of traffic passing by continually. Paweł Przytocki, director of the Philharmonic, told the newspaper *Gazeta Krakowska* that the hall may have to close. But Małgorzata Boryczko, Małopolska's building inspector in Krakow, said that no conclusions about the safety of the hall could be drawn until further investigation had taken place. She added that the hall would not be required to close unless such action was warranted

by the results of the investigation.

Mr Przytocki told *Dziennik Polski* that he had approached the Małopolska Marshal's office, seeking around 600,000zł to help pay for evaluation and repair work at the venue.

However, the Philharmonic in Krakow already receives approximately 12.3 million zł in public money each year. A spokesman for the Department of Education, Culture and National Heritage at the Marshal's office, said: "The Philharmonic Hall already gets a lot of money."

In the meantime, said Mr Przytocki, the Philharmonic may have to divert cash from its artistic budget. And he did not rule out borrowing money.

"I choose deficit, not disaster," he added.



Krakow's Philharmonic Hall (Filharmonia Krakowska) Photo: David McGirr

## New home for the lady... and situations vacant

Anthony Casey

While Krakow's Lady With an Ermine - the most valuable painting in Poland - awaits news of her new permanent home, the board of the museum that owns the picture have been sacked for the second time in a year.

However, the sackings at the Czartoryski Museum appear to have been pre-emptive, as members of the board have since gone on the record saying that they were preparing to resign anyway.

Olga Jaros, chairwoman of the board, said the sackings had shocked her and her colleagues. But Janusz Czop, deputy chairman, and Leszek Bednarz, another member of the board, were said by Ms Jaros to be on the verge of joining her in a protest resignation. She told the press conference that members of the board were concerned about: "attempts to limit our role... to simply carrying out instructions."

The Czartoryski Museum in Krakow has been officially in the hands of Prince Adam Karol Czartoryski since shortly after the end of Communism in Poland. A court ruled that he had the right to the property – and to treasures including Leonardo da Vinci's *Lady With an Ermine*, in 1991. Prince Czartoryski sacked his last board of managers, in July, because he said their actions were not 'transparent.' They were

replaced by employees of the National Museum's Krakow branch, with whom the Czartoryski Foundation had worked to secure the preservation and renovation of the museum's collection.

As for the Lady... she will be housed at Wawel Castle until renovation of the Czartoryski Museum is finished. It is understood that Castle and Museum authorities are in negotiations about how revenue from ticket sales to view the painting will be split, and work to ensure a safe environment for the painting at Wawel has already begun.



Wawel (Photo: David McGirr)

## Hotels that compete for you

Booking a hotel room has just become a lot easier – thanks to the revolutionary approach of a Krakow-based business.

Bidroom.com, created by entrepreneur Mark Bradshaw, developer Ada Skakuj, and designer Maciej Szafraniec has turned the booking process on its head, by allowing hotels in 20 cities worldwide to make their best offers direct to customers looking for accommodation. The website requires no registration or log-in; users simply select their destination city, travel dates, type of hotel and rooms required, and enter the number of guests. The details are then

sent directly to the hotels in the Bidroom database, which can then make specially-tailored offers direct to customers.

Speaking of the current model, hallmarked by high rates of commission and tough restrictions on hotel-guest contact, Mr Bradshaw said: "The booking engines take a huge chunk of money from the hotels, so neither the customers nor the hotels are getting a great deal... the booking engines are, basically, pimps."

The bidding approach to hotel booking is a recent hot trend. Tingo.com and BackBid.com are trying a similar idea.

## Signs of summer...

Look out for two big events to mark the coming of summer next month - especially if you're looking for something to do that doesn't involve 11 grown men being paid large sums of money to kick a ball around a field.

The Jewish Culture Festival in Krakow runs from June 29 to July 8, and is now in its 22nd edition. The festival, which grows in stature and popularity each year, presents concerts, workshops, film screenings, lectures, meetings and more. For full details, see the website at [www.jewishfestival.pl](http://www.jewishfestival.pl).

Also in June will be a weekend dominated by dragons - culminating in a parade featuring the creations of Krakow's own Teatr Groteska. The theme of this year's

parade will be Poland's neighbours, so be ready to encounter German composers, folk experts from Belarus, traditional storytellers from the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Lithuania, and Ukrainian Orthodox church heritage, from June 2-3.

The June edition of the *Krakow Post* will feature more on the programmes of both the Jewish Culture Festival and the Dragon Parade.

→ EURO 2012 STAY AWAY

related to the event."

For tourism in general, the businesses that rely on the tide of summer visitors are holding their breath.

Mirosław Ernest, owner of Ernesto Travel, told the newspaper that travel agents with unsold packages on their books would be hit hard.

He added: "This will be the worst

month of the year for the whole of the Krakow tourism industry, and therefore, for example, for restaurateurs."

According to Jacek Bochenek, director of sports consultation firm Deloitte, the situation in Krakow is not surprising. Mr Bochenek said hotels, many of which raised their prices for the duration of the tournament, were competing with a flood of private rental deals as Poles seek to cash in on the event. Euro 2012 was also facing a challenge from the London

Olympics in the battle to win the hearts and wallets of sports fans.

However, city officials remain confident that Euro 2012 will bring many benefits to Krakow.

Filip Szatanik, spokesman for the city magistrate, said: "We anticipate that 100,000 more visitors than is usual at this time of year will be coming to us during Euro 2012. I am convinced that the city will be vibrant in June."

krakow POST

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# No memorial for Szymborska's grave

Anthony Casey

The grave of the Nobel prize-winning poet Wisława Szymborska is to be cleaned up - but a monument to her work in the same place has been ruled out.

Visitors to the grave, in Krakow's Rakowicki Cemetery, currently find worn stone, badly in need of renovation, and a laminated card bearing the poet's name and dates fastened loosely beneath the engraved names of her father and mother. Michał Rusinek, who was Ms Szymborska's personal secretary up to her death earlier this year, said it was sad to see that the grave in which the Nobel laureate's remains rest appeared 'inelegant'. But, speaking to the newspaper *Gazeta Krakowska*, Mr Rusinek said there

would be no statue in the cemetery.

He said: "This should not surprise anyone who knew [her]. Before her death, we talked about this. I have no doubt that [she] would not have liked any statue or decorative splendour. Perhaps there will be a monument commemorating her in Krakow some time, but certainly not on her tombstone."

Patrycja Ćwikła, spokeswoman for the office of Krakow's Municipal Cemeteries (Zarządu Cmentarzy Komunalnych), said the city was responsible for the cemeteries as a whole, but did not have the right to interfere with individual graves without express permission. She added: "I do know that the tomb of Wisława Szymborska will be renovated soon, permission has been given."



The Szymborski family grave (Photo: David McGirr)

## Sleepless nights for England team?

A centuries-old Krakow tradition has come under fire from the English tabloid press, who fear that it may hamper the England team's chances of winning the European football championships.

The hejnał mariacki - the bugle call that sounds from the tower of St Mary's Church in the main square every hour on the hour - is, according to the *Daily Star* newspaper, an 'ear-splitting' racket that will prevent the players from sleeping at their base, the nearby Stry Hotel. The story was quickly picked up - and laughed down - by the Polish press. It follows features in *The Sun* newspaper earlier this year, about the 'poor' state of England's training ground, the Hutnik Stadium in Nowa Huta. The city council wrote to *The Sun* after the feature was published, saying that the FA were happy with the facilities, and that the stadium would be fully ready before the England squad arrives in Krakow.

The hejnał mariacki is rooted deep in legend. It is said that a watchman began playing to warn the city's residents of an attack by Tartar warriors. Now, when the tune is played, it ends abruptly, as the story tells that the watchman was shot in the throat by a Tartar arrow.

While the *Daily Star* fears that the players will be too tired to perform well on the pitch - due to their location in the heart of

the city's party zone, as well as the bugler - *Gazeta Krakowska* reports that their wives and girlfriends will face similar problems at their temporary home. It is understood that the WAGs will stay at Hotel pod Różą, on ul. Floriańska.

Olga Wojcik, director of the four-star hotel, told the newspaper: "It is true that people associated with the England representatives will stay with us. I cannot say any more."



Hejnał bugler (Photo: David McGirr)

## Learn from the masters

This month sees the start of a programme of lectures, workshops and more, aimed at revealing the secrets of the Medieval master craftsmen who worked in Krakow.

The project will be held on Tuesdays and Fridays, and will be a chance for participants to learn some of the skills and techniques, and produce their own works of art. Grind your own dyes to create authentic traditional colours, learn how to decorate furniture panels, practise the art of decorating books and manuscripts by hand, or learn the techniques used for making

tapestry and jewellery. There will also be opportunities to learn woodcut techniques, and methods of working ceramics, metal and glass.

Organised by the National Museum in Krakow at the Bishop Erasmus Palace, classes start on May 8, and will finish on June 22.

For more information, email project administrator Monika Wleziń at [mwlezien@muzeum.krakow.pl](mailto:mwlezien@muzeum.krakow.pl).

The workshops cost 250zł, including materials and admission to the museum.

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# Big brother blinks

The government has withdrawn from a 20-million złoty high-tech surveillance project based in Krakow amid accusations that it would violate constitutional rights.

Grażyna Zawada

A man moves hesitantly along a street, then leaves a parcel near a bus stop. He might just be forgetful, or he might be planting a bomb. If informed early enough, the bomb squad could investigate, but where do you find hundreds of trained personnel to watch all of the city's CCTV cameras around the clock?

This is where technology comes in. If you can get a computer do the dull job of watching everything and reporting possible threats to humans, you can save a lot of time and money. But how do you program a machine to see the world as acutely as a human?

The INDECT project (Intelligent information system supporting observation, searching and detection for the security of citizens in the urban environment) is an EU-funded research

Spanish Ministry of Defence, and Latvian, Romanian, Maltese and Czech police.

But in mid-April, a spokesperson for the Polish Ministry of Internal Affairs announced that neither the police nor the Ministry would participate in any further development of INDECT.

The official reason was that the police already have sufficient equipment to detect threats to public security, but it is suspected that the change of heart is a reaction to recent protests about INDECT and the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA). Polish member of parliament Barbara Bubula recently called INDECT: "An Orwellian system of surveillance."

The Minister for Internal Affairs, Jacek Cichocki, has also admitted that: "the project disturbs the balance between security, freedom and the privacy of citizens."



project intended to provide the answer. The programme was launched in 2009 and was expected to end in 2013.

It is based on an intelligent monitoring system that uses cameras, microphones, motion, temperature and pollution sensors. The data streams from these instruments are passed to a computer command centre, where algorithms screen it for any unusual behaviour that might mean a threat to life, health or public security.

The system is capable of recognising aggressive human gestures or the visual profile of a person falling to the ground. Another goal is for INDECT to be able to recognise wanted criminals on the street, or to go online and scan websites for child pornography.

Financed mainly by the EU, INDECT is co-ordinated by Krakow's Academy of Mining and Metallurgy (AGH) and involves several partners in Poland and elsewhere in Europe, including universities, police forces, and customs authorities.

The prototype was to be installed in Krakow's Ruczaj housing estate and the finished technology was to be used by Polish special services such as the Internal Security Agency. Among other agencies and institutions interested in buying the technology are: Europol, the

"Scientists working on the project have not done enough to dispel people's doubts," he added.

The rector of AGH, Antoni Tajduś, said that the university has not yet been officially notified of the change in plans but that: "The Ministry's decision slightly hinders our work, but doesn't totally disrupt it, since we are still co-operating with other partners. We will finish it anyway, but we will see if it is used in Poland or not. I believe this is a project dedicated to improving security, not for spying on the public," he said.

However, the rector admits that INDECT is only a tool and, like any tool, its use will depend on the buyer's intentions.

"The scope of police and security powers is not clear in this area. We also need to remember that INDECT technologies will be available to commercial entities beyond democratic scrutiny," said Katarzyna Szymielewicz of the Panoptikon Foundation – an NGO that monitors privacy protection.

"We have reservations about the possibilities of integrating the data and, therefore, the possibility for state and private institutions to profile members of the public. This might violate the right to privacy or equality measures in the constitution," she said.



# The Black Wood of Stare Kiejkuty

Giuseppe Sedia

The investigation into Poland's involvement in extraordinary rendition and 'enhanced' interrogation is being played out in Krakow courtrooms.

Set in a green corner of Poland scattered with bubbling springs and placid lakes, the manor house that is home to the 2nd Unit Training Centre of the Agencja Wywiadu (Poland's intelligence agency) is located in the village of Stare Kiejkuty in the Masurian Lakeland.

