

REPUBLIC / EUROPE / SOLIDARITY

A TIME OF GLOBAL CHANGE

The pandemic has changed us and the world. Confronting the coronavirus is a fight for life, but also a test for political and economic systems. The pandemic is a time of global emergency that brings both threats and a chance for renewal.

Forty years ago, Gdańsk was a centre for reflection on the fundamental transformation of Poland. In the Olivia Hall, in autumn 1981, the 1st National Congress of “Solidarność” Delegates took place. The multi-week event was a time for a collective practice of democracy in a dictatorship and the creation of a programme to open up Poland's political and economic system. The democratisation of the state, economy and society, the introduction of a system to protect human rights, freedom of speech and solidarity with neighbouring nations – these were the main themes of the congress debates. The martial law halted the implementation of Solidarity's first programme, but the creative energy of the congress persisted, and eight years later, it became a source of change for the Republic of Poland.

We live in a different world today, but it is worth drawing on the experience of the first “Solidarność” congress, returning to the fundamental questions about Poland's democratisation and the transformation of its economic system, and transferring those questions into the 21st century. The Solidarity revolution changed Europe, and 30 years ago, it led to the collapse of the Soviet Union, which brought independence to neighbouring nations. Yet, there would have been no lasting success for Solidarity, no sovereignty for the Republic of Poland, without a pan-European revolution.

The democratic changes of 1989-1991 today are being depreciated by authoritarian Russia. Moscow openly questions its neighbours' path to democracy and independence from Russia, and supports authoritarian, populist movements throughout Europe. The war in eastern Ukraine is a conflict over the entire political order in Europe. As residents of a city – symbol of freedom and solidarity, and as neighbours, we cannot remain silent and passive. Peace in Eastern Europe and further democratisation of post-Soviet states are also our responsibility. We cannot deal with these challenges on our own. Strong alliances with democratic countries are needed, to strengthen Polish independence and also to secure peace in Europe.

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The European Solidarity Centre in Gdańsk commemorates the freedom revolutions of 1989-1991 and tries to translate the values of solidarity and freedom into today's language. Will the pandemic be a new time for the birth of a European community, or will it rather distance us Europeans? We do not know yet. The pandemic is certainly such a powerful civilisational experience that it will be a key common reference point for all Europeans in the years to come.

We invite you to the Freedom Days in Gdańsk for a joint reflection on the most important challenges for Europe!

Basil Kerski, Director of the European Solidarity Centre

FREEDOM DAYS

/ SOLIDARITY OF ARTS – THE FUTURE

/ THE 30th ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLLAPSE OF THE SOVIET UNION

/ THE 40th ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1ST NATIONAL CONGRESS OF “SOLIDARNOŚĆ”
DELEGATES

/ THE 41st ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE AUGUST AGREEMENTS

/ THE 82nd ANNIVERSARY OF THE OUTBREAK OF WORLD WAR II

27/08/2021 FRIDAY

SOLIDARITY OF ARTS – THE FUTURE

For the sake of the future, we must oppose whatever evil the present brings. The pandemic has highlighted the deficits of civilisation. One of the greatest challenges of the present is exclusion. We are witnesses to and participants in various segregations – on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, origin, faith, material status... SOLIDARITY OF ARTS 2021 is focused on the FUTURE and is an artistic commentary to this reality; it also brings hope for a better future. It unites people who have the strength and determination to manifest their freedom, solidarity and commitment to the common good. The diagnosis made by the authors of the play SNOW says that regardless of the latitude, we strive for freedom, independence, and preservation of what is most important to us – of who we are and who we want to be. Dreams of a better future are universal. Chloe Zhao goes further – not only does she portray excluded Americans,

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but she also builds a new founding myth of the United States based on their fate, juxtaposing the great expanses of the prairie with the individual fate of the human – his fall and his greatness. His rise is the point where the new American dream is born. Joanna Gierak-Onoszko gives a voice to the victims of systemic violence, condemned to constant exclusion and cast out of the society, because it is too difficult to help them. She diagnoses how an unhealed trauma, lack of apology and reconciliation destroy the most open society in the world and teaches us a lesson that if we leave someone behind, if we neglect the weaker, we will not progress. In terms of music, we give the stage to artists from two different generations - the creators of independent music of the 1980s and the young unruly, standing up for their values today. Finally, we will meet artists and activists who represent change, who embody what we can be and what results we can achieve: courageously, uncompromisingly, respectfully, together.

