

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ami Bennett 617-797-8267, ami@ashmontmedia.com



**ArtsEmerson Announces
CHOPIN WITHOUT PIANO
By Poland's Centrala
November 11 through 14, 2015
Emerson/Paramount Mainstage, Boston**

**Plus Special Free Concert
Performed by The Boston Conservatory Orchestra
Sunday, November 15, 2015 | 2pm**

The press performance is Wednesday, November 11, 7:30PM. [Click here to RSVP.](#)

[BOSTON, MA – September 28, 2015] ArtsEmerson, under the leadership of Polly Carl, David Dower, and David Howse, announces **Chopin Without Piano** by Centrala (Poland). The production is directed by Michal Zadara, conducted by Franck Ollu, and performed by Barbara Wysocka. Accompanying Ms. Wysocka will be members of The Boston Conservatory Orchestra. **Chopin Without Piano** will be performed in Polish (with English surtitles), November 11 through 14, 2015 at the Emerson/Paramount Mainstage, located at 559 Washington Street, in Boston's historic theatre district. Tickets range from \$25-75 and may be purchased by calling 617.824.8400 or online at www.artsemerson.org. Group, student, and senior discounts are available.



In **Chopin Without Piano**, director Zadara and performer Wysocka have replaced the piano line in two Chopin concerti, the E Minor and F Minor, with a text about his life spoken in the exact meter originally composed for the piano. The result is a hybrid evening of music and performance that unveils the private life of the composer as well as the artistic accomplishments inside the compositions.

“**Chopin Without Piano** is 100 percent classical Chopin and simultaneously an entirely new form,” says Polly Carl, Creative Director. “Through this virtuosic act of performing Chopin’s music as perfectly metered text, we recover the truth of his revolutionary artistic life. It’s a powerful piece that asks us to reflect on how cultures can appropriate and commercialize artists and the magic of theater and music to reclaim them.”

“**Chopin Without Piano** was created in Chopin’s native tongue,” says David Dower, Artistic Director. “Watching Barbara Wysocka perform the text with complete abandon, we knew this piece had to be performed in its original language with the presence of English surtitles. This is one of five shows this season not in English and part of our commitment to bring the world on stage to the city of Boston.”

In addition to the **Chopin Without Piano** performances featuring the accompaniment of the Boston Conservatory Orchestra, ArtsEmerson will also present a special concert featuring these two iconic Chopin concerti with exceptional young piano soloists joining The Boston Conservatory Orchestra, on Sunday, November 15 at 2pm. The Conservatory’s orchestra will perform the concerti with the intended piano parts (without the actor) so that the audience can hear the pieces as originally conceived by Chopin. The pianists for this special concert will be selected through the Conservatory’s annual student piano concerto competition. (Patrons may reserve their complimentary ticket for the Sunday matinee by visiting artsemerson.org or by calling 617.824.8400.)

"The Boston Conservatory is thrilled to be part of this exciting production that takes the work of Chopin and brings it to new audiences in a new way," said Richard Ortner, President of The Boston Conservatory. "Working with ArtsEmerson also allows our orchestral musicians and the Conservatory community to partner with an innovative program located just across town, and a very special opportunity for two of our pianists to perform the concerti with our orchestra in a new venue."

“We are delighted to have the opportunity to feature The Boston Conservatory Orchestra in this project,” says David Howse, Managing Director. "This is one of our many local partnerships this season in our ongoing effort to fully connect ArtsEmerson to the immense talent in the city of Boston. Classical music audiences will be experience the beloved Chopin pieces in a new way.”

About Chopin Without Piano

Take Chopin’s piano concerti, remove the piano and replace it with a monologue detailing the composer’s life and radical approach to music. The result is **Chopin Without Piano**, a staggeringly powerful production that coaxes new ways of considering this master composer—musically, emotionally and even politically. Accompanied by a full symphonic orchestra of Boston Conservatory musicians, actress Barbara Wysocka invites audiences into an intimate and raw conversation about Chopin, his music and the struggles of cultural identity with his home country, Poland. Click [here](#) to view the trailer.