The 2nd Unit's headquarters, known as 'the wood' among Polish security operatives, is tucked away out of sight, separated from the 1st Unit by a small grove of trees impenetrable to journalists and human rights activists.

It was here, critics claim, that the Polish state allowed terror suspects snatched by the CIA to be imprisoned and tortured in flagrant disregard for Polish and international law.

In distant Krakow, the convoluted legal investigation into these allegations is drawing to a close. The case was transferred from Warsaw to the Prosecutor's Office in Krakow in January of this year, and its conclusion is scheduled for August 12, 2012.

One of the two principal prosecutors, Jerzy Mierzewski, was removed from the case before its transfer to Krakow. *Gazeta Wyborcza* later obtained access to his files and claimed that the prosecutor was preparing to file charges stating that acts in breach of the Polish constitution and international law had occurred in Stare Kiejkuty.

"Mierzewski was removed from the investigation into secret CIA activities due to the need to assign him to another case," said a spokesperson for the Prosecutor's Office in Warsaw in May 2011.

"To ensure credibility, the chief prosecutor must stop hiding behind the veil of state secrecy and explain why the latest prosecutor was replaced," said Julia Hall, Amnesty International's expert on counter-terrorism and human rights.

Several men now held at Guantanamo Bay 'passed through the wood,' including Adb al-Rahim al-Nashiri and Abu Zubaydah.

The International Committee of the Red Cross completed a report into the treatment of 14 CIA detainees, including Abu Zubaydah, in 2007. It concluded that the men had been subject to numerous enhanced interrogation techniques, including waterboarding, beatings, sleep deprivation and forced nudity. Some or

all of these may have occurred at Stare Kiejkuty.

The men have been offered pro bono legal support from a group of lawyers assisting them both in the United States and in Europe.

Following Mierzewski's removal from the case, al-Nashiri's legal representatives filed a case against Poland at the European Court of Human Rights, which was eventually registered on May 9, 2011.

"The case is still pending the court's decision as to further procedure. Given that the application was granted priority, we would expect that a procedural step will be taken within the next few months," said the ECHR's press office.

"Al-Nashiri was abducted from Poland without issuing any extradition warrant, thus violating Article 2 of the European Convention on Human Rights with regard to the right to life," said Mikołaj Pietrzak, al-Nashiri's defence attorney in Poland.

"Despite Mierzewski's efforts, the investigation has so far been ineffective because Poland didn't make any attempt to obtain legal support from the United States," added Pietrzak, who also confirmed that he has maintained contact with al-Nashiri's lawyers across the Atlantic.

"These developments further confirm that the Polish investigation is incapable of vindicating Mr al-Nashiri's rights. We hope that the ECHR will act swiftly to render justice in this case," Amrit Singh of the Open Society Justice Initiative told the *Krakow Post*.

At the end of March this year, further details of the case were leaked to *Gazeta Wyborcza* and television news program *Panorama*, revealing that former AW chief Zbigniew Siemiątkowski has been under investigation for his role in the rendition and torture programme.

Siemiątkowski, who headed the AW between 2002 and 2004, was recently sentenced to one year in prison for endorsing the illegitimate arrest of the former CEO of Polish oil giant PKN Orlen, Andrzej Modrzejewski during the so-called Orlengate affair.

In a letter published in April 2012, the Krakow Appellate Court confirmed that 62 people have been questioned in connection with the Stare Kiejkuty case to date. It also confirmed that Poland has requested legal assistance from both the US government and human rights experts abroad.

The situation is complicated by the




Security fences around the military base at Stare Kiejkuty

fact that both al-Nashiri and Zubaydah are now subject to US military tribunals at Guantanamo Bay, but it is the US Department of Justice that is responsible for international co-operation in criminal investigation.

"If the AW provides the prosecutor

with all the documentation related to the detention program and their co-operation with the CIA, US support might not be essential in order to make solid charges," Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights spokesperson Małgorzata Szuleka told the *Krakow Post*.




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# Krakow's indie screens go dark

Anthony Casey

When news broke that one of Krakow's best-loved cinemas was to close, thousands signed up to a Facebook campaign in a bid to keep it open. Actors, politicians and musicians stepped into the fray, and even the Mayor of Krakow lent his support, vowing to try to find a new city centre home for Kino ARS.

But, as the *Krakow Post* went to press, it looked as though the cinema on ul. Św. Jana would close as planned on April 30, pushed out of business by a 100 per cent rent rise. The irony of the timing has not been lost on the city's legion of film fans, who enjoyed the Off Plus Film Festival in the middle of April, and are looking forward to the internationally-renowned Krakow Film Festival (KFF) at the end of this month.

Yet, while the cinema may no longer be operating, it is likely that its name will live on in the form of a special award, also to be made in May. The achievements of ARS – named after the first three screening rooms to open there, Aneks, Reduta, and Sztuka – have won the independent film house a place on the list of nominees for the Polish Film Institute Awards, in the cinema section. Off Plus, the KFF and the Etude & Anima festival are also among the Krakow institutions to be short-listed. The winners will be announced at the 37th Gdynia Film Festival, on May 9.

The new rent for the cinema space in the city centre building has been reported in Polish media at around 80,000zł – although the *Krakow Post* was unable to confirm that figure. Neither is it known who will take over the premises when ARS leaves. Initial speculation in local media put the supermarket firm Carrefour in the frame, but the company has since released a statement saying that it has no plans for expansion on ul. Św. Jana.

Andrzej Kucharczyk, creator of the present day Kino ARS, expressed warm thanks to the army of fans and supporters who had joined the campaign to keep the cinema open. But, he said, there was nothing more that could be done to save it. The rent rise, he said, was simply beyond the reach of the cinema's resources.

Magnanimous in defeat, Mr Kucharczyk urged supporters to avoid bitterness and ill-feeling, adding: "You cannot blame anyone here. This is the market... and the owners responded according to economic calculations. ARS has always been a private cinema, neither the city nor the state are responsible for it."

But, Mr Kucharczyk also voiced his own sadness at the passing of Kino ARS, saying: "It was never just a business, rather a passion, and not only my passion, but that of the people who worked with me."

Mr Kucharczyk met Jacek Majchrowski, Mayor of Krakow, to discuss the future of the cinema, in mid-April. Mr Kucharczyk told Polish newspapers that the meeting had gone well, and that Mr Majchrowski had promised to try to help find a new home for the cinema. However, no announcement had been made as of



Kino ARS, set to close on April 30 (Photo: David McGirr)

April 25 – and so Kino ARS's chances of survival in the city centre drew to a close.

Kino ARS will not be the first independent cinema in Krakow to fall. One only has to take a walk around the Planty to find what was once Kino Wanda, said to have been the city's first purpose-built cinema, and now a supermarket still bearing the 'Wanda' sign above its doors. And, although ARS has only been operating in its present form since 1995, it has in fact been a cinema since 1916; its closure, should no unlikely eleventh-hour reprieve become apparent, at the end of April, comes just four years shy of its 100th anniversary.

Since the mid-1990s it has become a byword for independent, international films in Krakow, especially among those who prefer the romance of a traditional cinema to the flash and glass multiplex experience. Yet ARS has not neglected viewers keen on the latest Hollywood blockbusters, regularly showing box office smashes. Add to this the special events, such as New Year's Eve movie marathons, visits by Oscar-winning stars such as Morgan Freeman and more, and throw in the glorious choice of rooms – it now boasts six – and it's easy to see why Kino ARS has earned a place in the hearts of around four million viewers who have come through its doors since 1995.

The ethos of the cinema is, perhaps, best summed up in a few words, taken from the brief history of the cinema on the ARS website.

"We had the courage to dream," it reads. "Thanks to everyone who helped us in this, and in the fulfilment of dreams, in life and on screen."

But this particular dream, it appears, is over.



Kino Wanda closed in the late 1990s (Photo: David McGirr)



Sergey Bratkov  
'While Men Are at War'

Jason Evans  
'Pictures for looking at and sculpture for photography'

Jerzy Lewczyński  
'Memory of the Image'

René Magritte  
'The Fidelity of Images: René Magritte and Photography'

Gally Mann  
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# TUCK IN: Quiche with Asparagus and Smoked Salmon

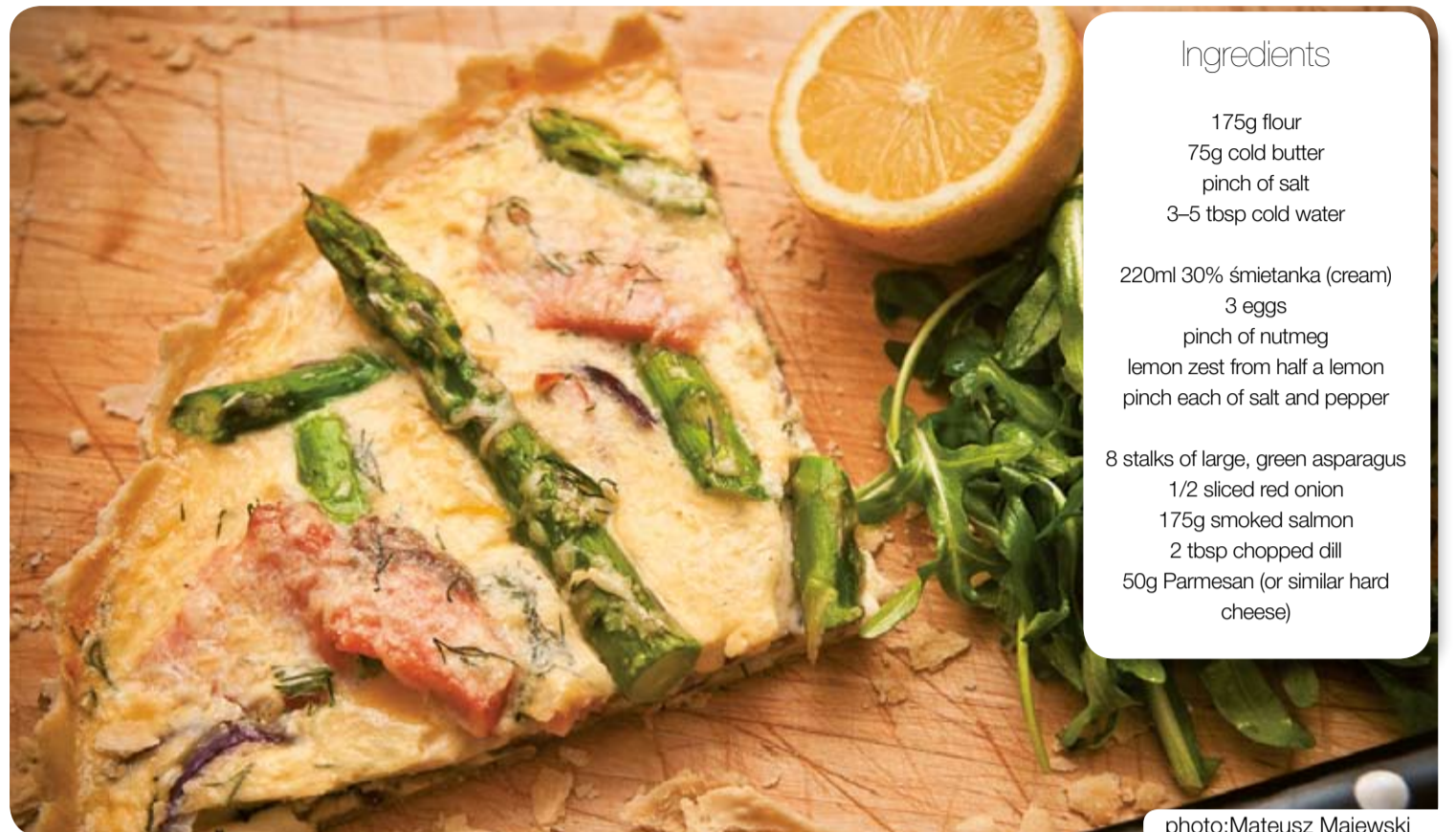
Rejoice! The vegetable aisle is getting a lot more colourful lately, and it's right about now that we can dig in to those delicious delights that show up for a month and then disappear into a sea of cabbage and potatoes. Green asparagus is a spring favourite, and this quiche makes for a scrumptious and luxurious way to make the most of it.