Solidarity of arts and solidarity of artists.

Magdalena Sroka, curator of the Solidarity of Arts festival

5.00 pm / ECS multimedia library, 1st floor / free admission

FILM / THE RIDER

director Chloé Zhao / production: USA / 2017 / drama, western / 1 hour 44 min

5.00 pm / ECS winter garden, ground floor / free admission

DEBATE / THE DREAM OF A BETTER FUTURE

ABOUT THE NOVEL SNOW BY ORHAN PAMUK

Ewa Majewska / feminist philosopher, activist

Stanisław Obirek / theologian, historian, anthropologist of culture

Bartosz Szydłowski / theatre director, director of the play SNOW

moderated by Olga Brzezińska / cultural expert, Europeanist, culture manager

7.00 pm / ECS multimedia library, 1st floor / free admission

FILM / SONGS MY BROTHERS TAUGHT ME

director Chloé Zhao / production: USA / 2015 / drama / 1 hour 38 min

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8.00 pm / Klub B90 / tickets: <https://tickets.b90.pl/pl/>

MAIN CONCERT / CENTRALA. CENTRALA NAS OCALI (THE HEADQUARTERS. THE HEADQUARTERS WILL SAVE US)

A premiere of a 45-minute performance of the song CENTRALA by Brygada Kryzys – the most famous anti-system anthem of the 1980s generation. This is a specially prepared arrangement with the Progress Chamber Orchestra conducted by Ireneusz Wojtczak and artists who today stand for values such as dignity, freedom and equality. The piece consists of several parts, each featuring a guest: Tymon Tymański and Belarusian button accordion virtuoso Yegor Zabelov, three artists of the young generation: THE PAU MINT and JUCHO. The piece will be completed by Tomek Lipinski, the author of music and lyrics for the song CENTRALA. Ireneusz Wojtczak, Marcin Gałązka and Przemysław Bartoś are responsible for the arrangement of the song. The concert will be accompanied by visualisations by Michał Garnowski, using archival materials from the ECS collection.

Progress Chamber Orchestra conducted by Ireneusz Wojtczak and Przemysław Bartoś, Marcin Gałązka, Tomasz Koper, Michał Wandzilak
guests / JUCHO, Tomek Lipiński, MIN t, The PAU, Tymon Tymański, Lena Wojtczak, Yegor Zabelov

visualisations / Michał Garnowski

curators of the project / Arek Hronowski, Tomasz Lipiński, Magdalena Sroka

28/08/2021 SATURDAY

SOLIDARITY OF ARTS

SELF-GOVERNED REPUBLIC – THE 40th ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1st NATIONAL CONGRESS OF “SOLIDARNOŚĆ” DELEGATES

12.00 pm / ECS winter garden, ground floor / free admission

(SELF-GOVERNED) REPUBLIC OF THE 21st CENTURY

introduction / Basil Kerski

discussion / Lech Wałęsa, Mieczysław Struk, Aleksandra Dulciewicz, Jerzy Buzek

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1.30 pm / Trap Gallery, ground floor / free admission
VERNISSAGE OF THE TEMPORARY EXHIBITION
THE CONGRESS. COMMUNICATION OF IDEAS
COOPERATION Video Studio Gdańsk

2.00 pm – 8.00 pm / ECS library, 1st floor / free admission
(SELF-GOVERNED) REPUBLIC OF THE 21st CENTURY
SPECIALIST DEBATES

reminiscence / Henryk Wujec (1940-2020) and Jan Lityński (1946-2021)

/ 2.00 pm

A message for Europe. "The Message..." and the response from the Eastern Bloc countries

guests / Nikolai Ivanov, Antoni Pietkiewicz, Henryk Siciński

moderated by / Grzegorz Majchrzak

/ 4.00 pm

"The self-governed Republic of Poland". The main idea of the 1st National Congress of "Solidarność" Delegates

guests / Krzysztof Brzechczyn, Elżbieta Ciżewska, Bartosz Kaliski

moderated by / Przemysław Ruchlewski

/ 6.00 pm

Between Capitalism and Central Planning. Towards a mixed economy

guests / Ryszard Bugaj, Wojciech Morawski, Jerzy Osiatyński, Tadeusz Syryjczyk

moderated by / Grzegorz Piotrowski

2.00 pm / ECS winter garden, ground floor / free admission

CONVERSATION / **GUILT AND RECONCILIATION, CRIME WITHOUT PUNISHMENT**
ABOUT THE BOOK "THE 27 DEATHS OF TOBY OBED"

