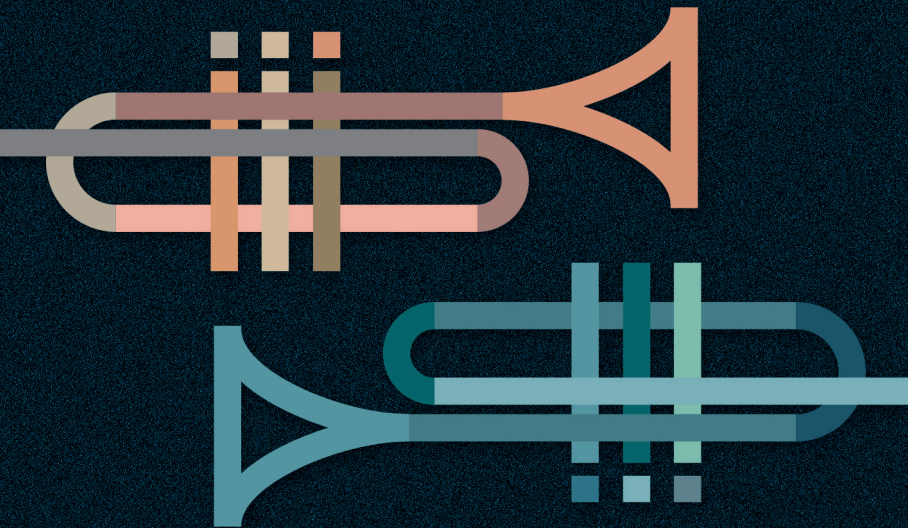


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MONOCHROMATIC DUO
José Cháfer & Sławomir Cichor

- | | | |
|-----|---|------|
| 1. | Ramon Garcia i Soler – Gatos y mariposas | 3:55 |
| | Brendan Collins – Concerto | |
| 2. | Movement 1 | 3:28 |
| 3. | Movement 2 | 5:23 |
| 4. | Movement 3 | 7:12 |
| 5. | Saül Gómez Soler – Ofrena | 3:05 |
| 6. | Kousuke Yamashita – Elternal Story | 4:30 |
| 7. | Saül Gómez Soler – Marilena | 2:41 |
| 8. | Brendan Collins – Serenade | 3:47 |
| 9. | Krzysztof Grzeszczak – A Due | 3:33 |
| 10. | Luboš Fišer – Dialog | 5:02 |
| 11. | Krzysztof Grzeszczak – Monochromia | 5:58 |
| 12. | Krzysztof Grzeszczak – Rzeźba w skale | 9:16 |

Total time: 57:50

Marta Macierzyńska – piano (tracks 1-8)

Łukasz Mosur – organ (tracks 10,12)

Krzysztof Grzeszczak – organ (track 11)

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Recorded at:

The Jesuits' Church in Łódź, September 2015 (track 11)

The Arthur Rubinstein Philharmonic in Łódź, July 2019 (tracks 9, 10, 12)

The Music School in Płock, June and July 2019 (tracks 1-8)

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We thank our families,
the performers:
Marta Macierzyńska, Łukasz Mosur, Krzysztof Grzeszczak
composers:
Brendan Collins, Krzysztof Grzeszczak,
Saül Gómez Soler, Ramon García Soler
the authorities of:
Arthur Rubinstein Philharmonic in Łódź,
Musical School in Płock,
Płock Chamber Orchestra,
DSJ recording
and
Yamaha Music Europe, Blackbinder, Warburton



Monochromatic Duo

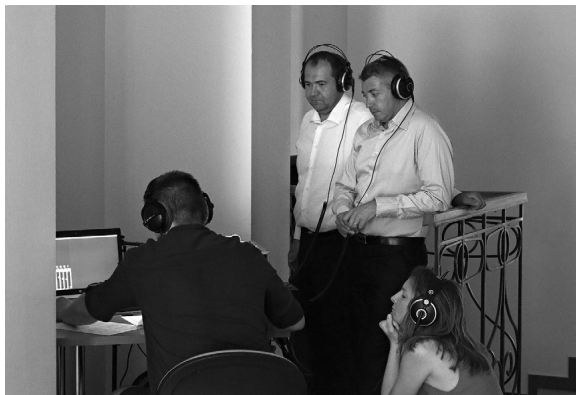
is an ensemble founded by the two trumpeters: José Cháfer (Spain) and Sławomir Cichor (Poland). They are separated by a distance of 2,000 km, though their shared passion – music – makes it unimportant. For a few years they have been cooperating with each other on different projects. They have given numerous performances as a duo in Australia, Belgium, Spain, Germany and the USA. Their repertoire encompasses works for a symphony orchestra, wind band, organ, piano and two trumpets solo. Last year they premiered many works for two trumpets. Currently, they are collaborating with such great composers as Brendan Collins, Krzysztof Grzeszczak, Saül Gomez Soler. Monochromatic Duo frequently combines concerts with workshops, during which the artists share their knowledge and experience with young musicians. José Cháfer and Sławomir Cichor are both renowned soloists (Yamaha artists) and teachers with considerable artistic achievements. As a duo, their great potential becomes enhanced.