Dana Dramowicz

## Method:

The shortcrust pastry is by far the biggest pain of this whole procedure, a fact that usually relegates quiches, pies, and tarts to leisurely weekend cooking. If you're lucky, you might find readymade pie or tart crusts, or frozen shortcrust pastry, in your local supermarket (double rejoice!).

The first step is to make that lovely pastry, which admittedly takes more skill and caution than I usually care for (no approximations or improvisations here, sadly). Measure out 175g of flour into a large bowl (it helps to leave the bowl in the fridge for a while beforehand), cut the cold butter into cubes and throw them into the flour. Add the salt. Using your fingertips, rub the cold butter into the flour. Use a light touch – you don't want to hold the pieces of butter in your warm hands for any longer than necessary. The aim is to create a coarse powder (akin to breadcrumbs). Incorporate a few tablespoons of cold water and



### Ingredients

175g flour  
75g cold butter  
pinch of salt  
3-5 tbsps cold water

220ml 30% śmietanka (cream)  
3 eggs  
pinch of nutmeg  
lemon zest from half a lemon  
pinch each of salt and pepper

8 stalks of large, green asparagus  
1/2 sliced red onion  
175g smoked salmon  
2 tbsps chopped dill  
50g Parmesan (or similar hard cheese)

photo: Mateusz Majewski

mix everything together with your fingers. Add enough water to bind it all, knead it lightly a few times, and squish the dough down into a disc. Wrap in cling film and leave to rest in the fridge for half an hour. Preheat the oven to 180°C.

When the dough is rested, roll it out on a lightly floured surface. Don't roll too much – you don't want it too thin, and overworking shortcrust pastry is always bad news. Transfer it to a tart or flan dish, cover with a piece of parchment baking paper, and

top with baking beans to weigh it down. Pop it in the oven for 20 minutes, then remove the beans and paper and return to the oven for 5 more minutes.

Now for the filling. Snap off the ends of the asparagus and wash the stalks. Cut them in half and throw them in a pot of boiling water for a couple of minutes to blanch. Drain, and rinse with cold water to stop the cooking process. Drop the cooked asparagus into the quiche shell,

along with the red onion, salmon, dill, and half of the Parmesan. Beat the eggs in a bowl, mixing in the cream, nutmeg, lemon zest, salt, and pepper. Slowly pour the mixture into the crust and top with the remainder of the cheese. Turn the oven down to 150°C and bake for 25 minutes, or until the quiche has set (meaning it doesn't jiggle when you touch the dish). Pair a generous slice with a glass of white wine and a side salad (rucola with lemon juice and olive oil is divine).

# DROP IN: Chinska Pałac

ul. Mackiewiczza 14B. [www.chinskipalac.krakow.pl](http://www.chinskipalac.krakow.pl)

Stuart Wadsworth



In the February issue of the Krakow Post I blithely asserted that Krakow lacks half-decent Chinese cuisine. This month I am forced to eat my words – awkwardly, with chopsticks. Chinska Pałac (China Palace), in the suburb of Biały Prądnik, has been in business, in different forms and at various locations, since 1993. For a restaurant with such vintage, it is remarkably poorly known. The location is not ideal – you need to hop on a tram to Krowodrza and get another bus if you want to avoid the taxi fare – but it's well worth the trek.

The first thing that sets Chinska Pałac apart from other restaurants of its ilk is its size – the main room is spacious, and there are a couple of side rooms for parties – one with a revolving Chinese banquet table. The décor is pleasant, with traditional bucolic landscapes, statuettes of pot-bellied Buddhas, and photos of great and revered Chinese figures past and present. It's warm and welcoming,

inviting one to linger.

The owner, Mr Tan Yaolin, divides his time between his restaurants here, in Warsaw and Vienna, and is circumspect about the restaurant's longevity. He says he just wants to provide quality food at affordable prices, but he acknowledges the dearth of quality Chinese eateries in Krakow: "It's a shame, but most do cater to Polish tastes, and that means compromising on their food. We try not to do that." His experienced chefs, imported from restaurants back home, he says, are chosen above Polish cooks for their commitment to preparing authentic Chinese food. As we sat down, a dozen satisfied-looking Chinese customers were on their way out – usually a very good sign.

To start, we had a dish that I have definitely not seen before, in Poland or anywhere else – pickled eggs with marinated beef. It doesn't sound appetizing, but the dark, musky-tasting eggs were

a flavoursome delicacy, and the beef was subtle and thinly sliced, almost melting in the mouth. Jing Si prawns followed – tiger prawns battered in fried, grated potato, served with a delicate creamy sauce. This was also unusual and beautifully presented, and the tiger prawns were crunchy and delicious. We also sampled the fried duck slices in sesame coating served with a chili-ginger dip. The duck pieces were tenderly cooked and the dish was another superb starter. Altogether, these starters came to around 60zł.

The wine list was perfunctory, but Chinese restaurants are hardly known for good wine, and there were a couple of tasty beers on offer. Our main courses were 'chrysanthemum fish' (fried and battered white fish in a sweet and sour sauce), beef slices in a spicy Szechuan sauce with cabbage, and crispy pork meatballs. When I find dishes spicy enough to choke on, I'm happy, and there was

certainly no shortage of chili in the beef dish, which was my favourite of the lot. The fish, intricately woven pieces (presented with an artistically constructed bird carved from carrot), was also very tasty, and the meatballs were crunchy and satisfying. Each dish was priced in the 25–35zł range – about 20% more than in your average Chinese eatery here.

Chinese staples such as stir fry, chow mein, chop suey and fried rice are absent from the menu, and there is a lack of cashew nuts and water chestnut, but it is clear that the Chinese food on offer here is a cut above the rest in Krakow. The recent addition of crispy duck and various types of dim sum to the menu shows a commitment to authenticity and choice. The thoughtful touch of a fortune cookie rounded off the meal nicely. Mine said I would soon make a chance discovery, which was a bit previous given that I had found Chinska Pałac the month before.



# KINO MANIA

★★★★★ Go now!

★★★★★ See it

★★★ Solid

★★ If you must

★ Avoid

## Droga na drugą stronę (Crulic - The Path to Beyond) 2011

Directed by: Anca Damian

Giuseppe Sedia

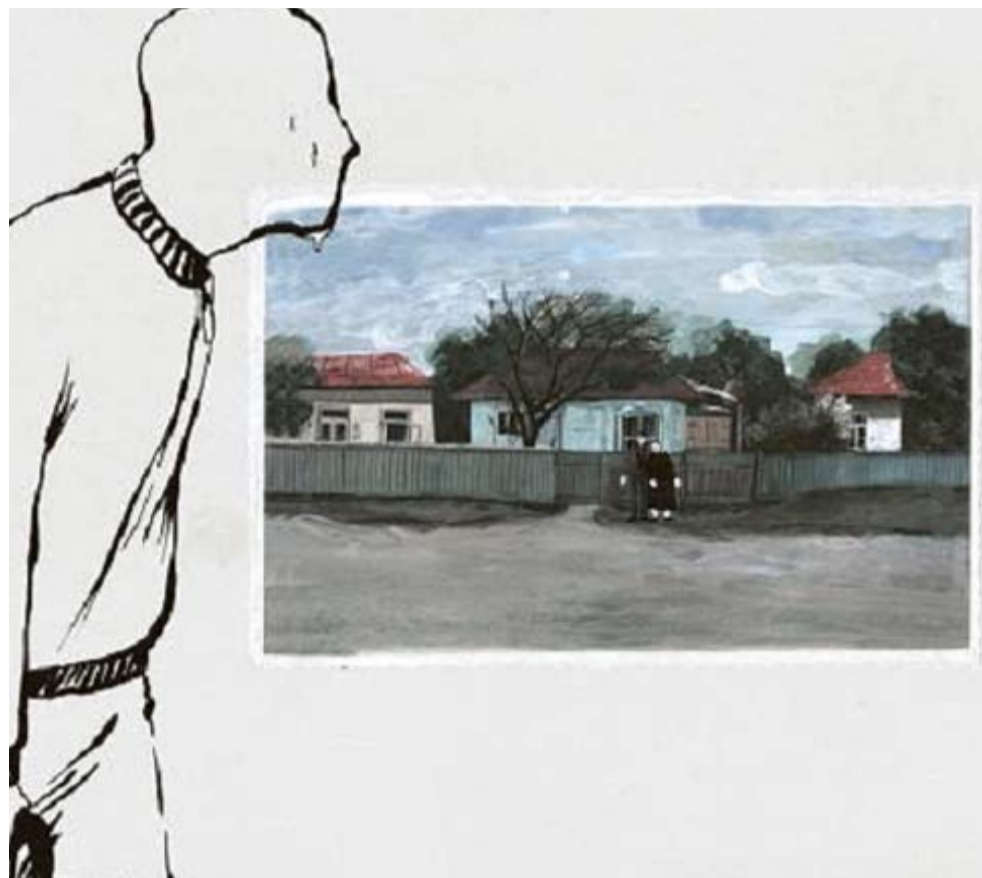
★★★★★

"The former prison director explained to me that this issue was not important enough to deserve my attention," said Krakow prison administrator Zygmunt Lizak to local daily *Gazeta Krakowska*. Polish and Romanian producers have come together in this film to bluntly explain what was important enough to deserve his attention – the death of Claudiu Crulic. *Droga na drugą stronę* recounts the deadly hunger strike undertaken by a 33-year-old Romanian citizen wrongfully accused of theft in Krakow while travelling by bus to Italy. Romanian cinéaste Anca Damian proves that animated documentaries should be regarded as a genre in their own right. From a technical point of view, Damian's feature has more in common

with the graphic journalism of Lebanese-Swiss cartoonist Chappatte than the genre's landmark *Waltz with Bashir* (2008) directed by Ari Folman. Unlike Folman's work, which is drawn, Damian has integrated images of real objects into the narrative using decoupage, drawing and collage to boost the distancing effect. Dipped in a peculiar form of black humour à la Lucian Pintilie, which is indeed more Romanian than Polish, *Droga na drugą stronę* provokes the viewer with a set of anguished questions about Crulic's ordeal. As in *Waltz with Bashir*, the director eventually jolts the viewer back to reality with the abrupt insertion of real footage in the epilogue. Damian's second full-length feature has, deservedly, been cherished across Europe.

“

The former prison director explained to me that this issue was not important enough to deserve my attention



## Wszystko płynie

(Flowing)

2011

Starring: Piotr Kamont

Directed by: Piotr Ivan Ivanov, Krzysztof Dziomdziora

★★★★

Giuseppe Sedia

The 'river movie' genre may already have had its moment of glory with the Golden Lion winning Chinese masterpiece *Still Life* (2006) set along the banks of the Yangtze. Apparently, a smooth mix of fiction and documentary shot beside a river has become a recipe for critical acclaim at film festivals. Unfortunately, the Vistula is six times shorter than the Yangtze and the disproportion between the budget of *Wszystko płynie* (2011) and Jia Zhangke's masterpiece is even more extreme. A seasoned volunteer at the sole lifeguard station on the Vistula claims that the Poles have turned their back on the Vistula, but Piotr Ivan Ivanov and Krzysztof Dziomdziora seem content to wander its length uncritically. Filmed with dexterity by Jan

“  
a smooth mix of fiction and documentary shot beside a river has become a recipe for critical acclaim at film festivals

Prosiński this fluvial ode doesn't feature too much political pamphleteering about environmental issues. As the original title suggests 'everything flows' for an amateur boatman who navigates only for the pleasure of the experience. Despite the fact that the fictional fragments do not always harmonise with the travel footage, the whole is nicely cemented together by a classy indie-folk soundtrack. The melancholic tunes of Polish breakthrough artists such as Adam Repucha and Paula & Karol help and enhance the viewer's journey through each scene. As a collage of visual impressions patiently assembled over two years, *Wszystko płynie* may entice lovers of the documentary.

## Vinci 2004

Starring: Borys Szyk, Robert Więckiewicz, Kamila Baar, Tadeusz Hagen  
Directed by: Juliusz Machulski

James C Muus

With the return of Leonardo da Vinci's *Lady with an Ermine* to Krakow, local art lovers are eagerly awaiting a glimpse after her long, long trip abroad. In the meantime, catch *Vinci* – a thriller that puts the famed work centre stage as the target of master criminals.

*Vinci* is less a crime-comedy and more a heist movie with a sense of humour. The picture could have turned out formulaic under the guidance of a lesser director, but Juliusz Machulski has struck a rare balance between realistic dialogue and entertaining banter between his stars. He uses Krakow as a

fitting backdrop for an elaborate plan to steal the city's greatest work of art.