Presented by Centrala

Directed by Michal Zadara

Conducted by Franck Ollu

Featuring: Barbara Wysocka

Special Guest: The Boston Conservatory Orchestra

Chopin Without Piano Performance Schedule

Wednesday, November 11, 2015	7:30PM
Thursday, November 12, 2015	7PM
Friday, November 13, 2015	8PM
Saturday, November 14, 2015	2PM
Saturday, November 14, 2015	8PM

Special Post-Run Concert Featuring The Boston Conservatory Orchestra and piano soloists

Sunday, November 15, 2015

2PM

Support for this production has been provided by the Adam Mickiewicz Institute, Swarthmore College, and the Trust for Mutual Understanding.

About Centrala

Centrala was initiated by Michal Zadara and is a joint initiative of two companies, Andergrand Media + Performances and Artistic Agency GAP. Centrala not only invents new images, sounds and thoughts, but also new institutional and economic contexts. Creating a new art creates a new type of institution, one that is flexible and focused on projects rather than on bureaucracy. Centrala works with public and private institutions, finding ways to make flexible use of resources of different actors in the process of creating art. Its partners are the Museum of Modern Art, Nowy Theatre in Warsaw, POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, Polski Theatre in Wroclaw, Sinfonietta Cracovia, Warsaw Uprising Museum, Nowy Theatre in Lodz and Powszechny Theatre in Warsaw.

About The Boston Conservatory

Founded in 1867, The Boston Conservatory is an independent private college with fully accredited graduate and undergraduate programs in music, dance and theater, training exceptional young performing artists for careers that enrich and transform the human experience. Known for its multi-disciplinary environment and deep community engagement, The Boston Conservatory is internationally recognized as an innovative leader among conservatory programs, focused on elevating and celebrating every aspect of the performing arts, presenting more than 600 performances each year. The institution has established itself as an important voice in the movement to make all forms of performing arts a more visible and valued dimension of communities here and abroad. For more information, visit www.bostonconservatory.edu.

About ArtsEmerson

ArtsEmerson is the professional presenting and producing organization of the Office of the Arts at Emerson College. Through its international programming and local community partnerships ArtsEmerson serves the city of Boston, the Emerson community (students, faculty and staff), and the global field of performance practice. Founded in 2010 by Robert J. Orchard, the same year that the U.S. Census confirmed Boston as a majority-minority city, ArtsEmerson is committed to building a cultural institution that embraces and reflects the changing demographics of the City of Boston. It operates from the core belief that the arts are for everyone. For more information on ArtsEmerson, visit www.artsemerson.org.

ArtsEmerson's History

ArtsEmerson is designed to address gaps in Boston's cultural landscape through international programming and inviting new audiences into Emerson College's downtown venues. ArtsEmerson quickly established a reputation for putting great work from around the world on its stages—work that emanates from the language of theater, yet pushes the boundaries into dance, music, and operas first seasons focused on building a world-class cultural institution that achieved visibility and a leadership role in the city in short order. By 2012, *Boston Magazine* named ArtsEmerson the Best Theatre in Boston. By December of 2013, WBUR critic Ed Seigel cited in his annual "Best of" round-up, saying: "In four short years, [they] have established ArtsEmerson as one of the most important cultural institutions in New England." In 2015, ArtsEmerson repeated as Boston Magazine's Best Theatre in Boston, this time with a special citation for our dual focus on quality programming and deep community involvement. ArtsEmerson continues to evolve its practice on both pillars: artistic excellence and civic impact, committed to building an audience for the work that reflects the diversity of Boston's demographics, and to establishing ArtsEmerson as an active civic partner in Boston.

In 2015 Orchard moved into the role of Creative Consultant. Currently ArtsEmerson is led by Artistic Director, David Dower, Creative Director, Polly Carl, and Managing Director, David Howse. This shared leadership model reflects the organization's values — that multiple voices are essential to leading a 21st century arts organization.

About Emerson College

Based in Boston, Massachusetts, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, with sites in the Netherlands and Los Angeles, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has 3,750 undergraduates and 750 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its study and internship programs in Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., the Netherlands, London, China and the Czech Republic. The College has an active network of 32,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communications and the arts. For more information, visit www.emerson.edu.

###