Joanna Gierak-Onoszko / journalist, reporter, writer and columnist, book author

moderated by Olga Brzezińska / cultural expert, Europeanist, culture manager

4.00 pm / ECS winter garden, ground floor / free admission

DEBATE / **CAN WE STILL BE FINE... TOGETHER?**

Sylwia Chutnik / cultural expert, writer, social activist

Olga Kisseleva / art and science artist, professor at Sorbonne University

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Jana Szostak / Polish-Belarusian activist, intermedia artist
moderated by Olga Brzezińska / cultural expert, Europeanist, culture manager

5.00 pm / ECS multimedia library, 1st floor / free admission

FILM / **SONGS MY BROTHERS TAUGHT ME**

director Chloé Zhao / production: USA / 2015 / drama / 1 hour 38 min

6.00 pm / round table at the ECS fountains / free admission

CONCERT / **MUSIC OF NOMADS, PART I**

Paweł Zagańczyk / accordionist, composer and pedagogue

An artistic interpretation of the music of Nomads, searching for a safe place to live in various regions of the world. The musical journey will begin with a yearning Portuguese fado, then we will hear a fiery Argentinian tango, which will lead us to the present day – Paweł Zagańczyk will present us with his own compositions inspired by the life of nomads. The concert is a musical journey into the world of open improvisation, a search for the roots of music that brings solace, hope, and a sense of community to people at risk of exclusion. The main protagonists of the concert will be accordion and bandoneon. These instruments, rooted in traditional music, today storm the largest concert halls, where mainly classical music is played. Get ready for a show of multiple musical genres and an abundance of emotions.

7.00 pm / ECS multimedia library, 1st floor / free admission

FILM **THE RIDER**

director Chloé Zhao / production: USA / 2017 / drama, western / 1 hour 44 min

7.00 pm / Gdańsk Shakespeare Theatre / tickets: box office of the Theatre /

<https://bilety.teatrszekspirowski.pl/>

PREMIERE OF THE PLAY **SNOW**

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY ORHAN PAMUK

– SNOW is a political and poetic novel. It is a dystopian dream about the future, about a better life, about breaking out of the hell of political and moral dependencies. The small provincial town of Kars is a mirror reflection of the Polish landscape” – director Bartosz Szydłowski comments on the work of Orhan Pamuk, a Turkish writer, Nobel Prize winner for literature (2006), whose works have been translated into more than 40 languages.

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director / Bartosz Szydłowski
adaptation and dramaturgy / Mateusz Pakuła
choreography / Dominika Knapik
music / Dominik Strycharski
set design and costumes / Małgorzata Szydłowska
video / Maciej Szczęśniak, Przemysław Czepurko
stage manager / Marcin Stalmach

cast / Anna Paruszyńska-Czacka, Aleksandra Przybył, Marta Zięba, Paweł Charyton, Juliusz Chrzęstowski, Szymon Czacki, Daniel Dobosz, Dominik Stroka, Artur Świąś, Krzysztof Zarzecki

PRODUCTION

Łaźnia Nowa Theatre, Kraków

CO-PRODUCTION

Gdańsk Shakespeare Theatre / Solidarity of Arts Festival
Stanisław Ignacy Witkiewicz Studio Theatre, Warsaw
Stanisław Wyspiański Silesian Theatre, Katowice

CO-FINANCING

Municipal Office in Gdańsk

Orhan Pamuk – Turkish writer, winner of the 2006 Nobel Prize in Literature. In Turkey, he is regarded as a social commentator; however, he considers himself an author of literary fiction without political leanings. He is a Turkish intellectual with unorthodox religious views, open to Turkey's integration into the European Union. He was the first writer from the Muslim world to publicly condemn the fatwa sentencing of Salman Rushdie to death. His books often describe the contact between Eastern and Western cultures. His works have been translated into more than 40 languages.