Robert Więckiewicz, a frequent collaborator with Machulski, delivers an understated performance as Cuma – a career criminal recently released from prison on fabricated claims of ill health. His motive all along is to steal the cherished painting. Cuma's partner, Julian, played by Borys Szyk, has joined the police during Cuma's prison term, and is torn about joining his old friend for the job. Kamila Baar plays Magda, a savvy art forger recruited by the two conmen, but unaware of their true intentions. The director's father, Jan Machulski, gives a compelling performance as Tadeusz Hagen – Magda's grandfather and mentor. While most of the plot is focused on the team's intricate set-up, almost all of the suspense is reserved for the film's climax. The ending is something of a twist, although keen viewers might be able to see it coming. In general, *Vinci* is a worthwhile picture

representative of the growing stature of contemporary Polish cinema.



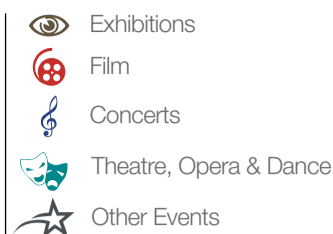
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# POSTED THE MONTH IN EVENTS



## Living Gallery

This is the latest in a cycle of exhibitions from the National Museum, to be held at the Gallery of 20th Century Polish Art. It will feature the works of three Krakow artists – Leszek Dutka, Walenty Gabrysiak and Bogusław Szwacz. Dutka's signature is surprise – for the viewer – which is drawn largely from his own curiosity about the world. The exhibition is a rare chance to see previously unpublished work by Gabrysiak, while Szwacz's contribution will include his 'My Life and The Ruins of Warsaw.'

Where: National Museum, Al. 3 Maja 1

When: Until June 10

## Pop Art and Lucjan Mianowski

"To be independent in life is impossible; to be independent in art – that's my goal." So wrote Lucjan Mianowski, the contemporary artist whose work is the theme of this exhibition. In all, there will be 140 samples of Mianowski's images, spanning a career of half a century. The artist was educated in Krakow and in Paris, where he encountered new European and American art – and developed a fascination with mass culture, especially sex and sport.

Where: National Museum, Al. 3 Maja 1

When: Until June 3

## Modernizm

Subtitled 'Urban Planning, Architecture and Interiors,' this exhibition charts the history of the fabric of Nowa Huta between the years 1956 and 1970. This was a period that began with hope and political change in Poland, thanks largely to the death of Stalin. This was reflected in new Polish attitudes to all manner of art – but in Nowa Huta especially, always a political melting pot set to boil over, it found new forms of expression.

Where: Krakow City Museum, Nowa Huta branch, os. Słoneczne 16

When: Until June 1

## Sport in Art

Following the success of History in Art, this exhibition takes a look at one of the other major influences on our everyday lives. Through photography and installation, it attempts to uncover just how sport can arouse such bestial passions at times, but has the power to calm and sedate at other times. The central hypothesis seems to be that mankind needs to fight, to strive and triumph – and that, as a species, we have found a way to do just that without risk of serious injury.

Where: MOCAK, ul. Lipowa 4

When: From May 18

## The Art of the Allotment

There is something quite primeval about the acquisition of food and the bringing of life from the soil. So, while hunters hunt and gatherers gather, it's not surprising that the idea of 'grow your own' is still so deeply entrenched in the human psyche. This exhibition is the penultimate stage of a wide-ranging project looking at the phenomenon from an anthropological viewpoint, and is presented in collaboration with a blog at [www.dzielodzialka.eu](http://www.dzielodzialka.eu). It will come to an end later this year.

Where: Ethnographic Museum, Pl. Wolnica 1

When: Until October 21

## Partiti Bestia

Zbigniew Makowski's work last graced Krakow's Zderzak gallery some four years ago, at the tender age of 78. Now the Warsaw-based surrealist is back with a new collection that is anticipated to draw crowds similar to the thousands who attended back in 2008. The exhibition title says it all really – it is a reference to the words 'Be gone, beast,' shouted by Virgil in Dante's epic poem *Divine Comedy*. In this vein, expect a weird and wonderful bestiary, all from Makowski's own frenzied imagination.

Where: Galeria Zderzak, ul. Floriańska 3

When: Until May 12

## Rene Magritte and photography

Among the surrealists, Magritte was a character who stood out for his boldness and wit, challenging the world to look again at what it thought it already knew. The photographs in this exhibition were created between 1925 and 1955, and together with movies they offer an insight into the private life of the artist, his family, and his friends. Presented in collaboration with the Polish and Belgian Walloon governments, and representatives of the French community of Belgium.

Where: MCK, Rynek Główny 25

When: Until June 10

## Bronisław Schönborn's Krakow

Anyone who had been around Krakow in the 1940s-60s would have come across Bronisław Schönborn, an artist who made literally thousands of pictures of the city, recording on paper what most would consider quite ordinary facades. Now, much of his work is owned by the City of Krakow Historical Museum, and there's a chance to see some of it at this exhibition. Look out especially for the pictures showing aspects of Krakow that have since fallen to decay or development.

Where: Hipolit Townhouse, Pl. Mariacki 3

When: Until May 20

## Mirage

This is an exhibition that throws together two unique landscapes and philosophies, and then steps back to see what happens when they collide. Łukasz Jastrubczak leads visitors on a journey that takes in the Amazonian jungle and the barren desert of the south-west USA. His attempt to balance the American Dream with the myths of South America lead to somewhat ironic results, reflecting the very fragile nature of the goals and ideals to which we are expected to subscribe.

Where: Bunkier Sztuki, pl. Szczepański 3a

When: Until May 6

## 21 Rooms

There is something deeply disturbing about the idea of a room that has been abandoned, but in which nothing has changed since the last occupant left. It is something that is found in the rooms of those who do not know what became of a loved one, but who vowed to keep a little piece of home alive for them – and is very close to this exhibition, focused on hotel rooms, presented by Łukasz Biederman. On the one hand, there is emptiness and cold, but on the other there is a sense of a quiet space.

Where: Galeria Pauza, ul. Floriańska 18/3

When: Until May 15

## Two lands, two skies

This exhibition of photographs showcases a selection of the work of a Krakow-born photographer who set out to document the relationship and differences between the two worlds of Poland and Palestine. Ze'ev (Wilhelm) Aleksandrowicz was born in Krakow in 1905. His passion for photography took him around the world, including three visits to Palestine in the 1930s. He died in Tel Aviv in 1992 – and it would be another 11 years before his life's work - 15,000 negatives - were discovered.

Where: Galicia Museum, ul. Dajwór 18

When: Until July 31

## Crown Treasury and Armoury

Recently re-opened after refurbishment, this exhibition is on the site of the former royal treasury. It was here that the trappings of Poland's regal family were stored, housing crowns, scepters, orbs and all the ceremonial equipment used to raise princes to kings. Among these is the most important and symbolic artifact of all – the Szczerbiec sword used in the coronation of monarchs. Other artifacts have survived war, pillage and wanton vandalism – in much the same way as Poland itself.

Where: Wawel Royal Castle

When: Permanent

## Metropolis

Part of Agraška's classic silent cycle, *Metropolis* has become something of a cult movie in the years since its release in 1927. Made by Fritz Lang, and written by Lang and his wife Thea von Harbou, it presents a view of a future where the intellectual elite sit, quite literally, in their ivory towers, like the gods of Olympus looking out over the lives of their minions, the working men and women. Music for the two-hour screening will be provided live by Piotr Bzowski and Friends.

Where: Agraška Cinema, ul. Krowoderska 8

When: May 8, 8pm.

## Little kino, big ideas

An immediate hit on the movie scene in Krakow, Kika is a tiny place that packs a big punch. There are only 41 seats, but what this place lacks in stature it more than makes up for in prowess; cafe, bar, comfy sofas, state of the art equipment... and of course a range of the best arthouse films available, all come together to create a new and impressive experience in an upcoming area of Krakow that is really beginning to make a name for itself among tourists and locals alike.

Where: Kino Kika, ul. Krasickiego 18

When: Ongoing

## Jiro Dreams of Sushi

Look out for this award-winning portrait of Japanese tradition and the search for perfection when it hits Polish screens this month. With the music of contemporary composer Philip Glass, it is the tale of Jiro Ono, octogenarian owner of the smallest restaurant in the world. The prices can be high, and the waiting list long, but the diners keep coming to sample the delights of a legendary place in downtown Tokyo.

Where: Kino pod Baranami, Rynek Główny 27

When: From May 25

## Psychoanalyzing Film

If you've ever wondered what exactly it was that was going through the minds of some of the great directors, or what it was that screenwriters really wanted to tell you, this monthly gathering at Kino Mikro could be right up your street. It's led by experts from the Krakow School of Psychotherapy, and includes screenings and discussion. Tickets cost 10zł, and meetings are on the last Tuesday of every month, at 8pm.

Where: Kino Mikro, ul. J. Lea 5

When: May 29



Metropolis



**Music is a Woman**

Maria Sadowska is an extremely talented young lady. Singer, songwriter, producer, composer... she has been in the business since recording her first album at the age of 14. She is best known for her slick combination of the poetry of Maria Jasnorzewska with jazz and contemporary music, and her talents have already earning her a gold disc, not to mention several awards. Catch her at Grotoska in this one-off show for May.

Where: Teatr Grotoska, ul. Skarbowa 2  
When: May 13

**Choral Fantasy**

It has been said that, of all the instruments in the orchestra, the human voice is perhaps the most powerful and the widest ranging. You can find out for yourself just how good choral music can be at this concert, as the Krakow Philharmonic Choir present a varied programme from the likes of Sandström, Jennefelt, Pizzetti, Martin, Pallasz and Malecki. They will be conducted on the evening by Jan Łukaszewski.

Where: Philharmonic Hall, ul. Zwirzyńska 1  
When: May 16

Maria Sadowska



**Days of Mendelssohn**

Presented by the Judaica Foundation, spanning nine days, and featuring performances of the pick of the works of Felix Mendelssohn, this festival will truly be a feast for classical music lovers. Overall, there will be eight concerts at the Centre of Jewish Culture, and an organ concert at the Dominican Church in the city centre. Among the galaxy of stars and groups due to perform are the Mariani Klavierquartett, the Śląsk Quartet, Gabriel Chmura, Dmitri Eremin, Pablo Miro-Cortez, and more.

Where: Centre of Jewish Culture, ul. Meiselsa 17  
When: May 11-19

**Music For Two Orchestras**

Samuel Barber, Ralph Vaughan Williams and Bela Bartok may not be names that would normally be found on a single concert programme, but Sinfonietta Krakowska have never been afraid to explore new presentations. Here, they bring together the works of these composers, and have taken the original step of splitting the performances between two conductors. Jerzy Maksymiuk will take the lead for the Barber and Vaughan Williams section, then Robert Kabara will take over for Bartok.

Where: Krakow Filharmonic, ul, Zwirzyńska 1  
When: May 15, 7.30pm

Lucjan Mianowski: Head-head, 1968



**Halka**

This is the most famous of all Polish operas, though in other parts of the world it is somewhat overshadowed by the Italians and Germans. Which is a pity, because it's also one of the most manageable operas – not over-long and with a story that's easy enough to follow, even if you know no Polish. Composed by Stanisław Moniuszko, it's the tragic tale of love and, ultimately, death (well, aren't they all).

Where: Opera Krakowska, ul. Lubicz 48  
When: May 19, 20, 22

**Romeo and Juliet**

Possibly the most romantic story in the world, broadcast live to Krakow from the second most romantic city in the world (Krakow, naturally being the first)... what combination could be better? There is probably nobody in Europe who does not know this tale of love thwarted by family ties and death – but this month there's a chance to see it performed live on the big screen. The performance comes from the Opera National de Paris, and is part of Kijów. Centrum's cycle of live opera streamed from around the world.

Where: Kijów.centrum, Al. Krasińskiego 34  
When: May 15

**Euroculture Quiz**

Why did Julius Caesar wear a laurel wreath? Who lives in Europe's smallest houses? Where is Europa island located? Where did Chopin spend his last years? Discover the answers at the Euroculture Quiz night in Kazimierz. With great prizes on offer, live music and more, the event is a chance to show off your knowledge of all things European, in the categories of music, films, history, gastronomy, EU integration, culture and art . For more information and to register, visit euroculturekrakow.com.

