

# Polish Film Festival

Sunday 25th September 2022  
Norwich Forum Auditorium

## PROGRAMME

- 09.45**            **Doors Open**  
**Coffee, Tea & biscuits**
- 10.15 - 11.30**    **'O zwierzętach i ludziach' - 'About animals and people'**  
*2019 - 70 mins - Director: Łukasz Czajka*  
*Polish language with English subtitles*
- 11.45 - 13.00**    **'Podróż Stefana i jego śladami'**  
**'Stefan's journey and in his footsteps'**  
**followed by Q&A session**  
*2020 - 57 mins - Director: Adrian Żółkowski-O'dell*  
*English language*
- 13.00 - 14.00**    **Lunch break**
- 14.00 - 14.15**    **'Wewnątrz Polski dzisiaj' - 'Inside Poland Today'**  
*1960 - 9 mins - Director: Herman Blumenfeld*  
*English language*
- 14.15 - 14.50**    **Selection of film shorts - all uniquely Polish!**
- 15.00 - 16.30**    **'Twarz' - 'The Face'**  
*2018 - 91 mins - Director: Małgorzata Szumowska*  
*Polish language with English subtitles*
- 16.30 - 17.00**    **Refreshments with Polish cakes**

## TICKET PRICES (prices include refreshments)

For 1 person    £15.00

For 2 persons   £25.00

For 3 persons   £37.00

For 4 persons   £45.00

Students: £5.00 - Contact ☎ 01362 637033 direct

**Book online at <https://www.thenphg.org/news-events>**

## ABOUT THE FILMS

### **'O zwierzętach i ludziach' - 'About animals and people'**

Dramatic and heart-warming story of the Żabiński family who saved hundreds of Poles and Jews from death during the occupation. During the war, Jan Żabiński, the founder and director of the Warsaw Zoo, and his wife Antonina hid Jews and soldiers of the Polish underground who were looking for shelter in the deserted zoo during the war. The guests stayed in the private Żabiński house on the premises of the facility and in the back of the animal runs for many months. In total, the couple sheltered around 300 people.

### **'Podróż Stefana i jego śladami' - 'Stefan's journey and in his footsteps'**

On 6th September 1939, Stefan Żółkowski set off from Warsaw with a group of 25 fellow air force officers on a 9,000-mile journey from Poland to Britain which lasted 10 months, passing through South-Eastern Europe, the Middle East, France and North Africa. The Polish Air Force had been dispersed and disbanded following the invasion by Germany on 1st September that year and the escapees' objective was to flee Poland and find sanctuary, first in France and then in Britain to take on the fight against the Nazi oppressors.

In September 2019, his son Adrian (Żółkowski)-O'dell accompanied by his wife Jane set off to retrace his father's footsteps. They followed Stefan's exact route through specific cities, towns, villages and locations using some of the modes of transport taken all those years ago. This emotional retrospective documents both odysseys; one separated from the other by eight decades and a changed world.

### **'Wewnątrz Polski dzisiaj' - 'Inside Poland Today'**

This bright and colourful documentary offers an ultra-positive view of Poland during its post-war reconstruction in the 1950s-1960s. It's not clear who was behind this fascinating production but it certainly seems to have been influenced by the Communist state. It features scenes from Warsaw, Poznań, Łódź and Kraków with images of playful children, pretty girls in national costumes and happy Górale dancers and singers. Industrial activity in Silesia is blended with historical and cultural references, all presented in a jaunty travelogue-style, heavy on nostalgia and peppered with propaganda.

### **Selection of short films:**

In memory of Julien Bryan—Cinematographer and friend of Poland - Documentary 22 minutes

Professor Tutka's Club - 14 mins TV series from 1960s - Polish language with English subtitles

Chodowiecki—6 mins animation about Polish artist Daniel Chodowiecki - Polish with English subtitles

### **'Twarz' - 'The Face'**

Jacek loves heavy metal, his girlfriend and his dog. His family, his small hometown and his fellow parishioners all see him as an amusing freak. Jacek works at the construction site for what is supposed to become the tallest statue of Jesus in the World. When a severe accident disfigures him completely, all eyes turn to him as he undergoes the first facial transplant in the country. 'Twarz' is a blackly comic, biting and emotional drama from award-winning director Małgorzata Szumowska ('Body', 'Elles', 'In the Name of') which won the Silver Bear Jury Grand Prix at the 68th Berlin International Film Festival.

Classification: Classification 15