

The 41st International Polonaise Ball *a tribute to* *Polish – Indian Relations & Friendship* *Saturday, February 2, 2013*



Lady Blanka Rosenstiel, Founder & President, Honorary Consul of Poland,
President Lech Wałęsa, Countess Barbara Pagowska-Cooper,
His Excellency Ryszard Schnepf, Ambassador of Poland, Mrs. Agnieszka Gray, Mr. Keith Gray,
Mrs. Izabela Karaszewski, Mr. Jan Karaszewski



Presentation of the
Lech Wałęsa Media Award:
Dr. Thaddeus Radzilowski,
President Lech Wałęsa

Miami's charming and venerable Surf Club on Collins Avenue positively glowed on Saturday night, February 2, 2013, when the American Institute of Polish Culture hosted its 41st International Polonaise Ball for prominent dignitaries, business leaders and educators, world-renowned diplomats, celebrities and the Institute's friends and members. This annual grand gala, the inspiration of Institute founder and president, Lady Blanka Rosenstiel, pays tribute to Poland's and Polish-Americans' friendship and relations with a different culture or country each year. The Ball celebrates accomplishments in the fields of art, science and education. From its inception in 1972, the Ball quickly became a major event in South Florida's society circles and throughout the world as one of the most successful grand galas in the United States.



Presentation of *Amicus Poloniae*:
His Excellency Ryszard Schnepf,
Mr. Paul Lowenthal, Mrs. Teresa Lowenthal



Mr. Amedeo Guazzin, Mrs. Miriam Guazzini, Mrs. Rosalie Rosenberg, Dr. Mark Rosenberg, Lady Blanka Rosenstiel, Marquis Alexander Montague,
Mrs. Loretta Swit, Ms. Madhu Mehta, Countess Barbara Pagowska-Cooper, Mr. Keith Gray, Mrs. Agnieszka Gray, Mrs. Alicja Schoonover, Dr. Pat Riley



Mrs. Raquel Jarosz, Dr. Renata Cymer, Dr. Irena Siemiginowski,
Mr. Rafal Cymer, Mrs. Barbara Schaefroth



Mrs. Maggie Villacampa, Mr. Jorge Villacampa,
Marquisa Maria Alonso



Mrs. Anna Ukleja, Dr. Andrzej Ukleja,
Mr. Jacob Ukleja, Ms. Biana Ukleja

This year the Institute hosted an enchanting evening honoring Poland's long friendship and relations with India. Both countries share a mutual admiration for the trials, tribulations and triumphs of their centuries-old cultures and a shared understanding of how to pursue and resolve a country's struggle for total independence through non-violent beliefs and the actions of its leaders and people.

The Surf Club's Grand Ballroom was bejeweled and bedecked in rich, vibrant colors, lush floral centerpieces and whimsical touches - a carved turbaned servant, a garlanded trumpeting elephant, a feathered eagle (the official emblem of Poland) - creating a stunning blend of the cultures of Poland and India. The exquisite cuisine with light splashes of exotic spices, the exuberant entertainment by Polish and Indian dance troupes, and the visual smorgasbord of gorgeous and sparkling gowns, saris, black tie and diplomatic regalia swirling on the dance floor to the music of the Frank Hubbell Orchestra, all combined to ensure that this was going to be a night to remember.

Among the over 300 guests were many esteemed dignitaries from all corners of the world – Argentina, Brazil, Canada, England, France, Germany, Italy, Monaco, Sweden, and, of course, Poland and India. President Lech Walesa, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and the charismatic leader of the Soli-

darity movement which ended communist rule in Poland, eloquently expressed his life long admiration of India's own non-violent freedom fighter, Mahatma Gandhi, and how he continues to be inspired by the profound messages and lessons Gandhi gave to the world.

Among other notable guests were His Excellency Ryszard Schnepf, the newly appointed Ambassador of the Republic of Poland in Washington, DC, Consul General of India in Atlanta, Mr. Ajit Kumar, and former India Ambassador to the US, Mr. Jagganuth Doddamani. Dr. Wojciech Maksymowicz, former Minister of Health & Welfare of Poland, H.R.H. King Kigeli V of Rwanda, H.I.H. Ermias Sahle-Seilasie Haile-Selassie of Ethiopia and his wife, Lady Saba, members of the Order of the Pearl from Sulu, and Loretta Swit (Hot Lips Hoolihan in TV's *M.A.S.H.*) were also in attendance.

