

# The Messenger



Mrs. Agata Arakal, Mrs. Anna Slabicki, Prof. Stanislaw Wnuk, Mrs. Beata Paszyc, Ms. Liliana Komorowska, Mr. Philippe Tlokinski, Lady Blanka Rosenstiel, Mrs. Klaudia Juniewicz, Mr. Zbigniew Domagalski, Ms. Kinga Debska, Mr. Andrzej Seweryn, Mrs. Katarzyna Kubacka-Seweryn, Mrs. Aneta Kulesza-Mestrinelli, Mrs. Eva Baker, Mrs. Agnes Gray

In commemoration of the 80th anniversary of WWII that started with the attack of Poland by Germany on September 1, 1939 and the 75th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising of 1944, the largest military operation undertaken by any civil resistance movement during WWII, The American Institute of Polish Culture presented a film at O Cinema in the heart of South Beach. *The Messenger (Kurier)* is a true story of Polish WWII hero Jan Nowak Jeziorański, a man of extraordinary courage who served as an emissary between the commanders of the Polish resistance movement AK (Home Army) and the Polish Government in Exile in London.

The afternoon of November 22, 2019 started with a wine and hors d'oeuvres reception during which special VIP

guests including the actors, movie directors and producers, had a chance to talk with the audience.

Kasia Weszczak, the MC of the Festival, greeted all and thanked Lady Blanka and the Institute for preparing such a special evening. Next Beata Paszyc, the Executive Director of AIPC and Honorary Vice Consul of Poland gave some remarks, which are excerpted below:

*"I would like to welcome you all on behalf of the Founder and President of the Institute and Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland, Lady Blanka Rosenstiel, who is here with us.*

*It is because of Lady Blanka's vision, dedication, financial support and love for the arts that for over 48 years, you*



**Jan Nowak-Jeziorański (1914–2005)**, Polish journalist, writer, politician, social worker and patriot, is considered one of the most famous Polish resistance fighters of WWII. He was a highly valued messenger of top secret documents between Polish commanders in exile, the Home Army, and their allies, often delivering them in the midst of bloody battles. For these acts of extreme courage and valor, he was nicknamed the Courier from Warsaw. He was also among those who stood up to tyranny in the Warsaw Uprising.

After the war, he worked in the Polish division of Radio Free Europe, and later as a security advisor for Presidents Reagan and Carter. Through his contacts with many notable politicians in the US, he was one of the advocates of Poland's membership in NATO. In 1996, he received America's top civilian honor – the Presidential Medal of Freedom – from President Bill Clinton.



Mr. Wilbur Velarde, Mrs. Melinda Velarde, Mr. Janusz Kozlowski, Dr. Maria Kozlowski, Ms. Eva Kordos, Mrs. Jadwiga Gewert, Mrs. Beata Paszyc, Mrs. Sharon DeWitt, Mrs. Adelaida King



Mr. John Kolasinski, Ms. Kasia Weszczak



Mr. Philippe Tlokinski, Ms. Lynne Schaefer

have been able to participate in our educational and cultural programs in South Florida and beyond. In fact, some 40 years ago it was Lady Blanka who started the International Film Festival in Miami featuring Polish movies and it is still a special South Florida event.

So thank you Lady Blanka for all that you have done and continue to do.

Today's movie is a tribute to 6 million Polish citizens – 3 million Roman Catholics and 3 million Jews – who were killed during the war. But it is also the story of young Jan

Nowak Jezioranski. Some of the people in the audience, including Lady Blanka, Magdalena, Ted, and myself, had the privilege to know him. His story is brilliantly portrayed by the talented actor, Phillipe Tlokinski, who is here with us today all the way from Poland.

But this story is also a story about the power of one. About strong individuals who, despite obstacles and twists of fate, go through life with a clear vision of their purpose. The power of one can be awakened within all of us. We have the ability to change the world, and if we believe in success, others will follow and help us to achieve great things"



Mr. and Mrs. Darek Homel



Ms. Kati Wiekiera, Mr. Zbigniew Staszewski, Mr. Philippe Tlokinski