Where: Magazyn Kultury, ul. Józefa 11  
When: May 29

**Regional Products Fair**

Step away from the bars, the kebabs, the myriad museums and galleries and throngs of tourists for a couple of days, and visit this two-day regional product fair in nearby Kryspinów. What's it all about? Everything traditional to Małopolska, from arts and crafts to produce specific to the region's towns and cities, and its historical and archaeological heritage. There will be dancing, competitions, displays of archery and other knightly pursuits, and much more to keep the whole family occupied.

Where: Kryspinów, near Krakow  
When: May 12-13

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the art of the allotment exhibition

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## Krakow is an impressively photogenic city that also happens to host one of the major photography events in Europe – Krakow Photomonth (Miesiąc Fotografii w Krakowie).

This year marks the 10th Jubilee edition and takes place at venues across Krakow from May 17 to June 17.

The theme is 'Join us' (Dołącz) and the organisers are extending an invitation to 'Join us, celebrate our birthday, celebrate photography.'

Photomonth is organised by the Foundation for the Visual Arts. As well as producing festivals showcasing the best of world and Polish photography, one of the foundation's goals is to preserve photographic archives that are at risk because they are not being properly cared for by any other society or institution.

### What is Krakow Photomonth?

Krakow Photomonth has secured a place as one of the most respected photography events in Europe. The festival has grown from humble beginnings in 2002 and now attracts major exhibitions from world famous practitioners while continuing to support and encourage young, home-grown photographers.

As well as individual and collective exhibitions, the festival also features a wealth of photography events including workshops, screenings, lectures and a portfolio revue. The accompanying 'ShowOff' section spotlights ten individual exhibitions selected by a jury from over 600 contenders.

The main program includes exhibitions by the following prestigious photographers. More details are available at [www.photomonth.com](http://www.photomonth.com).

#### Sergey Bratkov

'While Men Are at War'

Museum of Contemporary Art in Krakow (MOCAK), ul. Lipowa 4

#### Jason Evans

'Pictures for looking at and sculpture for photography'

Association of Polish Art Photographers' Gallery, ul. św. Tomasza 24

#### Jerzy Lewczyński

'Memory of the Image'

National Museum in Krakow, Main Building, al. 3. Maja 1

#### René Magritte

'The Fidelity of Images: René Magritte and Photography'

International Cultural Centre (ICC), Rynek Główny 25

#### Sally Mann

'The Family and the Land'

Ethnographic Museum in Krakow, ul. Krakowska 46

#### Aleksander Rodchenko

'Revolution in Photography'

National Museum in Krakow, Main Building, al. 3. Maja 1

#### Viviane Sassen

'Parasomnia'

Pauza Gallery, ul. Floriańska 18/5

#### Liego Shiga

'Canary'

Manggha Center of Japanese Art and Technology, ul. Konopnickiej 26

#### Cezary Pieczyński

'Live Flesh'

Starmach Gallery, ul. Węgierska 5

## PRACTICAL TIPS

Here are a few tips on photography in general and photographing Krakow in particular to help you capture the magic of the city.

### Tripods

Tripods are prohibited in some locations. Rest your camera against something solid, and use the self-timer function, or invest in a small, flexible support that can wrap around any fixture.

### Photo tickets

Some tourist sites, notably Mariacki Church and the Wieliczka salt mine, require photographers to buy an additional photo/video ticket (for 10zł). This is usually a sticker that should be worn in a conspicuous place to fend off over-zealous security staff.

### No flash

Flash photography is often banned in museums or places of worship.

Use a high iso and a slow shutter speed. Take more than one photo in succession – the second or third shot will often be steadier.

### Safety

Krakow is a very safe city, but the usual common sense precautions should be taken. Never leave your kit unattended and always be aware of your surroundings if venturing out at night in less busy areas.

### Photographing the locals

Be polite and respectful. Don't be the pushy tourist with a camera. Some people, usually the older generation, are less keen on being photographed.

### Explore

Krakow is a wonderful location to photograph, but a lot of it is not immediately visible. Stray off the beaten track. Wander down alleys into passageways and hidden courtyards – they are almost always public spaces despite appearances.

### Get in close

Look up. Capture the detail in the architecture, the old glass street numbers, the ornate portals and the stonework.



The Krakow Post's resident photographer David McGirr shares some insights gained from 12 years of looking at the city through a lens.



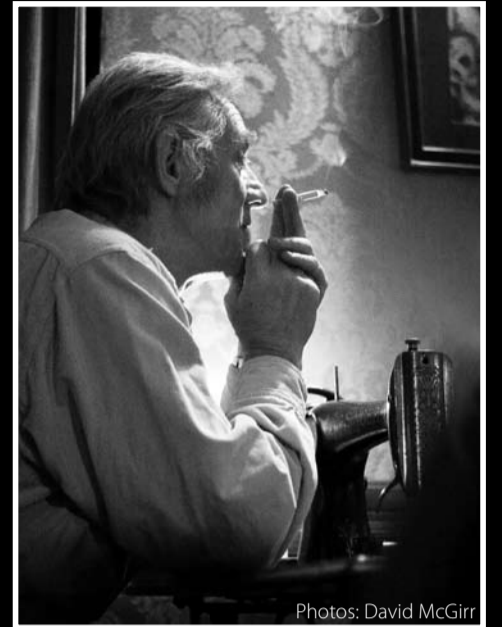
there is no better time to enjoy the delights of photographing Krakow surrounded by the inspiration of so many wonderful exhibitions.

You can, of course, go for the 'postcard' shots – Mariacki, the Sukiennice, Wawel, the horse-drawn carriages in the square – but the exhibitors at Photomonth didn't get there by taking the same shots as

I long ago stopped considering myself a tourist, but I still photograph the obvious, A-list locations almost weekly. It's a compulsion – an addiction. The city always looks beautiful through the lens. It's like living with a supermodel – you might get used to her, sometimes irritated by her, but it is so tempting to whip out the camera for just one more shot.

everyone else. Below is a list of novel locations to help you squeeze the most out of your time here.

Don't forget to submit your favourites to the *Krakow Post*, we would love to see your best pictures and present them to our readers on our website or in our pages



Photos: David McGirr

## KRAKOW FROM ABOVE

Krakow looks good at ground level, but its true splendour is revealed from on high. There are several places to get above those grand town houses for a new point of view.

### Academy of Music

(Akademia Muzyczna), ul. Tomasza 43  
Take the lift to the rooftop cafe for splendid views over the city's rooftops. Free

### Krakow Balloon

Most Gunwaldzki  
A 10-minute flight in a tethered balloon to an altitude of 186m provides panoramic views of Krakow and far beyond. 38zł (9am–8pm)

### Jubilat Roof Terrace,

Al. Krasińskiego 1  
There is a choice of rooftop cafes on the roof of the Jubilat department store with views across the Vistula to Wawel. Browse the department store itself for a shopping experience from days gone by. Free

### St Mary's Basilica Tower

Rynek Główny  
Climb the 239 steps to 51m above Rynek Główny and look down on the hustle and bustle below. Time your visit to reach the top on the hour and witness the Hejnał bugle call up close. 6zł

## PHOTO WALKS

A selection of routes that take in less obvious, but highly photogenic, sides of the city.

### The Planty

A ring of parkland surrounding the Old Town, formerly a moat, that is a welcome escape from the busy centre and features numerous photo opportunities.

### Ul. Kanonicza

Widely agreed to be the prettiest of Krakow's streets, ul. Kanonicza leads from Wawel castle towards the Rynek Główny. Rather than following the crowds,

turn left onto ul. Senacka to find a surprisingly quiet corner of the Old Town.

### Mały Rynek

The little cousin of the grand Rynek Główny, the Mały Rynek (Little Square) is often overlooked even though it's just around the corner.

### Along the Vistula

Start in front of the Sheraton Hotel and head downstream to the startlingly modern footbridge that links two of Krakow's most historical districts, Kazimierz and Podgórze.

### Explore Kazimierz

The former Jewish district of Krakow has been reinvented as one of the trendiest parts of the city. The interiors of cafes such as Alchemia, Singer, Mleczarnia and Eszeweria are fabulous examples of 'shabby chic.'

### Explore Podgórze

Cross the new footbridge to find atmospheric and evocative Podgórze. Don't be put off by the crumbling facades, a legacy of decades of neglect. Podgórze was the site of the Jewish Ghetto and this is where you can find highlights such as a fragment of the ghetto wall (ul. Lwowska), the former Schindler Factory, now a museum, and its near neighbour the Museum of Contemporary Art Krakow.

### The Mounds

Four man-made mounds (kopiec) surround the city. Kopiec Kościuszki is the best known, dominating the skyline above Błonia and providing fine views across the city and to the distant mountains. Less well known, but well worth seeking out, is Kopiec Krakusa. Located on the edge of Podgórze between the former Ghetto and the site of the Płaszów concentration camp, it is much smaller than Kopiec Kościuszki, but more than a thousand years older.

## MARKETS

Krakow has many open-air markets stocked with

photo opportunities as well as a giddy array of objects old, new, beautiful and hideous.

### The Flea Market in and around Hale Targowe

(ul. Grzegorzeczka).

### Stary Kleparz (Rynek Kleparski) and Nowy Kleparz (ul. Długa)

Two busy places to taste real Krakow life.

### Second Hand Clothes Market

Plac Nowy, Sunday mornings.

## STREET PHOTOGRAPHY

If snapping people on the street is your thing, you will not be disappointed. Krakow is alive with opportunities for candid shots – street performers, kids chasing pigeons, chess players by the river, sleeping drunks on the Planty or a thousand other eccentric characters.

## SOCIAL/DOCUMENTARY

Seek out aspects of Krakow life that are slowly disappearing – the kiosks, the pretzel (obwarzanki) sellers, the Communist-era buildings, and quirky

shop window displays.

## PHOTOGRAPHER-FRIENDLY PLACES

Photography is a long-established and appreciated art form in Krakow. Here is a handful of places where you're bound to find like-minded souls.

The Museum of the History of Photography (Muzeum Historii Fotografii), ul. Jozefitow 16 ([www.mhf.krakow.pl](http://www.mhf.krakow.pl)).

Pauza Café (ul. Floriańska 18) hosts great exhibitions in the main bar and in their upstairs gallery. Better still, they have a great selection of quality international photography magazines on the bar.

Krakow once had many Foto Komis – shops selling a huge variety of vintage or second-hand cameras – where you could pick up a bargain. One of the few survivors can be found at ul. Zwierzyniecka 16.

Foto-Bielec (Pl. Inwalidów 6) is a traditional photographers dating from 1938, where they still use wooden box cameras and traditional techniques. In 1938 they photographed a 19-year-old student who later became Pope John Paul II. The image is now internationally famous.

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# SHOPAHOLIC

Lulu Living ul. Tomasza 28. [www.lululiving.pl](http://www.lululiving.pl)

If the hassle of the Galeria is too much, there is a way to slow down and shop in style right in the heart of town. Escape the bustle by taking yourself to the Lulu Living Concept store on ul. św. Tomasza.

As you approach the attractive gates the atmosphere begins to calm down, and walking into the courtyard is like stepping into another world. Not quite the same one as in years gone by, when this building was a notorious brothel.

The shop is on the first floor and going inside is like stepping into a fine palace full of beautiful things to enhance your home. The wares on offer include pieces of vintage furniture such as decked drinks trolleys, lamps, shades,

dramatic chandeliers and sofas. This is a place where you can take your time choosing a piece that will lift your room, from the ordinary to the extraordinary.

My eye was caught by the unusual candles, especially the ones crafted into beautiful replicas of orchids – perfect for floating in a glass bowl as the centrepiece of a dinner table. There are also fun wax hyacinths and artichokes, good for brightening a kitchen. Some of the more modern designs can be found in the bright cushions piled onto couches and chairs.

When you're done, stay awhile, buy a coffee and browse through the design magazines. It's a world to take into your home.

Chris Riley



# Krakow for Kids: Garden of Experiences

Karina Grolewska | [krakow-kids.blogspot.com](http://krakow-kids.blogspot.com)



Photo: Karina Grolewska

The Garden of Experiences (Ogród Doświadczeń) is an open-air, hands-on education exhibition where kids play and learn about physics. It covers an area of six hectares within the Park Lotników Polskich (Polish Pilots' Park).

There are about 70 experimental exhibits in the garden, from a giant kaleidoscope to a model of the Solar system to magic glass, all designed to stimulate the imagination of the garden's youngest visitors.

Where: Al. Pokoju 68, Krakow.

Parking:

Free street parking. You can also park at the nearby CH M1 shopping centre.

Tram stop:

From the city centre, take trams 1, 14 or 22 and get off at the M1 Aleja Pokoju stop.

