**PATRYK SZTABIŃSKI**

Patryk Sztabiński, born in Suwalki, Poland in 1991, started learning to play the accordion
at the age of 9 at the local Music School and then he attended High Music School in Bialystok. At present he is a third-year student of Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in prof. Klaudiusz Baran’s accordion class.

Patryk Sztabiński can definitely be included in the circle of the most gifted musicians coming from the young generation. Apart from his exceptional talent, he distinguishes himself with his great determination and musical intuition. He often participates in national and international competitions and he often gives concerts, e.g. he has played for the Warsaw Philharmonic and the Podlaska Opera and Philharmonic. He has also taken part in radio and television programmes in Poland.

He is laureate of many national and international competitions, including:

1st prize - V National Accordion Competition Entertainment and Popular Music in Giżycko (Poland, 2006)

1st prize - National Accordion Competition in Chełm (Poland, 2008)

1st prize - XXXIII International Accordion Festival in Castelfidardo - cat. Ensamble (Italy, 2008)

1st prize - XVIII International Accordion Competition in Przemysl (Poland, 2009)

1st prize - XVI International Accordion Competition in Sanok (Poland, 2010)

1st prize - XVI International Accordion Competition in Sanok - cat. Ensamble (Poland, 2010)

2nd prize - VI National Competition Interpretations of Music in Krasiczyn (Poland, 2012)

Laureate - The Final Prize OUTSTANDING MUSICIAN, Two additional awards Pietro Floridia – Ausilia Pluchino Award and Special Mention – XXI „World Music Competition” IBLA Grand Prize in Ragusa Ibla (Sicilia - Italy, 2012)

His latest significant achievement is the Outstanding Musician award in the IBLA Grand Prize “WORLD MUSIC COMPETITION” which he won in Sicily in 2012 where he also received two extra awards: Pietro Floridia – Ausilia Pluchino Award and Siemionov Special Mention. Besides he was invited to take part in a concert tour in the USA in spring 2013, including New York debut at Carnegie Hall.

In 2012 he was also the winner of the XXXth Jubilee Festival – Talents’ Week which is held in Ignacy Paderewski’s Manor House at Kąśna Dolna and attended by well-known musicologists and critics.

In 2011 he took part in Warsaw Autumn - the International Festival of Contemporary Music, giving with the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra the first performance of Andrzej Krzanowski’s *I Symphony* which was awarded by the music critics with the statue of *“Gold Orpheus”.*

In October 2008, as a member of the accordion trio from Poland, he participated in the prestigious International Accordion Competition in Castelfidardo in Italy, winning first prize in it. In 2009-2010 the trio took part in an international project done with Byelorussian, Lithuanian and Polish musicians whose aim was to record music composed by the Ogińskis’ Dynasty. The originator of the project was count Ivo Zaluski coming from the Ogińskis’ family. The project was completed in September 2010 with releasing a CD in London.

Apart from his soloist career, he is genuinely interested in cooperating with chamber music orchestras, playing with them jazz, but also baroque and contemporary XXI-century music.

Patryk Sztabiński continually develops his professional skills in numerous Master Classes run by such eminent accordion players as Profs Yuri Shishkin, Wł. Lech Puchnowski, Alexander Dmitriev or Alexander Selivanov.

In 2012 Patryk Sztabiński accompanied numerous outstanding Polish actors and actresses in their performances in the Polish Theatre and the Ateneum Theatre in Warsaw. He was also involved in an interesting project done by the Freta Gallery which aimed at making children more sensitive to theatre, art and music.

In 2009 he was awarded by the Major of Suwałki for his outstanding achievements. In 2009 and in 2011 was given scholarship for a particularly gifted student from the Governor of Podlaski province. He gained John Paul II Scholarship from the City of Warsaw, placing himself among the 10 best students in Poland out of 260 schools of all levels. In 2013 he was also given a special grant from the French bank Societe Generale for the best students of Frederic Chopin University of Music to record his own CD.