



## ARTSBEAT... and Culture

by Staś Kmieć



Please send press releases and photos to:  
PostEagle.ARTS@gmail.com.

### Celebrating Arthur Rubinstein

Two concerts in Manhattan

Arthur Rubinstein (January 28, 1887 – December 20, 1982) was a Polish-American classical pianist who received international acclaim for his performances of the music written by a variety of composers; many regard him as the greatest Chopin interpreter of his time. He is widely considered one of the greatest pianists of the twentieth century and played in public for eight decades.

Rubinstein was born in Łódź, Congress Poland (part of the Russian Empire for the entire time Rubinstein resided there) to a Jewish family. He was the youngest of seven children, and his father owned a small textile factory. At the age of two, Rubinstein demonstrated perfect pitch and a fascination with the piano; by the age of four, he was recognized as a child prodigy.



In 1921 Rubinstein gave two American tours, travelling to New York with the composer Karol Szymanowski. In 1932, the pianist, who stated he neglected his technique in his early years, relying instead on natural talent, withdrew from concert life for several months of intensive study and practice.

Rubinstein toured the United States again in 1937, his career becoming centered there during the World War II years when he lived in Brentwood, California. He became a naturalized American citizen in 1946.

Throughout his life, Rubinstein was deeply attached to Poland. At the inauguration of the UN in 1945, Rubinstein showed his Polish patriotism at a concert for the delegates. He began the concert by stating his deep disappointment that the conference did not have a delegation from Poland. Rubinstein later described becoming overwhelmed by a blind fury and angrily pointing out to the public the absence of the Polish flag. He then sat down at the piano and played the Polish national anthem loudly and slowly, repeating the final part in a great thunderous forte. When he had finished, the public rose to their feet and gave him a great ovation.

Celebrating the 125th anniversary of his birth and the 30th anniversary of his death The Consul General of the Republic of Poland in New York and The Arthur Rubinstein International Music Foundation will present *Homage to Arthur Rubinstein* on Thursday, December 13 at 5:00 pm at the Consulate – 233 Madison Ave, Manhattan. The event will include a talk by Rubinstein's biographer, Harvey Sachs; a performance by Polish pianist Marcin Koziak, and a photo exhibit.

On Saturday, December 15 at 7:00 pm Anna Fedorova and Roman Rabinovich, Piano will perform in *Arthur Rubinstein in Memoriam* at Carnegie Hall's Zankel Auditorium, Zankel Hall in Manhattan.

The program will include works by Scarlatti, Chopin, Ravel, Rachmaninoff, Haydn, Prokofiev, Ravel/Roman Rabinovich, and Stravinsky.

## WORD ETYMOLOGY

Stories of words having a Latin or Greek origin. There are over a million words in the English language. 60% of them come from Latin and Greek. The following story(s) will help you to understand and retain the meanings.

By Joseph Stefaniak, an envoy of the Classics.



The word - **ALIBI** - is defined as a form or defense whereby a defendant attempts to prove that he or she were elsewhere when the crime in question was committed. An excuse for oneself.

The Latin word - **ALIBI** - means - **ELSEWHERE, ANOTHER PLACE**. It is formed from two Latin words - **ALIUS** - which means - **ANOTHER, OTHER** - and - **UBI** - which means - **WHERE**.

Another term used in a legal sense is - **ALIAS**. Alias is defined as - **AN ASSUMED NAME**. It comes from the Latin word - **ALIUS** - which means - **ANOTHER** or **OTHER**.

The Latin word - **UBI** - is found in the English word - **UBIQUITOUS** - which means - **SEEMING TO BE EVERYWHERE AT THE SAME TIME, OMNIPRESENT**. It comes from - **UBIQUE** - meaning - **EVERYWHERE**

### Movie Goes Global, Gets Polish Assist On Sound Design And Tech

By Jacek Adamski

#### HONOLULU

The award winning comedy *"Get A Job"* with the giant soundtrack was filmed entirely in Hawaii. Every state across the country wants film production for their localities because of the economic impact. Hawai'i offers some tax incentives just like many other state do. It is an incentive for producers to bring production and post-production to their communities. The tax credits that *"Get A Job"* received are now helping the film come to market.

The movie was written/directed by Brian Kohne and was his four year journey. The film is being released to DVD in time for the holidays. Kohne graduated from film school at San Jose State in 1989.