29/08/2021 SUNDAY

SOLIDARITY OF ARTS

SELF-GOVERNED REPUBLIC – THE 40th ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1ST NATIONAL CONGRESS OF “SOLIDARNOŚĆ” DELEGATES

11.00 am – 6.00 pm / ECS library, 1st floor / free admission

(SELF-GOVERNED) REPUBLIC OF THE 21st CENTURY

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SPECIALIST DEBATES

/ 11.00 am

Was Solidarity a monolith? Factions and divisions

guests / Władysław Frasyniuk, Tomasz Kozłowski, Wojciech Polak, Jan Rulewski

moderated by / Judyta Bielanowska

/ 2.00 pm

Security Service and partisan authorities vs. the 1st National Congress of “Solidarność” Delegates. Towards confrontation?

guests / Roman Bäcker, Grzegorz Majchrzak, Przemysław Ruchlewski

moderated by / Jakub Kufel

/ 4.00 pm

The role of free media during the 1st National Congress of “Solidarność” Delegates

guests / Ewa Kulik-Bielińska, Anna Maria Mydlarska, Joanna Szczęśna, Joanna Wojciechowicz

moderated by / Konrad Knoch

2.00 pm / ECS winter garden, ground floor / free admission

DEBATE / **ARTISTS. ANIMATORS OF FREEDOM**

Mary Komasa / singer and composer

Antoni Komasa-Łazarkiewicz / composer and actor

Jacek Poniedziałek / actor and director

moderated by Magdalena Sroka / curator of the SOLIDARITY OF ARTS festival

4.00 pm / round table at the ECS fountains / free admission

CONCERT / **MUSIC OF NOMADS PART II**

Paweł Zagańczyk / accordionist, composer and teacher

5.00 pm / temporary exhibition hall, ground floor / free admission

PRESENTATION OF THE LECH BĄDKOWSKI AWARD

6.00 pm / ECS auditorium, ground floor / tickets: ECS ticket office,

<https://bilety.ecs.gda.pl/>

FILM / **NOMADLAND**

director Chloé Zhao / production: Germany, USA / 2020 / drama / 1 hour 50 min

7.00 pm / Gdańsk Shakespeare Theatre / tickets: box office of the Theatre,

<https://bilety.teatrszekspirowski.pl/>

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PLAY / SNOW

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY ORHAN PAMUK

30/08/2021 MONDAY

8.30 pm / broadcast from the winter garden / TVN24

BESTOWING OF FREEDOM OF SPEECH MEDAL

organizer / Grand Press Foundation

host city / Gdansk

partner / European Solidarity Centre

31/08/2021 TUESDAY

10.00 am / Gate No. 2 / free admission

GATE NO. 2 / OPENING

speeches / Lech Wałęsa, Mieczysław Struk, Aleksandra Dulciewicz, Bogdan Lis,
Bożena Rybicka-Grzywaczewska, Basil Kerski

hosted by / Lech Parell

11.00 am / ECS winter garden / / free admission

EUROPEAN HERITAGE AWARD / EUROPA NOSTRA AWARD / AWARD CEREMONY

12.00 am / ECS auditorium / / free admission

ETHICS OF SOLIDARITY

REFLECTION UPON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE AUGUST AGREEMENTS

LECTURE

ZHANNA NEMTSOVA

/ Russian journalist and social activist who chose political exile after numerous threats on social media

/ daughter of Boris Nemtsov - politician, democracy activist, human rights defender, supporter of liberal economic reforms and opponent of the annexation of Crimea by Russia, shot dead in the centre of Moscow by unknown assassins

INTRODUCTION

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Basil Kerski, Aleksandra Dulciewicz

DISCUSSION

Zhanna Nemtsova, Basil Kerski

MUSIC

Cappella Gedanensis conducted by Rafał Kłoczko

5:00 pm / ECS permanent exhibition, room G, 1st floor / free admission

BESTOWING OF THE MEDAL OF GRATITUDE

Laureates:

Richard Adams | USA

Wolfgang Eichwede | Germany

Carl Gershman | USA

Bernard Guetta | France

Georges Mink | France

Shana Penn | USA

Javier Perez de Cuellar | Peru

Martin Pollack | Austria

Rita Süßmuth | Germany

Melanie Tatur | Germany

Lev Zakharchyshyn | Ukraine

MUSIC

Cappella Gedanensis conducted by Rafał Kłoczko

18.00 / UNDERSTANDING 2021

MARCH FROM THE JAN III SOBIESKI MONUMENT TO THE HISTORICAL SHIPYARD GATE NO. 2

MARCH INITIATORS: SIGNATORIES OF THE GDANSK AGREEMENT

19.00 / Gate No. 2, Solidarności Square / free admission

RALLY FOR EUROPE. WE DEEPLY FEEL THE COMMUNITY OF OUR FATES

speakers / Medal of Gratitude laureates, Zhanna Nemtsova

Aleksandra Dulciewicz, Jacek Karnowski, Adam Bodnar, Bożena Rybicka-

Grzywaczewska, representatives of migrant communities from Belarus, Ukraine and Russia