Every year prestigious awards are conferred upon recipients whose accomplishments have gone beyond their chosen fields and have raised awareness of the contributions Poland and Polish Americans in the US and for those whom the Ball is celebrating - in this case India. Ms. Lisa Ray, the internationally acclaimed actress, activist and philanthropist was awarded the Institute's highest honor, the Gold Medal, for championing human rights, advocating stem cell research and promoting her Polish-Indian heritage. The Lech Walesa Media Award was presented by President Walesa to



Special Recognition: Count Matthew Meehan,
Lady Blanka Rosenstiel, Count Rodney Hildebrandt



Consul Patrycja Grochcka, His Excellency Ambassador Ryszard Schnepf,
Mrs. Carmen Cason, Mayor Jim Cason of Coral Gables



Special Recognition: Lady Blanka Rosenstiel,
Dr. Cezary Kakol



Consul General Ajit Kumar of India



Dr. Pat Riley, Dr. Dipnarine Maharaj,
Dr. Wojciech Maksymowicz, Dr. Jacqueline Vitoria Gouvea Maharaj



Pearl of Sulu Award:
Chancellor Andre Linholm, President Lech Walesa



Mr. Janusz Burzynski, Mrs. Francis Burzynski, Mr. Kazimierz Korzeb, Mrs. Eva Korzeb,
Mr. Eryk Paszkiewicz, Mrs. Katarzyna Paszkiewicz, Mr. Tomasz Paszkiewicz



Ms. Brigitte Notlof, Mr. Jan Karaszewski, Mrs. Izabella Karaszewski,
Lady Blanka Rosenstiel, Mrs. Margareta de Gea Grezell



Mr. Harsh Arora, Mrs. Radhika Arora,
Mr. Vinod Doddamani



Guests of Mrs. Ruby Bacardi



Mrs. Loretta Haas, Mr. Richard Haas



Mrs. Valeria Rosenbloom
with members of the Polish Folk Dancers "Polanie"



Standing L-R: Mr. Michael Murray, Ms. Helen Greer
Seated L-R: Ms. Nina Mlodzinska de Rovira, Mr. Allen Bozek, Ms. Joyce Hine,
Mrs. Anne McDougal, Ms. Marguerite Hark



Prince Ermias Haile Selassie,
Lady Saba, Mrs. Teresa Lowenthal



HRH King Kigeli V of Rwanda, Mr. Matthew Dupee



Mr. Terrence Sarros, Count Jason Psaltides,
Baron Kimon Andreou, Dr. Charles Drake



Hurricane SwaggeRaas Indian dance group



Mr. Roy Meyering, Mrs. Miriann Meyering,
Ms. Jessica Jacober, Mr. Paolo Guazzini



Mrs. Loretta Swit, Mr. Juan Carlos Avila



Marquisa Maria Alonso,
Marquis Alexander Montague



Honorary Vice Consul Beata Paszyc,
Mr. John Wayne, Jr.



Mr. Sergio Pino, Mrs. Adriana Pino



Count Rodney Hildebrant, Ms. Susan
Bleemer, Count Matthew Meehan



Mrs. Crystal Haas, Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz,
Mrs. Wanda Urbanska



Ms. Vislava Tylman,
Mr. Steve Karski, Dr. Vikram Desai



Mrs. Alex Verite, Mr. Jordi Verite



Mrs. Inga Luksza Senis, Mr. Francesco Senis, Ms. Debra Kondraczyk, Mrs. Agnieszka Gray,
Mr. Maxmillian Stalmach, Ms. Ewa Nowaczek



Mrs. Monica Morrill Yatsevitch,
Mr. Gratian Yatsevitch



Mr. Bogumil de Wojkowski,
Ms. Alicja Schoonover



Mr. Paul Lowenthal, Ms. Maggie Hernandez, Mrs. Alina Ammavuta,
Mr. Raffaele Ammavuta, Mrs. Padmina Durr



Dr. Januariusz Styperek, Dr. Janina Styperek



Mr. Bruce Friedman,
Ambassador Paula Dobriansky



Ms. Luccia Lowenthal, Ms. Francesca Lowenthal, Mrs. Lourdes Viciado, Mrs. Teresa
Lowenthal, Mr. Raffaele Ammavuta, Mrs. Alina Ammavuta



Mr. Charles Falk, Mrs. Renata Ryan



Standing L-R: Chancellor Boniface Benzing, Mr. Marvin Lusky, Mr. Adam Dougherty, Mr. Jeff Greene, Mrs. Christina Greene,
President Lech Walesa, Lady Blanka Rosenstiel
Seated L-R: Mrs. Lorraine Lusky, HRH King Kigeli V, Mrs. Fabiana Miranda-Dougherty