Stefan Schaefer was the producer and he has had other releases in Europe. At the historic Palace Theater in Hilo, Hawaii during the theatrical run Kohne said, "The movie was done in layers, people are going to be so surprised by the underground stories they discover behind all that laughter."

Associate producer Raymond Rolak was happy to see how well the soundtrack has been received. "The principals hit a giant homerun with the music and Brian Kohne used a team approach to bring it all to market," added Rolak.

*"Get A Job"* also had an international added twist with Polish Nationals as part of the sound design team. Kohne was pleased with the end result as the DVD and Movie Soundtrack CD will be coming to market in time for Christmas.

Marcin Tysza and Allan Zaleski were great additions to the sound tech and sound engineering efforts. Not only does the movie have a Pacific-fusion feel, it is also culturally enriching with first nation and global reach. The ever polite Japanese tourist's scenes that get featured bring forth giant audience laughs also.

In this movie besides the chuckles, it is the music that really shines. Veteran island entertainers Willie-K and Eric Gilliom take the comedy

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By Ewa Bronowicz

## Polish In America: A Profile

### The Gourmet Story of Wieslawa Kurowycky

Wieslawa Kurowycky, born Kossakowska, arrived in New York City in 1979, on April Fool's Day, but everything that happened to her that day was no joke. She moved into the East Village, an area that would become her permanent home. And she met Zenon Kurowycky, the man she would marry. "And my new life story started," she said. A few years later, Mrs. Kurowycky's famous *pierogi* would become an inseparable part of that story.

Mrs. Kurowycky, who recently turned 70, looks at least a decade younger. She is happy to tell her story from the beginning. She had been born in Elk, Poland, and worked as an accountant for 13 years. Then she wanted to try something new. "Everyone wanted to come to America then," she said. Visas were scarce, so when she got one, she didn't hesitate. She arrived in New York City, and moved in with a friend in the East Village, which was then heavily populated by the Polish and Ukrainian communities. On the day of her arrival Mrs. Kurowycky's roommate introduced her to Mr. Kurowycky. She knew they "would have to be together." Indeed, the couple married several months later. (Mr. Kurowycky, who had been born in Poland, had come to America when he was 5.) Everything happened as if accordingly to a plan, even though there was no plan: the Kurowycky's daughter Eva was born, and the Kurowycky family moved from the noisy First Avenue to Stuyvesant Town, where they still reside. In 1895, Mrs. Kurowycky opened First Avenue Pierogi & Deli, now a permanent fixture of the East Village. "It was always *pierogi*," she said about her business idea. The deli, at 130 First Avenue, offers Polish classics like potato *pierogi*, borscht, blintzes, stuffed cabbage, and *paczki*, deep-fried doughnuts. When the *New York Times* reviewed the store in the late 90s, the boom started. People would travel from all across America to try the *pierogi*. But Mrs. Kurowycky's success goes beyond

national fame—recently customers from England showed up to try her cooking! "When we closed for two months for renovation, some people almost cried," Mrs. Kurowycky says



Wieslawa Kurowycky

with pride.

Asked about the key to her success, Mrs. Kurowycky names a few ingredients. The deli is a family business: Mrs. Kurowycky's brother, Kazimierz Kossakowski, and sister, Anna Kossakowski-Sieg, work there, and Mrs. Kurowycky's daughter, Eva Audit, is now the co-owner. "We do it all together," Mrs. Kurowycky explains. What is more, she keeps her faithful customers happy—for example, the traditional cheese and potato *pierogi* are always on the menu—but she also acknowledges the importance of catering to new customers, many of whom are NYU students from all over the world—the hip goat cheese and truffle *pierogi* are Ms. Audit's recent invention. Most importantly, Mrs. Kurowycky says her *pierogi* are the best. "I will never stop liking them," she confesses. There is a secret recipe, but that she will not reveal.

"I love America like I love Poland," Mrs. Kurowycky says about being a Pole in the US. America gave her a chance, and she is grateful for that. But Polish heritage has to be preserved. Mrs. Kurowycky's daughter speaks fluent Polish, and she is already making a point of speaking Polish to her 14-month-old granddaughter. "We are here in America but we have Polish souls," Mrs. Kurowycky concludes.