Pushchair/wheelchair access: Yes.

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am – 7pm, Weekends 10:00am – 7pm.

Price/discounts:

Cash only. Regular ticket – 8zł. Students, seniors – 5,50zł.

Kids under 7 – free. Birthday parties – 3 hours/23zł per child.

Toilets: Yes.

English speaking: Yes.

Website: [www.ogroddoswiadczen.pl](http://www.ogroddoswiadczen.pl)



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The Judaica Foundation - Center for Jewish Culture, Krakow, [www.judaica.pl](http://www.judaica.pl)

**Daniel Drumz & Galus****11.05**Alchemia, Estery 5  
tagged: hip-hop, funk, electronic

Two of Poland's best representatives in the genre of new generation hip-hop beats come together tonight in Krakow's Alchemia to perform live. Daniel Drumz has been a permanent fixture on the Krakow scene for over 10 years now, from his first performances as a turntablist to today, hosting the Electric Relaxation Show on Radiofonia. Galus, on the other hand, marked his spot in the Polish music scene most definitively in 2011, with the release of his critically acclaimed album for U Know Me records - Futura. Supporting are DJs Senior Soul and Rewelacyjny Luciano.



Daniel Drumz

# CZUB life

DANA DRAMOWICZ

**Blackbird Blackbird****20.05**Rozrywki Trzy, Mikołajska 3  
tagged: synth-pop, lo-fi, electronic

Some lovely atmospheric pop music is coming our way this month courtesy of multi-talented San Francisco artist Mikey Maramag AKA Blackbird Blackbird, performing in Krakow this month as part of his European tour. Layering lo-fi beats with sparkling electronic textures and vocal harmonies, Blackbird Blackbird is the happy, pretentious-less cousin of hip-to-the-bone American chillwave. Check out the artist's Bandcamp page for lots of free downloads and previews of material new and old at [blackbirdblackbird.bandcamp.com](http://blackbirdblackbird.bandcamp.com)

**Planningtorock****19.05**Fabryka, Zabłocie 23  
tagged: performance, electronic, pop, experimental

Once in a while an artist comes along, that, through their utter originality, defies all attempts at explanation, particularly through words on paper. By combining elements of performance art, chamber pop, weird electronica, and vocal twists and turns, Planningtorock is simply unique. With releases on Chicks On Speed Records and DFA, Planningtorock continues to make a name for herself through projects like her recent collaboration with The Knife and Mt. Sims in the science-opera "Tomorrow, In A Year". Experience Planningtorock for yourself at Fabryka this month - tickets are 69 zloty.



Planningtorock

**Tarwater****21.04**Klub RE, św. Krzyża 4  
tagged: indieelectronica, post-rock

Tarwater is Bernd Jestram and Ronald Lippok, a duo based out of Berlin, Germany. Since their beginnings in 1996, Tarwater has recorded an impressive 11 studio albums on labels like Kitty-Yo, Morr Music, and even Polish indie label Gusstaff, which released two albums by the group in 2007 and 2009. Most recently, Jestram and Lippok (who also records with To Rococo Rot), released Inside the Ships, continuing their sonic explorations in restrained indie-electronica. Combining electronics, live instruments, and improvisation, Tarwater's live performances are always a treat.



Tarwater



Nadja

**Nadja****23.05**Alchemia, Estery 5  
tagged: ambient, drone-doom, ambient-doom

Hailing from Toronto, Canada and currently based in Berlin, Nadja is a partnership between musicians Aidan Baker and Leah Buckareff. Transforming live instruments such as bass and guitar through heavy delays, distortion, and filters, Nadja create dark ambient soundscapes as can be heard their numerous recordings for labels like Alien8 Recordings. Also performing: French sound artist Mathias Delplanque and Polish experimental performers Arm and Kepa Yew & Dorota MorteK. Advance tickets available at Alchemia for 20 PLN, rising to 30 PLN on the day of the concert.

**Green ZOO Festival****23-26.05**Across Krakow  
tagged: indie, folk, pop, electronic

After a successful first edition in 2011 (headlined by Basia Bulat), Green ZOO returns bigger and better this year with concerts, talks, and workshops taking place in venues across Krakow. Lovingly curated by local promoters Front Row Heroes, Green ZOO's guests include an exciting array of international artists playing anything from post-punk to experimental folk. This year's programme includes: Ben Caplan, Lower Dens, Moonface (the latest project of Wolf Parade and Sunset Rubdown's Spencer Krug), Katie Moore, Molly Nilsson, Socalled, Swearing at Motorists, Jason Urick, and VUK. More info at [greenzoo festival.pl](http://greenzoo festival.pl)



Ben Caplan

**More...****07.05** / Thin Lizzy at Klub Studio**08.05** / Basketball at Klub RE**11.05** / Vladimiriska + Ashia & the Bison Rouge at Magazyn Kultury**12.05** / Bee and Flower at Klub RE**14.05** / The Ex at Manggha**14.05** / Immanu El at Rozrywki Trzy**19.05** / Rooftop Party at Zielone Tarasy**22.05** / Parov Stelar Band at Klub Studio**28.05** / Jacaszek at Alchemia**Juwenalia****> May**Across Krakow  
tagged: students, alcohol, predictable rock bands

It's that time of the year again, folks. The powers that be have once again forced me to write my annual spiel about the copy-pasted line-up of every single Juwenalia that has possibly ever been and will possibly ever be. For those not in the know, Juwenalia is an annual springtime affair held in cities across Poland, when students take over the city with outdoor concerts (either free or cheap), film screenings, workshops, outdoor excursions, DJ parties, and sports events. Juwenalia isn't a single event - it's just a time of year

when students are let loose across Poland for a bit of fun before exams. So, without further ado, here is part of the predictable, crusty old line-up of artists performing at the many Juwenalia events across Krakow: Hey, Apocalyptica, Dżem, Illusion, Lipali, Maciej Maleńczuk, Frontside, Coma, Vavamuffin, Kult, happysad, Myslovitz, IRA, Grzegorz Turnau, Lao Che, Strachy Na Lachy, Zakopower. As usual, the Niepokorni stage is a bright spot in a dark, dark place, with interesting, young acts like Hatifnats and Dagadana on the menu. Another welcome breather comes courtesy of the University of Economics' events. I never thought I would commend someone for booking British act

Modestep, but let's face it, noisy dubstep is the music grown-ups don't understand and that's exactly what students are supposed to listen to. Of course, there's absolutely nothing wrong with the guardians of Polish rock performing, but booking them all in one go, every single year, makes it all look careless and desperately out of touch - as if Poland hasn't produced any new talent for the last 10-20 years (which, I think we can all heartily agree, it has). On the other hand, attending Juwenalia concerts is like jumping into a crash course of Polish music history. Pick your poison and let's rock this month out as best we can. More information at [krakow.dlastudenta.pl/juwenalia](http://krakow.dlastudenta.pl/juwenalia)



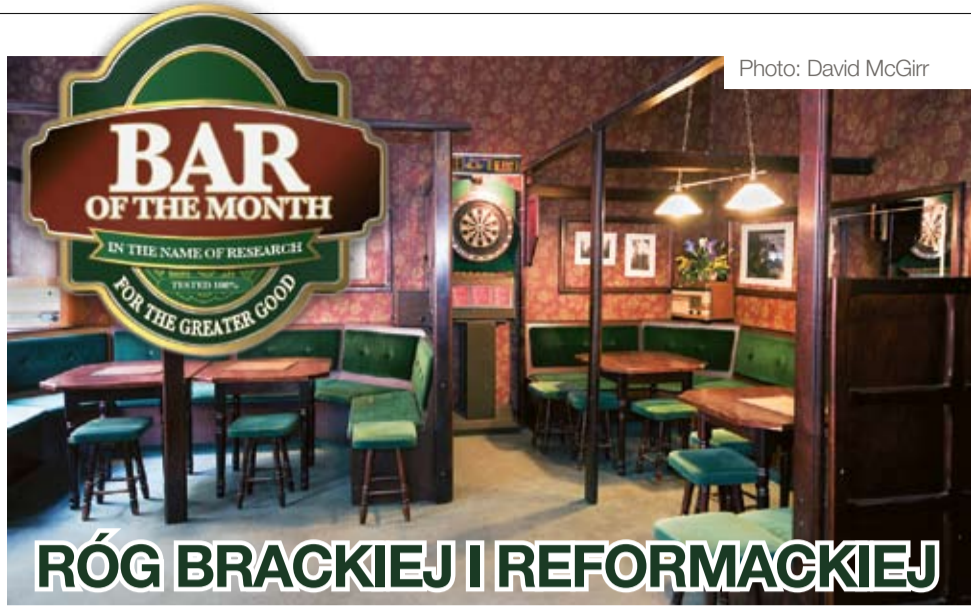


Photo: David McGirr

# FASHION: KRAKOW STYLE

in association with: **Galeria Kazimierz**

If I were a satirist, I might make a clever play on ul. Reformacka as a metaphor for Poland. One side is dominated by the ancient walls of a Catholic monastery. The doors of its chapel spill bells, smells and intonements onto the pavement. Opposite is a soup kitchen, the local headquarters of Solidarność, an office of the Institute of National Remembrance (motto: 'Prosecuting crimes against the Polish nation') – and a bar.

There's an urban myth in Poland that it's illegal to sell alcohol within 100m of a church (or 500m, or whatever other number seems outrageous). You almost always hear this myth recounted by a person with a drink in his hand standing in a bar in Krakow. The twin considerations that Krakow has the highest concentration of bars in Europe and a concentration of churches which means that nothing at all is more than 100m from one or other of them rarely seem to register.

Róg Brackiej i Reformackiej is considerably less than 100m from the nearest church. It's so close that, parading the 14 Stations of the Cross in the yard across the road, it would require only

a small lapse of attention to add a fifteenth – The Mourners Pop in for a Quick Zywiec.

The clue to this flagrant myth-busting may lay in the bar's name: Róg Brackiej i Reformackiej means 'At the junction of Bracka and Reformacka streets' – two thoroughfares on opposite sides of the Old Town that do not and have never intersected. It's a reference to an old joke, or figure of speech, in which you make it clear to someone that you don't want to meet them by arranging to do so at a non-existent place. For example: "Of course I'd like to see you when you're in town Uncle Jan – let's meet on the corner of Bracka and Reformacka. How's 70 past 9 for you?"

Given the rich web of cultural considerations surrounding Róg Brackiej i Reformackiej it almost doesn't matter what the place is like. It's a bonus that it turns out to be good. Notice I say 'good' rather than 'nice,' because it definitely isn't nice, or trendy, or enchanting. Forced to choose adjectives, I would go with 'lively,' 'relaxed' and 'shabby' – the good kind of shabby, not the artfully reconstructed gothic kind that haunts Kazimierz.



*There is no way around suffering*

Dear Dr. Ovlowska,

I work for a big international company and really enjoy both my free time and the club life in Krakow. I also enjoy the easy sex one can have with Polish guys. I don't want to fall in love, because I know I will have to leave sometime, maybe soon. But one guy insisted on wooing me. After months of resisting, I fell for him. He's a great lover and a fun person to spend time with. I never feel judged for my curves or occasionally looking tired. He's never jealous, just an easy-going, open-minded type. But precisely when I admitted that I cared for him, he disappeared. He does not answer my calls. I'm devastated.

Dear Devastated,

Love him if he comes back, love him if he does not – there is nothing you can or should do to try to influence his behaviour. We can't terrorise or make others feel guilty, and be loved by them at the same time.

Lovers often behave like magnets. At first they are irresistibly attracted to each other, but later the polarity can flip so they push away, maintaining a constant distance at all times.

This change happens precisely at the moment you describe – the moment you surrender. "Why?" you cry. "Why does it have to be like that?" Because it is

the natural next step that teaches us to grow. It is our responsibility to accept others as they are. And if we learn each time we get hurt, we become wiser and all the more valuable. There is no way around suffering, only through it.

It is, of course, both exhausting and painful when the fighting begins. She screams and hurls plates at him, caring neither about him nor the price of porcelain. He stays at work for long hours, conducting an affair with a co-worker or his laptop.

Not a pretty picture, and the early signs of what could turn into a broken marriage. In a way, you should count yourself lucky. You're having the experience now, and not three years after your wedding or the birth of your second child.

Maybe your mission in Krakow will come to an end soon, and your problem will be solved by circumstances. Continue the easy superficial sex, and you will be fine. If you have courage though, you will try to get to the root of your devastation. You will find it within yourself, and you don't need either a Polish lover or to be in Krakow to do that work.