Mr. Ali Torabi, Countess Bridgette Cooper, Mrs. Ellen Torabi, President Lech Walesa,
Countess Barbara Pagowska Cooper, Mr. Hamid Torabi



Ms. Oly Traina, Honorary Consul of Romania Victoria London,
Mr. Gian Traina



Standing L-R: Mr. Michael Alexander, Ms. Claudine Smurfit, Mr. Mario Faurot,
Ms. Virginia Taylor, Mr. Pierre Laroqui, Ms. Adriana Paparo, Mr. Gul Moorjani
Seated L-R: Ms. Brigitte Brody, Mrs. Madeline Hillsberg, Mr. Herbert Hillsberg, Ms. Julia Tirella



Countess Bridgette Cooper, Mrs. Magdalena Mangra,
Dr. Basil Mangra, Mrs. Joan Kahn, Dr. Husman Kahn



Ambassador Jagannuth Doddamani, Mrs. Doddamani,
Mrs. Maria Ladowski



Ms. Kim Fontaine-Skronski,
Mrs. Christiane Dury Schieste, Mr. Mike Skronski



Mr. Maximilian Stalmach,
Mrs. Agnieszka Gray, Mr. Keith Gray



Dr. Vikram Desai, Dr. Renu Desai



President Lech Walesa, Mrs. Rose Kruszewski



Mrs. Virginia Aristazabal Cordoba,
Marquis Alexander Montague



Mrs. Halina Malinski,
Mr. Michael Alexander



Ms. Lynne Schaefer, Mrs. Beata Paszyc, Lady Blanka Rosenstiel, Mrs. Jadwiga Gewert



Ms. Ursula Cieplak,
Mr. Marek Chojnacki



Dr. Tomasz Osolkowski, Mrs. Magdalena Mangra, Dr. Ewa Jachimowicz, Dr. Basil Mangra, Mr. Adam Jachimowicz,
Countess Barbara Pagonowska-Cooper, Dr. Mirosław Piotrowski, Mr. Lukasz Osolkowski, Ms. Monica Mangra

Photography: Betty Alvarez, Gort Productions, Roman Kazmierczak (courtesy of Barbara Cooper and Agnes Gray), Beata Paszyc

Published by The American Institute of Polish Culture, Inc. • 1440 79th Street Causeway, Ste. 117 • Miami, FL 33141
Ph: 305-864-2349 • www.ampolinstitute.org • info@ampolinstitute.org



Mrs. Raquel Jarosz,
Mr. Zbigniew Jarosz



Mrs. Lois Russo, Mr. Chris Russo, Ms. Myrna Holbrook, Ms. Anne Boley,
Mr. Joe Hernandez, Mrs. Kim Hernandez



Mr. Mikolaj Bauer, Miss Melissa Szwanké,
Mr. Douglas Evans

Dr. Thaddeus Radzilowski, renowned historian, writer and Co-Founder, President of the Piast Institute for his enormous contributions in promoting Polish history and culture through educational programs and media. President Walesa was awarded The Grand Cordon of the Royal & Hashemite Order of the Pearl of Sulu for his ongoing endeavors towards world peace by Chancellor Andres Lindholm who presented in abstentia for Sultan Muedzul-Lail Tan Kiram, Royal House of Sulu. Dr. Cezary Kakol, a Chicago internist born in Poland, was recognized for his ongoing medical support and charitable contributions to Polish-American communities throughout Illinois.

Ambassador Schnepf presented Lady Blanka Rosenstiel with the lifetime achievement medal, "Benito Merito," from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Radoslaw Sikorski.

Many residents of Coral Gables have been long time friends and members of the Institute and were guests at the Ball, among them Honorable Mayor Jim and Carmen Cason, Marquis Alexander Montague and Marquisa Maria Alonso, and Mr. and Mrs. Amedeo and Miriam Guazzini. Some of them were honored at the Ball. Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Teresa Lowenthal received the prestigious "Amicus Poloniae" from Ambassador Schnepf for their outstanding efforts promoting the development and cooperation between Poland and the US. The Lowenthals have made generous contributions, hosted Polish students in South Florida and are working with the John Paul II Center for Documentation and Research in Rome. Count Rodney Hildebrand and Count Matthew Meehan were recognized for their tireless work with the

orphans and homeless children in India through their organization, Sunil's Home Orphanage. To date over 16,000 children in great need have been fed, clothed, educated and given a safe secure environment by Sunil's Home.

