

Elliot Goldenthal back to Krakow FMF with Polish premiere of his *Grand Gothic Suite*!!!

Elliot Goldenthal, the Oscar and the Golden Globe winner has confirmed his presence in Krakow as a special guest of ASCAP's anniversary International Gala of Film Music. The world-renowned composer will visit Krakow for the third time, for the Polish premiere of his newest work *Grand Gothic Suite* based on music themes from Joel Schumacher's *Batman Forever* (1995) and *Batman & Robin* (1997).

Goldenthal is renowned as one of America's most prolific and versatile composers; the list of his works for the theatre, ballet, film and TV is simply breath-taking. He is also a true titan of film music. His output includes scores for the following films: *Public Enemies*, *Heat*, *Titus*, *Batman Forever*, *A Time to Kill*, *Drugstore Cowboy*, *Alien 3*, *The Tempest*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, as well as music to Neil Jordan's *Interview with the Vampire* and *Michael Collins*, for which he was Oscar-nominated. He was also nominated for two Golden Globes, three Grammy Awards, two Tony Awards and three CFCA (Chicago Film Critics Association) Awards. In 1988, he was awarded the LAFCA (Los Angeles Film Critics Association) Award for the best original soundtrack to *The Butcher Boy*. His most recent work is the soundtrack to the film version of Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*, directed by Julie Taymor. In 2003 he won the Oscar and the Golden Globe for his score to Taymor's film *Frida*. Goldenthal was nominated for his third Grammy Award for the co-production of a platinum album containing the soundtrack to the musical *Across the Universe*, with 35 songs of the Beatles. He also composed the original score for that movie. He wrote the opera in two acts, *Grendel*, staged by Taymor and nominated for the Pulitzer Award in music. He earned critical acclaim for his dashing *Fire Water Paper: A Vietnam Oratorio*, commissioned by the Pacific Symphony Orchestra to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War. The oratorio was released by Sony Classical Records 1996, with Yo-Yo Ma playing the cello solo.

In 2012, Goldenthal visited Krakow as a special guest of the memorable concert of his music at the 5th Krakow Film Music Festival. The program of the concert included Goldenthal's suites from *Titus*, *Interview with the Vampire*, *Frida* and *Alien 3*. Goldenthal was accompanied by one of the greatest film, theatre and opera directors, Julie Taymor, who is, incidentally, also his life partner. Taymor is a living legend of theatre, cinema and music—a multiple Oscar nominator for direction, costumes, stage design, the Oscar winner for *Frida* and multiple Tony Award winner, whose name is known from Beijing to Saint Petersburg, from Los Angeles to Sydney, Paris and London.

During the Krakow Film Music Festival Goldenthal and Taymor had the opportunity to visit one of Europe's most modern film production studios—Alvernia Studios, where a year later Goldenthal recorded the concert version of his ballet *Othello* created for the Metropolitan Opera, commissioned by the American Ballet Theatre (ABT) in 1997, and choreographed by legendary Lar Lubovitch. *Othello Symphony* was recorded by AUKSO in 2013, under the baton of Marek Moś. It was released by the Zarathustra Music label, receiving critical acclaim and earning many enthusiastic reviews. Let us reiterate that this recording was a result of the close cooperation between the Krakow Film Music Festival and Alvernia Studios. Thanks to this cooperation, the studio has been visited by Howard Shore, Tan Dun, Shigeru Umebayashi, Tom Tykwer, Alberto Iglesias, Don Davis.

We are very happy to host Elliot Goldenthal in Krakow again. He is one of the greatest contemporary artists, a music and theatre visionary, who has marked out many new paths in contemporary music; he is difficult to pigeonhole, one of those composers who always have their own way, a true genius, says Robert Piaskowski, Artistic Director of the Krakow Film Music Festival.

Goldenthal will bring to Krakow a unique work – his 23-minutes-long *Grand Gothic Suite* composed on the basis of themes from the iconic productions: *Batman Forever* and *Batman & Robin*. The suite had its world premiere at this year's FIMUCITÉ Festival.

This piece shows Goldenthal at his finest: his recognisable dark style marked with violin glissandos, rustles and murmurs, electro-acoustic sound effects and the leading part of brass instruments. His characteristic Batman's theme stole Danny Elfman's position as the one and only composer for this iconic, high-budget American serial production. At the concert we will hear the typical music themes from both films—vivid, dense and perfectly blending various moods together, combining the film background sounds, jazz, as well as elements of the popular waltz and tango. Goldenthal is like a rapid river, sweeping through the styles, jazzing, operating capricious harmony—he creates music out of the chaos, the avant-garde disharmony, out of which emerge fine melodies and symphonic sound in a clearly neo-romantic style, this is how Piaskowski heralds the Polish premiere of this unique suite.

Let's remind our readers that Elliot Goldenthal is the third Oscar winner—next to **Gustavo Santaolalla** (*Babel*, *Brokeback Mountain*, *Motorcycle Diaries*) and **Dario Marianelli** (*Atonement*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Anna Karenina*)—who will participate in the grand final concert of this year's Krakow Film Music Festival. At the ASCAP anniversary gala, the audience will have the opportunity to hear the most beautiful film suites of the last century, including the music for *Spartacus*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Hours*, *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, *Brokeback Mountain*, *Anna Karenina* and other films. The concert will be performed by the Beethoven Academy Orchestra and the Polish Radio Choir under the baton of Diego Navarro.

In August we will reveal the names of the soloists of the Gala concert, as well as other Oscar-winning guests, who will visit Krakow this year. For **this unique concert You are invited to the Tinning Plant of ArcelorMittal Poland, on Sunday (28th September) at 6.00 pm.**

Tickets for the festival concerts may be purchased via eventim.pl or at four InfoKrakow points: at 2 Jana Street, at Wyspiański Pavilion (2 Wszystkich Świętych Square), at the Tourist Services Centre (11 Powiśle Street) and at the Cloth Hall (1/3 Rynek Główny- Main Square).