

## *Gazeta Muzyczna i Teatralna*

The weekly periodical *Gazeta Muzyczna i Teatralna* [Musical and stage gazette] was published in Warsaw from October 1865 until the end of March 1866. It is of importance to note that during the January Insurrection, 1863-1864, no music periodicals were published in Poland; *Ruch Muzyczny*<sup>1</sup> ceased publication in 1862 and *Gazeta Muzyczna i Teatralna* began the year following the Insurrection. Although the conditions for the development of music journals in the Kingdom of Poland slowly took a turn for the better, individual titles existed for only a very limited period of time. This was the case with *Gazeta Muzyczna i Teatralna*, which functioned for only half a year and produced but twenty-six issues. It is not clear why this professionally published periodical devoted to a large circle of readers interested in instrumental music, opera and drama failed after producing twenty-six issues.

The editor of the *Gazeta* was Tomasz Le Brun who died in Warsaw in 1884. The son of a journalist, Le Brun contributed to *Kurier Codzienny*, was the author of *Komedyje prozą i wierszem* [Comedies written in prose and verse] (1868), and the text accompanying drawings entitled *Pan Adam w Warszawie* [Mr. Adam in Warsaw] (1868) by the priest Pilati. For the *Gazeta Muzyczna i Teatralna* he wrote many reviews and the column entitled "Przegląd tygodniowy" [Weekly review] dealing with Warsaw's musical and theatrical life.

Le Brun had several valuable collaborators. Kazimierz Władysław Wójcicki (1807-1879), historian, writer and ethnographer, who in his youth collected folk songs in the territories of the Great Duchy of Poznań, Silesia, Little Poland, Bohemia, Moravia, Hungary, Serbia and Saxony. In 1845 Wójcicki settled in Warsaw, where he became the archivist and librarian of the senate, and director of the National Printing House. He was also co-founder and later editor-in-chief of the journal *Biblioteka Warszawska* [Warsaw library], and the author of numerous works of great importance for the history of Polish culture.<sup>2</sup> In the *Gazeta Muzyczna i Teatralna* Wójcicki's major contribution was the large biographical essay about the actor Alojzy Żółkowski. Other contributors included Kazimierz Łada (1820-1870), a violinist and composer. As a young musician

<sup>1</sup>See B. Zakrzewska-Nikiporczyk, *Ruch Muzyczny 1857-1862*, Répertoire international de la presse musicale, Ann Arbor: UMI, 1997.

<sup>2</sup>See, for example, *Pieśni ojczyste* [Native songs] (1830); *Teatr starożytny w Polsce* [Ancient theatre in Poland] (1840); *Pamiętniki do panowania Zygmunta III, Władysława IV i Jana Kazimierza* [Memories of the reigns of Zymunt III, Władysław IV and Jan Kazimierz] (1846); and, *Życiorysy znakomitych ludzi* [Biographies of distinguished persons] (1850).

he gave concerts in Moscow, St. Petersburg and in the Lithuania. Łada composed about forty pieces for violin, and published the *Historia muzyki* [The history of music] in Warsaw in 1861. His articles for the *Gazeta Muzyczna i Teatralna* about the history of ancient Polish music contained much new information. August Jeske (1836-1875) studied philology and history at the university in Berlin, and took up residence in Warsaw beginning in 1864. In 1875 he began publishing a series of textbooks entitled *Systematyczny kurs nauk* [The systematic study of sciences]. His extensive musical analysis of Kolberg's<sup>3</sup> work — *Lud. Jego zwyczaj, sposób życia, podania, przysłowia, obrzędy, gusła, zabawy, pieśni, muzyka i tańce* [The people. Their customs, way of life, legends, proverbs, rites, sorceries, plays, songs, music and dances] — and his articles “O nauce śpiewu” [About the teaching of singing] in the *Gazeta Muzyczna i Teatralna*, testify to his thorough musical training. Ignacy Krzyżanowski (1826-1905), was a pianist and composer, and friend of Chopin. After studies in Paris and concerts in London, Krzyżanowski returned to Kraków and in 1850 settled in Warsaw. He published articles about music in Warsaw music journals—for example, in *Ruch Muzyczny* and *Echo Muzyczne i Teatralne*—and was also the music critic of the weekly *Bluszcz*. In the *Gazeta* Krzyżanowski published his recollections of the pianist and composer Józef Nowakowski (1800-1865) after the musician's death. This text was later discussed in the journal by the composer Ignacy Feliks Dobrzyński (1807-1867). Wacław Szymanowski (1821-1886), playwright and translator of French stage works, the editor of several Warsaw newspapers, led the campaign in the columns of the *Gazeta Muzyczna i Teatralna* towards raising the quality of the repertory at the Warsaw Teatr Rozmaitości. Adolf Bogucki (1835-1894), an amateur composer, published a detailed analysis of the Adam Münchheimer's opera *Otton Łucznik* [Otto the archer].