You are always welcome to contact me for a conversation.

I wish you much luck, strength and wisdom.

Yours Dr. Ovlowska



These are tricky times – one minute it's warm, then it's cold, then it's warm again. The seasons are on the cusp and nothing is certain in this era of climate change. Hopefully, though, we are heading towards a warm and sunny summer. But until we get there, we are faced with a sartorial challenge.

Fear not – anything is possible in the world of fashion. Just take a look at our super chic in-betweeners, effortlessly juggling style and practicality and incorporating colours that hint at sunnier times ahead.

# THE INBETWEENERS

Martyna Wilce

So how do the seasons work in the fashion world? They seem to be as mixed up and confused as our climate.

The fashion calendar is divided into two major seasons: Autumn/ Winter and Spring/ Summer – at least that's how it used to be. For some time now, there have also been inter-seasonal collections as well. To confuse matters even more, Spring/Summer collections are shown throughout September and November and Autumn/Winter collections are usually presented in February and March.

Until summer proper arrives, take your inspiration from Krakow's ever-stylish ladies and perform your own balancing act to create a unique in-between look.







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**krakow POST** Photo of the Month

Krakow by Lomo (Agnieszka Karpierz)



## ASTRO SELTZER

## TAURUS (Apr 20 - May 20)

Lately, you've been feeling that people are trying to take advantage of you. They may not be; perhaps they're mistaking your silence for agreement. If you've been feeling grumpy, you should stay away from more sensitive souls until you're back to your jolly old self.



## GEMINI (May 21 - Jun 20)



If you're a good sport and take care of all the details, there could be a lovely surprise for you in the next few weeks. Your natural, easy charm could be the foundation

on which you make some serious money. People are growing weary of crackpots and cranky malcontents: you could end up being the poster child for an upsurge of positive thinking.

## CANCER (Jun 21 - Jul 22)



You're back to plotting and planning. Things have been going well but, as you know, nothing lasts forever. More close-mouthed than usual about what

you're up to, friends and family could worry that you're depressed. No way! You're merely being strategically secretive.

## LEO (Jul 23 - Aug 22)



You're yearning to be on firmer ground. Lately, you've been a bit at sea, unsure what people want from you. It's not really about you at all. Your nearest and dearest

are currently a bit directionless and not sure how they feel about anything. Things will be better by the end of the month when friends express how important you are to them.

## VIRGO (Aug 23 - Sep 22)



You'll be indulging in some serious, alliance building this month. Trying to develop a strong inner circle isn't as easy as you think. You must be clear

about what you're willing to do: some people insist on the mile when only the inch has been offered. Professionally, things are looking bright. On the romantic front, however, you've been less than emotionally accessible.

## LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22)



Your sense of humour and refusal to be defeated will serve you well this month. Life has become a bit of a grind with people spouting the same old complaints.

Essentially optimistic, you'll do your best to ignore negative types and seek refuge in your own rose-tinted world. What people call being realistic is often nothing more than lack of creativity.

## SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21)



You're on fire with great ideas. This is a busy time of the year, with the spotlight on you. By the month's end, you'll be back at the factory, getting down to the nitty-gritty of

daily business. In the meantime, have as much fun as humanly possible.

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 - Dec 20)



You may be a bit overwhelmed at present. Too many details to get through and not enough help has started to take a toll on your delicate nervous system.

Things promise to lighten up by month's end when a concerned friend gives you some invaluable pointers on how to simplify your life.

## CAPRICORN (DEC 21 - JAN 19)



This month, you'll be feeling energised and rejuvenated. Looking and feeling younger, you'll impress people with your uncontained zest for

life. Supported by people who appreciate your dedication and responsible behaviour, you'll soon be making plans for a major change in your life that you have been quietly planning.

## AQUARIUS (JAN 20 - FEB 18)



With too much work and more deadlines than you'd like, you've been burning the candle at both ends. People in authority are promising you things you consider

too good to be true. Don't think about it! Doing so could interfere with the magnificent energy surrounding you. By the end of the month, you'll be engaged in a creative project.

## PISCES (FEB 19 - MAR 19)



Knowing what you want is a constant challenge for you. Once you've put a name to your heart's desire, you have no trouble manifesting it. This month, you'll

be forced to confront other people's unimaginative assumptions of what's good for you.

## ARIES (Mar 20 - Apr 19)



Be careful who you confide in – thinking out loud could lead to disaster this month. You're basically an innocent at heart, taking people at face value.

Unfortunately, those around you could infer darker meanings from your mostly ingenuous musings. This is a gossipy time: people are a bit on edge and no longer know which way is up.

Written by Kerwin McLeister

The Krakow Post's astrology column is for entertainment purposes only, and the Post is not responsible for any consequences incurred as a result of this column.



## Tales from the chalkface

### Crime and Punishment

Chris Riley

It's okay, I'm not about to launch into the first chapter of my own version of a Russian novel. Instead, I've been considering one of the teacher's less pleasant roles: how to respond to the unwilling learner. This came about because I did something last week I hadn't done for a very long time – I gave one of my students lines. Apart from Bart in the opening credits of *The Simpsons*, I can't think of anyone who has to write lines, or of many teachers who give them nowadays. Mine weren't witty or long, just a message to reinforce a point... or not, as the case may be.

The received wisdom in teaching is that one should always be 'firm but fair,' though one teacher's 'firmness' can be another's 'strict to the point of irrationality.' Of course, praise is better than blame, and in an ideal world, the teacher-student relationship should be harmonious since we're all working together for the same thing... aren't we? Well, that depends. A teacher's aim as written in their plan, to revise the past perfect for example, may not coincide with a student's plan, which could be to get through the lesson without admitting he didn't do last week's homework.

In reality, a teacher's armoury of enforcement is limited. The obvious weapon of giving an after-lesson detention is often a self-punishment since it takes up the teacher's time as effectively as the miscreant's. It can be effective on a practical level, if it can be used to catch up on that homework that hasn't been handed in, but as a way of changing attitudes, it's a dead loss – and it's attitudes that make the difference.



Personally, I dislike having to enforce discipline and hope that order will arise from good will and good humour. Fortunately, this is true for everyone in my current school – hence the rarity of handing out punishments.

One colleague from many years ago had a novel way of getting students to remember not to make particular mistakes. His bugbear was the conjoining of the words 'a lot' to make the nonsense word 'alot.' Having pointed out the error once, if it occurred again, as it often did, he would take the paper, or worse still, the exercise book, and publicly cut each offending 'alot' into two separate words with a pair of scissors, thereby destroying much hard labour in the process. This public execution of essays caused cries of woe from the offenders, but nobody who saw it ever did it again. This teacher was a young, energetic Irishman, loved for his daft jokes and enthusiasm. He could do outrageous things and get away with them. I'm not an advocate of cutting up student's work, nor do I advocate capital punishment... I mean 'corporal' punishment – that was just an innocent slip.

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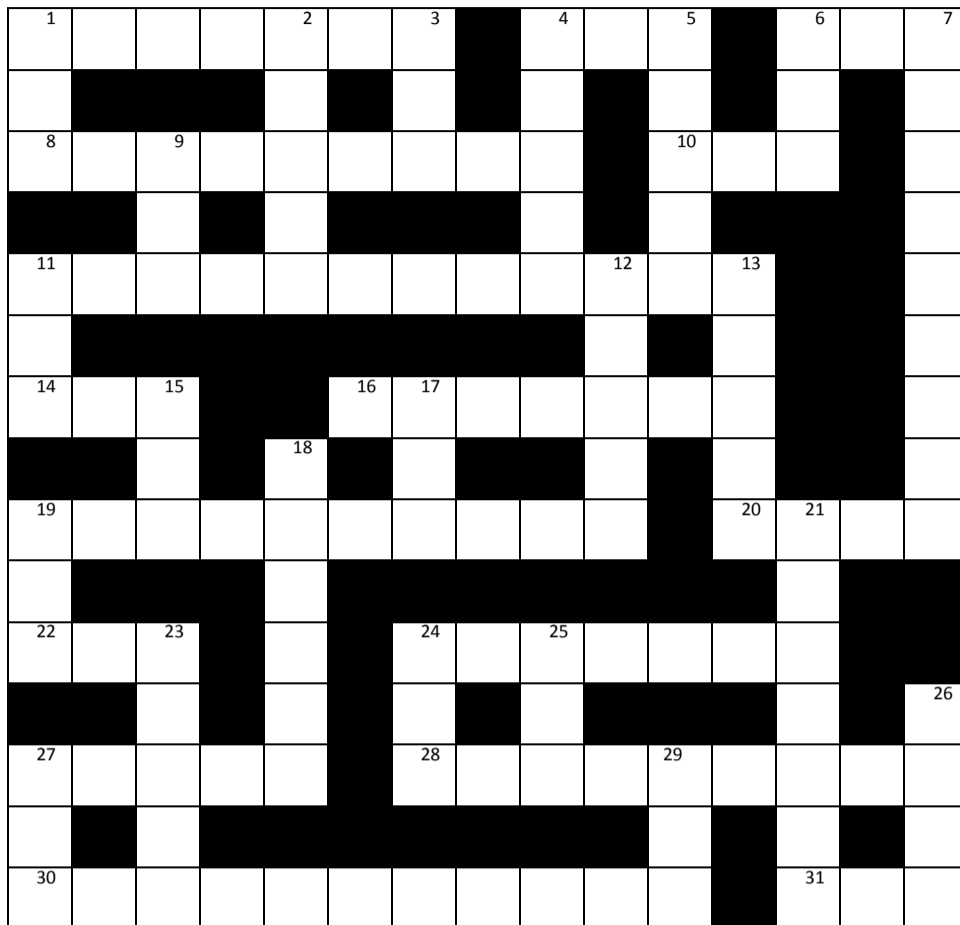
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## CRYPTIC CROSSWORD Set by KC



### CONFUSED?

A cryptic crossword is a series of puzzles, which must each be solved in order to reach the solution. For example – the clue for 10 across is ‘He’s gray, – not good, but bright’. Gray without good (G) leaves you with ray – which can be bright. Some answers are in Polish, and share a common theme this month. They are highlighted with PL and refer to the English versions of the answers, which are also contained within the puzzle.

### ACROSS

- 1, 16 PL (7, 7) see EN 8
- 4 Howls at midnight bird (3)
- 6 Dorothy’s short, just a speck (3)
- 8 Holiday spent around rugged French coast (9)
- 10 He’s gray – not good, but bright (3)
- 11, 6d Holiday for scant nudity too, I suspect (12,3)
- 14, 31 Chap almost dances twice (3-3)
- 16 See 1a
- 19 Throws in penny for your good fortune? (4-6)
- 20 The answer’s repeated (4)
- 22, 6d Holiday help for one day of 24ac? (3,3)
- 24 PL – Spanning EN 22ac/6d-11ac/6d(7)
- 27 Pig looms in ice house (5)
- 28 Queen overcame palace rot (6)
- 30 See 18d
- 31 See 14

### DOWN

- 1 Code for the fastener? (3)
- 2 Obvious when on drink (5)
- 3 Emotional, mawkish and oversensitive at first (3)
- 4 Group’s about to, etc... (5)
- 5 English Góral’s about to make a slow movement (5)
- 6 See 11ac, 22ac
- 7 See 18d
- 9 She’s relatively caring, either way (3)
- 11 The first steps of contamination from chlorine are pollution (1,1,1)
- 12 Lock up playwright who loses head (5)
- 13 Heard one in nose? (5)
- 15 Sails, loses ship, becomes sick (3)
- 17 Saw back in the past (3)
- 18, 30, 7, 26 PL (6, 11, 9, 4) See EN 11ac, 6d
- 19 Type of speed, in brief (1,1,1)
- 21 Erratic coca hit’s confusing (7)
- 23 Almost Christmas – get an oriental tree (5)
- 24 Short raincoat (3)
- 25 Stalin’s uncle’s an ordinary man (3)
- 26 See 18
- 27 About the family writer (3)
- 28 Letter enclosed is posted back (3)

### SOLUTIONS

1 Zielone 4 Owl 6 Dot 8 Pentecost 10 Ray 11 Constitution 14 cha 16 Świętli 19 Well-Wisher 20 Echo 22 May 24 Majówka 27 Igloo 28 Cleopatra 30 Konstytucji 31 Cha  
 NMOO  
 1 Zip 2 Overt 3 Emo 4 Octet 5 Largo 6 Day 7 Tizociego 9 Nan 11 CFC 12 Inter 13 Noise 15 All 17 Was 18 Święto 19 WPM 21 Chaotic 23 Wulan 24 Mac 25 Joe 26 Maja 27 Ink 29 Psi

## 52nd Krakow Film Festival



Now here’s a challenge... try to catch all 250 movies on at this year’s Krakow Film Festival.

