



Celebrating shared Polish Scottish Heritage

W O J T E K THE SOLDIER BEAR

7-8 / 11

15 / 11

EDIN

BURGH

PROGRAMME

We have a pleasure to invite you to the programme of events organised to commemorate the unveiling of the memorial of Wojtek, "the Soldier Bear" in Edinburgh, Scotland on the 7th November 2015. This Memorial is a true testament to sacrifices made by brave Polish men and women who fought during the World War II "for your freedom and ours". The programme is full of inspiring events; concerts, exhibition, workshops design to celebrate shared Polish Scottish heritage.

07 **Unveiling ceremony of the memorial of Wojtek "the Soldier Bear"**

Venue: Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh
Date: 7th November
Tickets: Register your interest using form on www.wojtekmemorialtrust.com
Time: 13:00 after the One o'clock Gun

The Wojtek Memorial Trust has been fundraising and campaigning for years to increase the understanding and significance of the story of Wojtek "the Soldier Bear" and the displaced Polish soldiers during and after the Second World War. Thanks to Trust's efforts, generous donations and support from the Polish and Scottish community the memorial of Wojtek will become a permanent feature in Edinburgh's Princes Street Gardens.

07 **Katy Carr, Scottish Pipe Band SCOTPIPE, Polish Folk Group 'KOZLARY' and Polish Dance Ensemble 'OJCZYNA' Concert**

Venue: Churchill Theatre,
33 Morningside Rd, Edinburgh EH10 4DR
Date: 7th November
Tickets: Free, registration required via [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com)
Time: 19:00 - 22:00

Come along and celebrate the unveiling of Wojtek's memorial in Edinburgh with a concert. During the event you will also have a chance to meet Mrs Aileen Orr, who will promote her book about Wojtek the bear and Prof Wojciech Narębski - one of the few remaining Polish veterans who fought alongside Wojtek during the WWII. At the event there will be a raffle with some fantastic prizes from Beartown Brewery, SCOTPIPE, Scottish Polish Cultural Association and others. For more information see www.scotpoles.co.uk or www.facebook.com/scotpoles

08 **WOJTEK the Soldier Bear Family Workshops, Exhibition, Performance**

Venue: Out of the Blue,
36 Dalmeny St, Edinburgh EH6 8RG
Date: 8th November
Tickets: Free, no booking required
Time: 11:00 - 14:15

Take your family on a creative journey discovering our Polish and Scottish heritage. Making costumes to dress a real size brown bear, creating an amazing bear mask or finding out just how big is the bear's paw are a few examples of the fun activities that are planned. The workshops will be accompanied with an Exhibition showcasing the heritage shared by Poland and Scotland, a visible and integral part of Scotland's historic environment. This exhibition will use podcasts, film, photography and text to help you discover the stories of the places, events and people that connected our two nations. The event will be finalised with a performance of the Edinburgh based children's theatre group TeZet. Karolina, Angelika, Zuza, Patrick, Martynka and Julka, ages from 7 to 14, will sing a song about Wojtek the Hero Bear that they wrote. For more information see www.polishscottishheritage.co.uk or [facebook.com/polishscottishheritage](https://www.facebook.com/polishscottishheritage)

08 **Musical journey with Magdalena Durant and Chris Harding Concert**

Venue: Reid Concert Hall,
Bristo Place, Edinburgh EH8 9AG
Date: 8th November
Tickets: Free, registration required via [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com)
Time: 19.00 – 20.00

Polish Soprano Magdalena Durant and Scottish Pianist Chris Harding present a lieder recital inspired by the folk music of each nation. Each composer, inspired by their country and the folk songs, which were sung to them, will explore new ways of passing on these beloved tales. The programme includes Szymanowski's beautiful 'Kurpian Songs' and MacMillan's powerful 'Three Scottish Songs' alongside tales by Chopin, Lutoslawski, and Liddell.

15 **Piano Recital by Rafael Luszczewski Concert**

Venue: Reid Concert Hall,
Bristo Place, Edinburgh EH8 9AG
Date: 15th November
Tickets: Free, registration required via [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com)
Time: 19.00 – 20.00

Polish artist, Raphael Luszczewski, made his international debut at the age of 16 with the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra in Japan. Today, 20 years into a very successful career, he ranks among the most renowned artists of his generation, performing in Europe, North and South America, Australia, Middle East, Asia and South Africa and gathering the highest acclaims from the enraptured audiences and music critics. Since 2001 he has been listed as a Steinway Artist on the 'Steinway & Sons Artists' Roster' in New York, featuring the world's finest pianists. He will start the evening with Chopin's 'Military Polonaise' that will be followed by a guest performance of 'Spieszmy Sie' for soprano and pianoforte that is a turbulent and expressive musical interpretation of Jan Twardowski's famous poem. The composition was first premiered in 2007 at the Bechstein America Piano Centre in New York City. This will be the European Premiere. Raphael Luszczewski will then continue his recital of Polish music.

