

Description for the general public

The research project objective is to prepare a monograph on a creative activity – containing both music and writings – of Zygmunt Mycielski (1907–1987), analysed in the relations with politics. Mycielski remains a deeply significant person on the map of Polish cultural life of the second half of the 20th century – being a composer and music publicist, he worked actively for the benefit of not only musical, but also literary societies. He many times protested publically against the policy of the communist government of the People’s Poland and was in return harassed by the authorities, e.g. by refusal of a passport, or banning the performances of his music, as well as publications.

The creative activity of Mycielski will be presented in the context of his relations with the authorities, with considering the influence of current politics on his artistic and life choices. Within the framework of the project the legacy of Mycielski will be analysed – particularly not previously known manuscript materials collected in Mycielski Archive at the National Library in Warsaw. There are also planned queries in other cities in Poland (Kraków, Rzeszów), as well as in France and the United Kingdom – to show international contacts of Mycielski (Nadia Boulanger, Marcelle de Manziarly), including those with Polish emigracy (Andrzej Panufnik, Józef Czapski, Jerzy Giedroyc).

There is no yet a monograph on Zygmunt Mycielski, not a broader analysis of his musical activity – hence the necessity of taking a research on both his life and music, examined in a common relations and interactions, as well as in the context of determining external circumstances, especially those of a political nature.