The program of this CD features works representing different areas of the artists' activity. There are mainly compositions written specially for this ensemble, presenting various styles and composed on different occasions. CD contain three main works: Concerto for two trumpets by Brendan Collins, Sculpture in the Rock by Krzysztof Grzeszczak and Monochromia by the same composer. The Concerto was originally composed for two trumpets and wind ensemble but there are also versions with piano and symphony orchestra accompaniment. The premiere performance took place in Melbourne on 21st October 2017. Inspiration for the work came as a result of the composer's reflection on the bygone era of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Movement I, Lively, serves as a showcase for both soloists and accompaniment. It is a highly-charged rhythmic movement that involves elements of jazz, including the underlying rhythmic syncopation played staccato around extended harmonies. Movement II, Largo, is a slow movement with lengthy melodies, distributed evenly between

soloists and accompaniment. Movement III, Presto, is a technical showcase reflecting light-hearted styles of the early Italian composers of opera, Rossini and Donizetti. It shows the trumpets in a call-and-response manner throughout most of the movement and finishes with an elaborate cadenza. Sculpture in the Rock (2019), according to the composer Krzysztof Grzeszczak, is a composition written at the request of the two outstanding trumpeters Sławomir Cichor and José Cháfer, and dedicated to them. The musical structure of the composition seems to imply arduous work of a sculptor, carving intended shapes in hard stone so that he can finally admire, ecstatically almost, his crystallized vision in the majestic, solid and finely carved rock. Monochromia means monochrome – the term used in visual arts. The piece is a very successful work composed by Krzysztof Grzeszczak on the occasion

of playing together with José Cháfer and Sławomir Cichor. The homogeneity and extending limitation on sound material to several melodic-harmonic structures are superior structural elements of the composition. The work's title has given the name to the ensemble. Beautiful and clear sound of the first performance left a vestige in the artists' minds and inspired them to formalize their cooperation.

Other pieces, selected for the CD, are taken from the repertoire performed by the duo at their concerts. There are beautiful ballads like Eternal Story by Kousuke Yamashita, Gatos y Mariposas by Ramon Garcia y Soler, Serenada by Brendan Collins, songs inspired by Spanish folklore: Ofrena and Marilena by Saül Gómez Soler, but also works written in very special with contemporary music elements – A Due by Krzysztof Grzeszczak and Dialogue by Luboš Fišer.





Biographical notes

José Cháfer is trumpet teacher at the Melcior Gomis Conservatory in Ontinyent, Spain, Musical Research Master and the CIMVO Artistic Director. He frequently travels as a guest performer and clinician to universities and festivals in the USA, China, Canada, Australia, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy and Poland. He has performed as a soloist at the 2013 and 2018 International Trumpet Guild Conference, IBBA2013 and 2017, China Trumpet Conference in 2014, 2016 and 2019 and 1st and 2nd International Trumpet Conference in Lodz. He has premiered concertos for trumpet and piano, trumpet and organ, two trumpets and organ, trumpet unaccompanied, two solo trumpets, solo trumpet and trumpet ensemble, two trumpets and band, and for 4 trumpets and band, all written and dedicated to him, in Europe and North America. He has also given European premieres of Vizzutti's and Stephenson's works. As an orchestra musician, he has performed with the

Orquesta Sinfónica de Madrid, Orquesta Sinfónica de Barcelona, Orquesta Sinfónica de Murcia and Orquesta del Teatro Chapi. As a chamber musician, he is a founder of the Quórum Brass Quintet and Collage Brass Ensemble. He has also performed with Barna Brass and Spanish Brass. Among Cháfer's teachers there are Manuel López, Ernest Aparisi, Vicente Campos, Luis González, Eric Aubier and Spanish Brass. In September 2016, he presented his second solo CD 'Textures', featuring various international guest artists; it was awarded two Silver Medals at the Global Music Awards ceremony in two different categories: Album and Instrumentalist. His first solo CD 'Spirit' won the Silver Medal of the Global Music Awards for Classical Instrumentalist in March 2016. He is a founder of the 'Four Pipes, the G-brass International Project', with which he played in Belgium, Spain and Poland. José Cháfer is Yamaha Performing Artist, Warburton Artist and Blackbinder Ambassador.