REPUBLIC / EUROPE / SOLIDARITY

1/09/2021 WEDNESDAY

EUROPE WITH A VIEW TO THE FUTURE

THE 30th ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLLAPSE OF THE SOVIET UNION
THE 82nd ANNIVERSARY OF THE OUTBREAK OF WORLD WAR II

venue |

Languages: English, German, Polish, Russian

INTERNATIONAL FORUM / EUROPE WITH A VIEW TO THE FUTURE

10:00 am / ECS temporary exhibition hall, ground floor / free admission

Introduction / **David Gregosz, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation**

Basil Kerski, the European Solidarity Centre

Edwin Bendyk, the Batory Foundation

10:30 am – 11:45 am / ECS temporary exhibition hall, ground floor / free admission

1991–2021. Empire Strikes Back. Europe 30 years after the collapse of the USSR

Evaluation of events in the post-Soviet space. How does Europe build its relations with Russia? Can we still talk about the "post-Soviet space" as a specific region? What makes the post-Soviet states so different from one another? Have the revolutions for independence brought full sovereignty and democracy?

The 10th anniversary of New Eastern Europe

(with the College of Eastern Europe and New Eastern Europe)

key-note speech / **Andrij Portnow**

panelists / **Laurynas Vaiciunas, Marina Skorikowa, Magdalena Lachowicz, Mykoła Kniażycki**

moderated by / **Iwona Reichardt, Adam Reichardt (NEE)**

11.45 / transfer to Obrońców Poczty Polskiej Square (Defenders of the Polish Post Office), Old Town

COMMEMORATION OF THE 82nd ANNIVERSARY OF THE OUTBREAK OF WORLD WAR II

2 pm – 3:30 pm / ECS temporary exhibition hall, ground floor / free admission

DEMOCRACY IN RETREAT? IN DEFENSE OF CIVIL LIBERTIES IN EUROPE

What is a threat to freedom, pluralism and democracy? How to defend the universal human rights? / with PEN Club

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4:00 pm – 5:30 pm / ECS temporary exhibition hall, ground floor / free admission

CIVIC EUROPE. CIVIC DIPLOMACY IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Seminar – workshop studio / with the Batory Foundation

On civic diplomacy and democracy rejuvenation in the Central and Eastern Europe.

What forms of cooperation are possible?

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm / ECS temporary exhibition hall, ground floor / free admission

EUROPE AND THE WORLD. NEW OPENING, NEW LEADERS, NEW ALLIANCES

How has Joe Biden's presidency influenced geopolitics? How will elections in Germany and France define Europe anew? Is solidarity in international politics possible in 2021?

What alliances for democracy are possible?

ORGANIZERS

City of Gdansk

Marshall Office of the Pomorskie Voivodeship

European Solidarity Centre

PARTNERS

Konrad Adenauer Foundation

Stefan Batory Foundation

Gdańsk Foundation

Grand Press Foundation

New Eastern Europe

Jan Nowak-Jeziorański College of Eastern Europe

Polish PEN Club

Paweł Adamowicz Civic College

Europa Nostra

Capella Gedanensis

B90

Łażnia Nowa Theatre, Kraków

Teatr Studio, Warsaw

Wyspiański Theatre, Katowice

Gdansk Shakespeare Theatre

Gdansk.pl

The logo for Freedom Days, featuring a stylized white 'W' shape on a red background with the text 'Freedom Days' to its right.

Freedom
Days

The dates '27/08 01/09 2021' are displayed in a large, bold, black font, oriented vertically on the right side of the header.

27/08
01/09
2021

REPUBLIC / EUROPE / SOLIDARITY

COOPERATION

ŁAŻNIA Centre for Contemporary Art

Cultural platform Past / Future / Art.

Ukrainian Institute

ecs.gda.pl

