

PRESS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
KILL TIME: January 20, 2011

UW POLISH STUDIES ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE
Distinguished Polish Speakers Series presents a lecture by

Dr. Steven Lagerberg
Chopin - Mortal Man, Immortal Genius
Fred Kronacher, piano performance

Thursday, January 20, 2011 at 7:00PM
Brechemin Auditorium at the School of Music, UW campus

For years, Frederic Chopin has been thought to have suffered from the ravages of tuberculosis. A startling new controversy now claims cystic fibrosis and not tuberculosis was the cause of his chronic affliction. Come and learn about this new possibility as a noted physician and Chopin expert, Dr. Steven Lagerberg, and an esteemed musicologist and pianist, Fred Kronacher, present "Chopin - Mortal Man, Immortal Genius," a program exploring the diagnostic possibilities and how the composer's illness affected his many beloved works. Excerpts of Chopin's magnificent music, performed by Mr. Kronacher, will illustrate the major influence Chopin's fatal illness had upon his works. Does Chopin's long-preserved heart now hold the clues to his suffering? Be the first to know about this musical mystery!

Presentation is free and open to the public

Dr. Steven Lagerberg - A retired physician and medical administrator with a lifelong passion for classical music Dr. Lagerberg is the founder of the NW Chapter of the Chopin Foundation. He is also an amateur musicologist who lives part-time in Paris where he helps produce classical piano concerts at the prestigious Salle Cortot. Dr. Lagerberg's book "Chopin's Heart – The Quest to Identify the Mysterious Illness of the World's Most Beloved Composer" awaits its publication.

Fred Kronacher - Co-founder and artistic director of the recital series and music education organization, Musical Experiences. Mr. Kronacher has performed in numerous recitals in the Seattle area. He has appeared frequently on both KING-FM and KUOW-FM radio in Seattle and has served on the faculty of Pacific Northwest Ballet, giving classes in music appreciation.

SPONSOR: University of Washington Polish Studies Endowment Committee and the UW School of Music

ABOUT UW PSEC: In 2004, a group of UW alumni, faculty, staff, students, and members of Seattle's Polish-American community formed the University of Washington Polish Studies Endowment Committee (UW PSEC). The vision of the UW PSEC is to create a leading West Coast Polish Studies Center at the University of Washington. In pursuit of this goal, we have established an Endowment Fund, we sponsor a Distinguished Polish Speakers Series, provide student scholarships, attract visiting scholars to the UW, and build partnerships with community organizations in the Pacific Northwest.

DISTINGUISHED POLISH SPEAKERS SERIES was made possible by a generous donation from Andrzej and Izabella Turski. Each year, we bring a number of experts on a variety of topics related to Polish culture, art, literature, economy, and politics to the UW campus.

UW PSEC website: <http://www.polishstudiesuw.org>