Śławomir Cichor, born on 1st August 1978, graduated from the K. Lipiński Academy of Music in Wrocław. He got an honors M.M. degree in trumpet performance in the class of Prof. Igor Cecocho. He is a prize-winner of All-Poland Trumpet Competition in Kalisz, All-Poland Wind Chamber Ensembles Competition in Warsaw and a finalist of All-Poland Competition for the 20th-century Music Performers. The main scope of Śławomir Cichor's artistic activity constitutes his work as an orchestral musician. He started this career path from the Polish Festival Orchestra, founded by Krystian Zimmerman. The successive stages of his professional career make his work for the Warsaw Philharmonic National Orchestra and cooperation with Sinfonia Varsovia. Currently, he is a principal trumpet of the Arthur Rubinstein Philharmonic in Łódź. For 20 years of his orchestral career, he has taken part in concert tours of 22 countries. He has participated in recording sessions of several dozen records, some of them being even awarded. He has performed as a soloist in Poland, Australia, Belgium, Germany,

Holland, Slovakia, Spain and the USA. In 2013, he was admitted to a prestigious circle of the artists invited to the 38th annual conference of the International Trumpet Guild (ITG) in the USA and a year later he recorded and released his first solo album – Trumpet Song (DUX 1109). He took up his teaching career in 2000 as a lecturer at the Wrocław Academy of Music. Since 2006 he has been working at the Academy of Music in Łódź, where he was conferred on a Ph.D. degree in music (2010) and where he currently works on the position of an assistant professor. He is a composer of pieces for trumpet and trumpet ensembles. His compositions were performed at festivals in Poland and abroad. Śławomir Cichor has been awarded The Order of Merit for Services to the Polish Culture, as well as The Bronze Cross of Merit and the Special Prize of the Łódź Province Marshal. He has also been given twice an award of the Rector of the Academy in Łódź for artistic and pedagogic achievements. Śławomir Cichor is Yamaha Performing Artist.

Marta Macierzyńska — pianist and chamber musician born in Łódź in 1981; a graduate of the G. and K. Bacewicz Academy of Music in Lodz, in the piano class of Prof. Beata Cywińska (Master's degree with distinction) and Prof. Maria Korecka-Soszkowska (doctoral studies). In 2014, she was awarded a PhD degree in the Instrumental Department of the Academy of Music in Katowice. Marta Macierzyńska works as an accompanist at the Academy of Music in Lodz and at a music school, where she runs a piano class. She also works as a soloists' répétiteur at the Grand Theatre in Lodz. In May 2010, she took part as a guest artist in Kevin Kenner's recital, with whom she played F. Chopin's Rondo in C major, op. 73 for two pianos. Marta Macierzyńska has performed at many international music festivals as a soloist and chamber musician. In 2014, the DUX record label released a CD titled Trumpet Songs, recorded by the pianist together with the trumpeters Sławomir Cichor and Richard Stoelzel.

Łukasz Mosur — studied in Warsaw, Lübeck and Hamburg, in the organ classes of Andrzej Chorościński, Franz Danksagmüller and Pieter van Dijk. He is a lecturer in the Department of Organ and Sacred Music at the Academy of Music in Lodz and an active soloist. Łukasz Mosur has won several prizes at music competitions, such as the 2nd prize and special prize at the International M. K. Ciurlionis Organ Competition in Vilnius, 2nd prize at the International Jan Kucharski Organ Competition in Lodz, 2nd prize at the Romuald Sroczyński in Memoriam Competition in Poznan, 4th prize at the Mendelssohn-Eben Organ Competition in Kraków and 1st prize at the International Organ Competition in Rumia. He has also been awarded a prize of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, a grant of the Minister of Science and Higher Education, a scholarship of the Ad Infinitum Foundation, the DAAD Matching Funds scholarship, scholarship of Dr. Felix Hinrichsen-Stiftung. Łukasz Mosur is a member of the Hans Hummel Society for Period Organs in Olkusz, Poland.

Krzysztof Grzeszczak — composer, music theorist, organist and academic teacher; born in Maków Mazowiecki. He graduated from the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw (1993) and the Academy of Music in Łódź, with an honors MA degree in composition under Prof. J. Bauer (1999) and theory of music under Prof. F. Wesolowski (2000). He has also studied organ performance with Prof. F. Raczkowski and Prof. P. Grajter. As an organist, he has cooperated with the Chamber Choir of the Academy

of Music in Łódź. In 2001, he became a member of the Polish Composers' Union. Since 1999, Grzeszczak has been a lecturer at the Academy of Music in Łódź, where he currently holds a position of an Assistant Professor in the Composition Department. He composes oratorio, orchestral, chamber, vocal-instrumental, choral and solo music. His compositions have been performed at numerous festivals and concerts in 19 European countries as well as in Australia and the USA.

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