The artistic program featured dance troupes performing Polish and Indian classic routines with contemporary twists. Both dance companies were adorned as befitting their country's traditional costumes - velvet and fur for the Polish dancers, and silk and spangles for the Indian group - and gave rousing performances to the delight of all guests.

Hurricane SwaggeRaas, University of Miami's premier Garba-Raas Team, have developed a signature swagger in their dance interpretation, and their skillful steps, energetic moves, and obvious passion and joy for the dance wowed the audience and transported all to the ancients courts of the fabulous Indian palaces.

The Polish American Folk Dance Company performed a fluid, elegant Mazur that evoked the centuries-old tradition of performing before the royal houses of Europe. The Mazur is an exhibition folk dance that is improvisatory in character, danced by couples who rotate around the dance hall and present a variety of graceful gestures to each other and the audience.

The 41st International Polonaise Ball celebrating Polish-Indian relations and friendship was a resounding success, and now we eagerly look forward to next year's gala.



Miss Amanda Rottermund,
Mr. Jaroslaw Rottermund



Mrs. Coco Palenque Torre,
Mr. Venny Torre



Mrs. Denise Wazny,
Dr. Tomasz Wazny



Mr. Ignacio Guerrero,
Mrs. Anna Lukaszek-Guerrero



Standing L-R: Dr. Markus Thiel, Mrs. Landrum, Dr. Mark Rosenberg, Presiden FIU,
Dean Ken Furton, Mrs. Furton, Mr. Paul Landrum
Seated L-R: Dr. Rebecca Friedman, Ms. Pam Stack, Mrs. Rosalie Rosenberg, Dr. John Stack



Standing L-R: Mr. Francesco Soberis, Dr. Grazyna Kakol, Miss Anastasia Kakol,
Dr. Cezary Kakol, Mrs. Patricia Zwierzycki, Dr. Jerome Zwierzycki
Seated L-R Dr. Ewa Piacientile, Dr. Jolanta Tataara

A Very Special Brunch

Sunday, February 3, 2013

On Sunday, February 3rd, the Surf Club was once again the setting for a sumptuous buffet brunch. Archbishop Thomas Wenski was present and chatted with old and new friends, while the guests took photos with President Walesa, Lady Blanka, Ms. Swit and the year's awardees.

The abundant brunch offerings included made to order omelets and fruit crepes, never-ending bakery goodies and platters of fresh fruits and crisp vegetables. It was a lovely way to wind down from the grandeur of the weekend and to make plans with friends for next year's gala. The 42nd International Ball will be a tribute to Argentina and Poland and will be held on Saturday, February 1, 2014 at Eden Roc Hotel in Miami Beach.



Mr. Matthew Dupee, Lady Blanka Rosenstiel,
Dr. Wojciech Maksymowicz



Mrs. Beata Paszyc, Miss Nel Velez-Paszyc,
President Lech Walesa



Msgr. Antoni Czarnecki, Archbishop Thomas Wenski,
with Polish Folk Dancers "Polanie"



Mrs. Wanda Urbanska, Mrs. Loretta
Swit, Mrs. Bozena Zaremba



Dr. Jacqueline Vitoria Gouvea Maharaj, Consul
Patrycja Grochcka, Hon. Consul Marek Pienkowski,
Dr. Dipnarine Maharaj



Consul Ewa Junczyk-Ziomecka,
Hon. Consul Krystyna-Maria Mikulanka,
Ambassador Ryszard Schnepf



Ms. Iga Henderson, Mr. Mikolaj Bauer,
Mrs. Maria Lesniewska, Ms. Violetta Polak



Ms. Helena Kolenda, Dr. Pat Riley, Baron Jason Psaltides,
Mrs. Gerry Males, Ms. Laura Males



Mrs. Danuta Kyparisis, Ms. Margareta de Gea Grezell,
Dr. Jerzy Kyparisis, Mrs. Maria Czulinska



Ms. Lynne Schaefer,
Mr. Douglas Evans



Hurricane Indian Dance Group



Mrs. Agnieszka Kedzierska-Ortega, Mrs.
Ursula Johnson, Mrs. Magdalena Tomasino



Mr. Bronislaw Bajcar,
Ms. Izabella Budys



University of Miami SwaggerRaas Dancers



Dr. Jolanta Tatara, Dr. Miroslaw Piotrowski,
Mrs. Agnes Piotrowski