The festival lasts seven days, from May 28, and is expected to feature at least 500 directors, producers and more, from Poland and around the world.

It is one of Europe’s oldest film events dedicated to documentary, animation and short film, and regularly draws fans from across the continent - not to mention those who make the trip from further afield.

For the viewers, it’s a chance to see some cutting edge documentary, genre-busting fiction and imaginative animation. For the film-makers involved, there’s even more at stake... the competitive element.

Each year since 1998, the festival judges have awarded the Dragon of Dragons, amongst other titles, to the creme of the festival creme. The awards at Krakow are important, because the festival is AMPAS (The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences) and EFA (European Film Academy) accredited - meaning the winner of the International Short Film Award can submit their film to the Oscar competition list.

## WRITTEN IN STONE



**In Brief:** Blink and you’d miss it. The memorial plaque to Stanislaw Pyjas is a simple affair on the side of a building at ul. Szewska 7.

**What’s it for?** An economics student at the Jagiellonian University, Stanislaw Pyjas died aged 24, in mysterious circumstances. His battered body, described in the official report as having ‘long hair and beard, and clad in brown shoes, a yellow shirt, and thick cotton trousers,’ was found on a staircase in the building on which the plaque was later erected.

**Why the mystery?** Pyjas was a vocal and active anti-communist – not a safe activity in 1970s Poland. The official investigation at the time declared that his death was due to a fall whilst drunk, and the results of a post-mortem examination following the exhumation of his body in 2011 found no evidence of foul play. However, nobody is sure exactly how he met his end. A theory still debated in Poland is that he was killed by the secret police.

**How did Krakow react?** Pyjas’ supporters held a Black March in Krakow – and this was repeated in many other Polish cities. Pyjas’ death was also the trigger for the formation of the Student Committee of Solidarity (Studencki Komitet Solidarności). The SKS included many people still active in post-transformation politics in Poland – among them, the current Prime Minister Donald Tusk.

**The plot thickens...** There is a peculiar twist in this particular tale. One Stanislaw Pietraszka, a physics student, close friend of Pyjas, and the last person to see him alive, gave the authorities a description of Pyjas’ possible murderer. Two months later, Pietraszka’s body was pulled from Lake Solina in the Bieszczady Mountains. To his friends, this was anything but an accident – they said he suffered from a deep fear of water and would never have gone swimming.

**Curiouser and curiouser...** Although public opinion leans strongly towards the theory that Pyjas was murdered by the authorities, there is still a question of who actually carried out the killing on their behalf. Enter Marian Weclawicz, a boxer and alcoholic renowned for being as free with his fists in bars as he was in the ring. Weclawicz was named by the Prosecutor in Krakow, in 1993, as a suspect. Evidence suggested he had been paid 20 US dollars to kill Pyjas. But Weclawicz could not be brought to trial... for he too died just a few months after Pyjas. Was his fall from the fourth storey of a Krakow building a drunken accident, or something more sinister?

**Bookend biography:** Stanislaw Pyjas. Born, August 4, 1952, Gilowice, Żywiec. Died May 7, 1977, Krakow.

## SPORT

### SPORT IN BRIEF

#### Radwańska ousts Sharapova

Agnieszka Radwańska has won the most prestigious title of her tennis career thus far, defeating Maria Sharapova 7-5, 6-4 in the final of the Sony Ericsson Open in Miami for the 9th singles trophy in the WTA. Following her victory, Radwańska returned home to Krakow for a three-week break as the clay-court season begins. She remains 4th in the latest world rankings.

#### Polish hockey team stunned by loss

Poland entered the IIHF Division 1B tournament poised to advance one division for next year's competition, but a shocking loss to South Korea ruined the national team's hopes of promotion. Poland and South Korea each entered the final game with 4-0 records while the Poles had home support on their side in Krynica. After taking an early 2-0 lead, Poland appeared destined to win the group, but the visitors fought back with a goal in each period while keeping the Polish offence at bay. The Koreans scored the winning goal with 8:21 remaining in regulation time and Poland were unable to equalise during the 6-on-5 in the waning seconds.

#### Wisła Can-Pack halfway to Polish title

Wisła Can-Pack has defeated rival CCC Polkowice in the first two games of the best-of-seven finals of the Polish Women's Basketball League. Wisła claimed 73-59 and 72-60 wins on consecutive nights in Krakow. Anke de Mondt led the way with a combined 30 points. Wisła can now claim the league title with two more victories in Polkowice. If necessary, Game 5 of the series will be in Krakow on May 1.

#### €3.75 million incentive for Euro 2012

The Polish Football Association has decided on the value of bonuses owed to players, according to their performance at the upcoming Euro 2012 tournament. The players are set to earn an extra €500,000 for each win and €250,000 per draw in the group stage, to be divided equally among the members of the team. The players can pocket an extra €1 million for advancing to the quarterfinals, and €3.75 million in the unlikely event that Poland wins the championship.

# Ruch edges Wisła in cup semi-finals



Photo: Krzysztof Jakub Porębski

Wisła Krakow's quest to qualify for next season's Europa League is all but over after a bitter loss to Ruch Chorzów in a match that went the distance and beyond. After 120 minutes of exciting football and seven rounds of penalties, the visitors from Chorzów ultimately earned the right to play in the Polish Cup final.

Wisła now faces the longest odds of attaining UEFA qualification with the club sitting 7th place in the Ekstraklasa table just one year removed from a league championship.

Wisła and Ruch each managed 3-1 wins at home to force the deciding match after the second leg in Krakow. The first meeting in Chorzów was closer than the score indicated, as Paweł Abbott converted a questionable penalty in the 74th minute to give Ruch a two-goal aggregate lead.

The return leg featured even more controversy, beginning with an apparent Wisła goal by Gervasio Núñez in the 15th

minute, which was disallowed without any clear explanation. The home side were partially redeemed moments later when the referee awarded a penalty after Ruch defender Gábor Straka tripped Ivica Iliev. Tsvetan Genkov calmly put the ball in the net to open the night's scoring in the 22nd minute.

Wisła doubled their advantage for the night when Maor Melikson controlled a long-distance upfield pass from keeper Sergei Pareiko and slipped the ball in from a difficult angle right of the goal to give the White Star a 2-0 lead for the night. With the score 3-3 on aggregate, and a 1-0 advantage on away goals, Wisła were in position to reach the cup final.

That all changed in the 68th minute when Wisła's Dragan Paljić appeared to drag down Ruch forward Łukasz Janoszka in the penalty area, leading to Abbott's goal that gave Ruch a one-goal advantage on aggregate. During the desperate waning

moments for Wisła, Patryk Małecki's pass (aided by a possible Ruch deflection) found Genkov for a point-blank header in the 90th minute to force extra time and the eventual penalty shootout to decide which club would advance.

Pressure mounted when David Biton's shot was saved by Matko Perđijić, but following a Ruch miss, the teams were again level with four goals apiece after the usual five attempts. Genkov's shot was saved on his initial attempt in the 5th round, but he was given another opportunity after Perđijić was ruled out of position. Wisła were finally broken when Gervasio Núñez's low left strike was handed off by Perđijić in the 7th round, ensuring Ruch's advancement.

Ruch went on to lose 3-0 against Legia Warsaw in the cup final while Wisła rebounded with subsequent wins against ŁKS and Podbeskidzie in Ekstraklasa play.

James C Muus

## Kenyan wins Cracovia Marathon

The 11th Cracovia Marathon was run last week under mostly sunny and windy conditions, a mixed blessing for the more than 3,000 competitors who participated in this year's race.

Peter Kariuki Wanjiru of Kenya emerged as the overall winner with a time of 2:12:11 – 45 seconds slower than the event's record time set by Julius Kipkorir Kilimo in 2009.

Wanjiru's result was a personal best, over three minutes faster than his 4th-place finish in Krakow last year. The champion said afterward: "I'm very happy with what we have done here.... Certainly [the fans] helped me in this."

His countryman, Edwin Kirui, finished

runner-up with a time of 2:12:37, and third-place finisher Faustin Mussa Starehe of Tanzania was clocked at 2:13:02.

Lucia Kimani, a Kenyan now residing in Bosnia & Herzegovina, topped the women's division with a time of 2:36:50 – nearly four minutes ahead of her closest challenger, Anastasiya Zuyeva of Russia.

Poland's Agnieszka Ciołek led for most of the way, to the excitement of local spectators lining the course. However, it was too good to be true and she only managed to hold on for third place.

Ciołek required medical attention when she fell just after crossing the finish line, but her ailment proved to be no more than simple post-race exhaustion.



# Topical Words / Słowa na Topie

With the Accent School of Polish

**majówka** noun (f)  
a (spring/summer) picnic or outing

Jest piękna pogoda! Jedziemy na majówkę?  
It's beautiful weather! Let's go for a picnic?

**kwitnący** adj  
blooming

Za oknem piękne, kwitnące drzewa.  
Beautiful, blooming trees outside the window.

**solidarność** noun (f)  
solidarity

Trwa dyskusja nad nową definicją solidarności europejskiej.  
There is continuing discussion over the new definition of European solidarity.

**kontrolować** verb (ja kontroluję, ty kontrolujesz)  
to check, inspect, monitor

Straż graniczna będzie kontrolować dokumenty kibiców.  
The boarder guards are going to check the documents of football fans.

**A little bit of Polish**

**U - RODZINY!**

**A TY?**

Jak ma na imię twoja mama?

.....

Czy masz żonę/męża?

.....

Czy Twoja rodzina mieszka w Polsce?

.....

DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY IN POLAND?  
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Timetable Kraków Główny - Kraków Balice Airport  
Rozkład jazdy ważny od 01 maja 2012 do 31 maja 2012  
Time-table valid from 01<sup>st</sup> May 2012 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2012

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| KRAKÓW CENTRUM                       | KRAKÓW BALICE                        | KRAKÓW BALICE                        | KRAKÓW CENTRUM                       |
| 5.34*                                | 5.54*                                | 6.18                                 | 6.36                                 |
| 6.26*                                | 6.44*                                | 6.52                                 | 7.09                                 |
| 6.58*                                | 7.16*                                | 7.24                                 | 7.41                                 |
| 7.37*                                | 7.55*                                | 8.09                                 | 8.28                                 |
| 8.29                                 | 8.47                                 | 9.00                                 | 9.17                                 |
| 9.17                                 | 9.36                                 | 9.45                                 | 10.05                                |
| 10.14                                | 10.34                                | 10.39                                | 10.59                                |
| 10.48                                | 11.08                                | 11.13                                | 11.34                                |
| 11.32                                | 11.50                                | 11.56                                | 12.13                                |
| 12.00 <sup>1)</sup>                  | 12.20 <sup>1)</sup>                  | 12.25 <sup>1)</sup>                  | 12.45 <sup>1)</sup>                  |
| 12.04 <sup>2)</sup>                  | 12.24 <sup>2)</sup>                  | 12.30 <sup>2)</sup>                  | 12.50 <sup>2)</sup>                  |
| 12.40                                | 12.58                                | 13.05                                | 13.22                                |
| 13.24                                | 13.44                                | 13.49                                | 14.09                                |
| 13.58                                | 14.18                                | 14.30*                               | 14.51*                               |
| 14.39                                | 14.57                                | 15.04*                               | 15.23*                               |
| 15.17                                | 15.37                                | 15.42*                               | 16.02*                               |
| 16.06                                | 16.25                                | 16.30*                               | 16.49*                               |
| 16.55                                | 17.15                                | 17.25                                | 17.48                                |
| 17.34*                               | 17.52*                               | 17.58                                | 18.16                                |
| 18.06                                | 18.25                                | 18.30                                | 18.53                                |
| 18.41*                               | 18.59*                               | 19.10*                               | 19.29*                               |
| 19.24                                | 19.43                                | 19.48                                | 20.06                                |
| 19.55                                | 20.12                                | 20.17                                | 20.34                                |
| 20.23                                | 20.42                                | 20.49                                | 21.07                                |
| 21.12                                | 21.31                                | 21.39                                | 21.58                                |
| 22.20                                | 22.39                                | 22.44                                | 23.02                                |

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