Under the high patronage of SERGELORDZHONIKIDZE

Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva

## ZDZISŁAW RAPACKI

Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

has the pleasure to invite you to the opening concert of

## 2010, THE CHOPIN YEAR

inaugurating the series of international events celebrating Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849) on the 160th anniversary of his death



Piano recital by

RIEKO NEZU

## ON WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE 2009 AT 6.30 P.M.

Organized in partnership with the cultural organization *Musica Pro Pace* in Geneva

Palais des Nations, Hall XIV, *Paderewski Hall* Entry: Pregny Gate; Access: Door 15

Identification, together with this invitation, valid for two persons, will be requested at Pregny Gate. Outside parking for non-accredited vehicules.

The works of Chopin and Paderewski, will be interpreted by Rieko Nezu. Born in 1980, she completed her studies in piano at the National University of Fine Arts and Music in Tokyo, subsequently following a postgraduate course at the Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz. She is an internationally acclaimed pianist. She received first prize at the KIL International Piano Competition in Sweden (1996), fourth prize and special award for the best performance of works by Paderewski at the I. J. Paderewski International Piano Competition in Bydgoszcz, Poland (2004), and an honorary mention at the 15th International Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw, where she was among the finalists.

## PROGRAMME

- I. J. Paderewski, Melody in G-flat major from 'Miscellanea', Op. 16, No. 2
- I. J. Paderewski, Variations in A major from 'Miscallanea', Op. 16, No. 3
- F. Chopin, Nocturne in C-sharp minor, Lento con gran esspressione, Op. posth.
- F. Chopin, 4 Mazurkas, Op. 41 (E minor, B major, A-flat major, C-sharp minor)
- F. Chopin, Andante Spianato and Grand Polonaise in E-flat major, Op. 22

2010, The Chopin Year - Piano Recital by Rieko Nezu 24 JUNE 2009 - PALAIS DES NATIONS Organized by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland

2010 has been proclaimed by the Republic of Poland as the year of Frédéric Chopin. All over the world, and in his mother country, events are planned in honour of this great Polish composer. This concert at the Palais des Nations in Geneva on 24 June will inaugurate the series of international events celebrating the 200th anniversary of Chopin's birth and commemorating the 60th anniversary of his death. Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849) is one of the greatest artists in the history of Polish culture, the most distinguished composer, and a leading pianist of the Romantic Period. He played an exceptional role in shaping Polish national identity and left a global heritage for all humanity. Chopin is sometimes called a 'poet of the piano'.

As part of the exceptional programme for this event, the audience will have the privilege to hear the very first performance and world premiere outside of the Valldemossa Monastery in Mallorca of Chopin's 'Nocturne in C-sharp minor, Lento con gran esspressione' (1830). This unique original autographed manuscript is part of the private collection of the F. Chopin & G. Sand Museum in Valldemossa Monastery. Prior to the museum acquisition, this manuscript remained in the possession of one of F. Chopin's favorite students, Marcelina Princess Czartoryska (1817-1895), and thus had not been interpreted for over one hundred years. It resurfaced in 1979 through the research of Dr. Bozena Schmid-Adamczyk, curator of the F. Chopin and G. Sand Museum (Valldemossa) and president of the cultural organization *Musica Pro Pace* in Geneva. As of today, Dr. Schmid-Adamczyk's work is the most complete research on this manuscript. An outstanding feature of this nocturne is the use of polymetrics, an avant-garde technique unique to the Romantic period.

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Ignacy Jan Paderewski (1860-1941) is another legendary Polish pianist and composer, in addition to being a historic Statesman, Prime Minister and the first Permanent Delegate of Poland to the League of Nations in Geneva. He is also the first editor of the complete works of Frédéric Chopin.

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