



Beauty of Photographs

The National Museum (Muzeum Narodowe) invites to a very interesting exhibition entitled *Artists. Portraits of the Last Century* (Artyści. Portrety ostatniego stulecia). It presents about a hundred of photographs taken by the most outstanding Polish artists of the last century: actors, writers and painters. Among the authors of these historic photographs, there are Benedykt Dorys, one of the forerunners of Polish photography, and his follower Czesław Czapliński, who worked in Poland and in the United States. Their pictures, among which there are many portraits, are of high artistic values, despite all those years that have passed by. Moreover, they are a historic record. In the picture, you can see Jerzy Kosini photographed by Czesław Czapliński.



Japanese Posters in Wilanów

Over 120 posters painted by the most eminent Japanese artists are exhibited in the Museum of Posters (Muzeum Plakatu) in Wilanów until November 25. The title of the exhibition is *The Japanese Poster - Today* (Plakat japoński - dzisiaj). It presents the works created over the last fifteen years. They depict mainly the effects of stormy transformations in Japan related to global communication, and the growing domination of digital media. At the same time, the posters exhibited in Wilanów refer to the best traditions of Japanese poster art, which, unlike in Europe, has never faded into the background. The exposition revolves around the works of ten world famous Japanese classics in the field of design, and nine graphic artists from the generation of cartoons and computers.

Camerimage Awards

At this year's Camerimage festival in Łódź, the award for the artistic output will go to Stephen Goldblatt, an American cameraman, who co-worked on such films as *The Hunger*, *Angels in America*, *Prince of Tides* and *Batman Forever*. Another award will be granted to the Polish excellent actor and director, Jerzy Stuhr. The jury of the festival also awarded a mention to the director-cameraman duo, namely Czech director Jirí Menzel and cameraman Jaromír Štrnka (the authors of *Closely Watched Trains* and *I Served the King of England*). The Camerimage festival in Łódź, which is the capital of the Polish film, will take place from November 24 to December 1.



Warsaw — the European Capital of Culture?

Will Warsaw become the European Capital of Culture in 2016? The game is worth the candle, as cities which are awarded this title may receive co-financing from the European Union, amounting up to EUR 1 million. Moreover, the title is connected with prestige, and makes the winning cities attract more tourists. Warsaw started competing for the title in June 2007, and its competitors are Toruń, Łódź, Gdańsk, Poznań, Wrocław and Lublin. Starting from 2009, there will be two European Capitals of Culture every year. These will be the cities from two countries, one chosen from amongst the old, and the other from amongst the new member states. In 2016, they will be from Spain and Poland. In 2010, candidate cities will be submitted for approval to the European Union. The decision which city it will be lies with the authorities of Poland.



Gardzienice in New York

The world premiere of the play entitled *Iphigenia at Aulis* by the Polish Theater Center (Polski Ośrodek Teatralny) in Gardzienice has taken place in New York. Gardzienice is one of Polish theater groups that are most valued in the United States. *Iphigenia at Aulis* is the fourth performance by Gardzienice presented in New York. It was well welcomed by critics, and all important American dailies, magazines and portals wrote on it. *New York Times* called it a great artistic success. *Iphigenia at Aulis* is based on the tragedy by Euripides. It presents the dilemma of Agamemnon, the leader of the Greek coalition, who considers a decision to sacrifice his daughter Iphigenia so as to allow his troops to win the battle of Troy. The message of the play is clearly pacifist.



Italian Artist in Warsaw's District of Praga

Marco Angelini (born in 1971 in Rome) is an artist whose works do attract the attention of people. **Vertical** surfaces, with their rhythmicity and repetitiveness, are the prevailing elements of the works of this artist, fascinated with subjectively perceived space with its special order. To create his works, he uses such materials as iron, aluminum, nails, screws, audio tapes, photographic plates, paper and foam. His works have been exhibited in many European galleries, and in New York. Warsaw art lovers could admire them at the exhibition in Gallery 13 (Galeria 13). Now, there is another opportunity to see them in Galeria fab at 7 Brzeska Street in the well-known district of Praga, which used to be considered a dangerous place which you should rather avoid, and now has become a fashionable and a snobbish district, due to the character of old Warsaw it has managed to preserve. Praga is becoming Warsaw's Montmartre. Artists like being here, working here and exhibiting their works here. The exhibition of Marco Angelini, which is an unquestionable must-see and will be presented from November 17 for two weeks, perfectly fits the unique landscape of the district.



Grass's Birthday

Gunter Grass, an outstanding German writer and a Nobel Prize winner, celebrated his eightieth birthday in Gdańsk, which is his hometown. Grass is also the freeman of the city. The celebrations lasted three days. They included exhibitions, meetings and the premiere of the performance based on Grass's famous novel *The Tin Drum*, settling the accounts with the 20th century and the trauma of the Second World War. In the historic Saint John church, you could also see the musical and visual art performance prepared by an international team of musicians and performers referring to the motifs of Grass's books, and the latest history of Gdańsk.