The journal had the following regular columns: the already mentioned “Przegląd tygodniowy” [Weekly review] by Le Brun, the unsigned “Nowiny ze świata muzycznego” [News from the musical world]—mainly concerning England, Belgium, France, Spain, Germany and Italy—and, “Repertuar sceny warszawskiej” [Repertory of the Warsaw stage]. In the occasional column “Rozmaitości” [Varieties] short stories appeared concerning the life of musicians such as Adelina Patti, Grillparzer, Mercadante, Beethoven, and musical life in Paris. In the column “Korespondencje” [Correspondence] letters from Prague, Lvov and Milan informed readers about the musical and theatrical life in these cities. The rarely appearing column “Przegląd literatury muzycznej” [Review of musical literature] contained extensive reviews of recently published books such as *Meyerbeer et son temps* by Henri Blaze de Bury and *Lud. Jego zwyczaj, sposób życia, podania, przysłowia, obrzędy, gusła, zabawy, pieśni, muzyka i tańce*<sup>4</sup> by Oskar Kolberg (Warszawa, 1865). The column “Wiadomości

<sup>3</sup>Oskar Kolberg (1814-1890), Polish ethnographer and composer primarily of piano music.

<sup>4</sup>See above for the English translation of the title

księgarskie" [Booksellers' news] contained information about recent publications in Warsaw.

The musical analyses of such works as Liszt's oratorio *Święta Elżbieta*,<sup>5</sup> and the opera *Otton Lucznik* by Münchheimer, as well as the analyses of stage works including the comedy *Sztuka i handel* [Art and trade] are of particular interest. The series of articles by Kazimierz Łada entitled "Materiały do historii muzyki w Polsce" [Materials for the history of music in Poland] contains valuable source material and continues Sikorski's articles published several years earlier in *Ruch Muzyczny*.<sup>6</sup> Among the articles are biographical essays about musicians (for example, Mozart and Schubert) and the contemporary actors Alojzy Żółkowski and Jan Chrzyciel Okoński. The *Gazeta Muzyczna i Teatralna* did not contain musical appendices however its subscribers received copies of printed music, namely, for piano and for voice and piano.

The majority of the authors of articles and correspondence signed their texts with their complete names. Of those who signed with initials or pseudonyms, it was possible to identify only the following.

E.K.	Emanuel Kania
Junius	Włodzimierz Zagórski
K. Wł. W.	Kazimierz Władysław Wójcicki
T. L	Tomasz Le Brun

This publication is based on two sources: a microfilm copy of the journal's first twenty-three issues in the collection of the Poznań University Library, and, for the last three issues, a xerox copy of the original journal in the collection of the Moniuszko Warsaw Musical Society.

Another volume<sup>7</sup> also deals with the contents of the *Gazeta Muzyczna i Teatralna*, however, it offers far less access to the journal than does the present RIPM publication. For, the RIPM Calendar contains extensive editorial commentaries in brackets, and the RIPM Index, created with the assistance of computer technology, includes a much larger spectrum of key words.

<sup>5</sup>The original title of the oratorio is *Die Legende von der heiligen Elisabeth*.

<sup>6</sup>See Sikorski's series of articles entitled "Notatki do historii muzyki w Polsce" [Notes for the history of music in Poland], *Ruch Muzyczny* (1860: 646-651, 661-667; 1861: 280-284, 289-295, 310-315, 330-334).

<sup>7</sup>W. Bogdany, *Gazeta Muzyczna i Teatralna 1865-1866. Przegląd Muzyczny 1877*. Bibliografia Polskich Czasopism Muzycznych, vol. 4, Kraków: 1955.

In the Calendar, the original nineteenth-century spelling is retained in article titles. However, commentary in brackets employs contemporary spelling. Individual Index entries beneath leadterms also retain the original journal spellings, but the leadterms themselves utilize contemporary and unified spellings. As the titles of foreign works frequently appear in Polish in the journal and consequently in the Index, original titles (mainly German, French and Italian) and their Polish translation appear in the Glossary. The names of persons are cited in the Index in their original version. The names of institutions are given in given both in Polish (e.g., Opera Komiczna, Teatr an der Wien) and in the original languages (Opéra-Comique, Theater an der Wien). Obvious typographical errors have been corrected without further comment.