“RADIATION”
The story of Maria Skłodowska-Curie
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 AT 7PM

Dear Friends of La Maison Française,

On Friday, September 16 at 7 p.m., the Embassy of the Republic of Poland, in cooperation with La Maison Française, will present “Radiation” a play by Kazimierz Braun about the life story of two-time Nobel Prize recipient Maria Skłodowska-Curie.

This performance, given by The Polish Theatre of Toronto, tells of one woman’s desire to penetrate the mysteries of science as she recalls her personal struggles and tells of her relationship with her husband, colleagues and friends that include Albert Einstein.

Throughout her life, Ms. Skłodowska-Curie discovered two new elements, Polonium and Radium, achieved professorship at the Sorbonne University in Paris, and was Head of the Curie Institute in Paris.

This performance is presented by The Salon of Poetry, Music and Theatre in Toronto and in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry awarded to Ms. Skłodowska-Curie.

WHAT: “RADIATION” The story of Maria Skłodowska-Curie - details below

Performed in Polish with English subtitles.

WHEN: Friday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: La Maison Française, Embassy of France, 4101 Reservoir Rd, NW

ADMISSION: General: $20; Students w/ID: $10

TICKETS: www.InstantSeats.com

Following the play, patrons are invited to a complimentary wine reception with the opportunity to mingle with other guests, as well as meet the performers.

We look forward to welcoming you to La Maison Française for this rare evening of theatre!

Please take the time to scroll down to the bottom and discover our complete 11/12 cultural season at the Embassy of France.

Warm regards,

Roland Celette
Cultural Attaché | Director of La Maison Française

www.HouseofFranceDC.org

DETAILS

Performed in Polish with English subtitles.

Radiation. The Story of Maria Skłodowska Curie is a play about the extraordinary woman and a genius scientist famous for pioneering research in radioactivity. Her achievements were the results of hard work, stubborn determination and the desire to penetrate the mysteries of science.

For many years she had been working with her husband, fellow Nobel laureate, Pierre Curie. After his sudden death she continued the research alone. She discovered two new elements, Polonium and Radium, achieved professorship at the Sorbonne University in Paris, assumed the position of the Head of the Curie Institute in Paris, and was awarded the Nobel Prize twice.

She attracted respect and admiration of the scholarly circles, students and international community. Behind the scenes of her academic and public career, her private life was complex and full of dramatic events. In her youth she lost her mother and a sister, and later on her beloved husband was accidentally killed by a horse drawn vehicle; a few years after that she faced harsh society treatment when she fell in love with a married man.

In the play the story reveals through conversations of Maria Skłodowska Curie and her younger daughter Eve that were conducted in
About Maria Sklodowska-Curie
(b. November 7, 1867 in Warsaw, Poland, d. July 4, 1934 in Passy, France). Physicist and chemist of Polish origin. She spent most of her
life in France, where her brilliant scientific career had developed. She can be considered as a precursor of a novel scientific discipline,
radiochemistry. First trials on treatment of cancerous tumors with radioactivity were made under her personal supervision.

In 1891 Maria Sklodowska passed her entrance exams to Sorbonne's faculties of physics and chemistry as the first woman in the history
of this prestigious University. In 1893 she received her baccalaureate from physics and started work in a laboratory of Lippmann
industries. In the next year she met Pierre Curie, a doctoral student of Pierre Becquerel at that time, who became her husband. She was
the first female professor at the University of Paris. She was twice awarded with the Nobel Prize, first in 1903 with her husband Pierre
and Henri Becquerel for discovering the phenomenon of radioactivity (in physics), then in 1911 for isolating pure radium (in chemistry).

During the World War I she was the chief of the Military Medical Unit and organized field mobile X-ray units which served over three
million French troops.

She was the sole winner of the 1911 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Curie was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and still holds the record
of being the only woman twice awarded with the Nobel Prize, as well as the only scientist awarded Nobel Prizes in multiple sciences
(physics and chemistry). In 1995 her body was ceremonially placed in the Pantheon in Paris.

CAST
Maria Nowotarska - Maria Sklodowska-Curie
Agata Pilitowska - Ewa Curie

Direction: Kazimierz Braun
Stage design: Joanna Dabrowska
Music arrangement: Jerzy Boski
Light, sound, special effects: Krzysztof Sajdak, Tomek Lis, Robert Sokolowski, Andrzej Stefan
Production: Jerzy Pilitowski
Poster design: Jerzy Kolacz

About Kazimierz Braun (director)
Mr. Braun graduated from Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan (1958) and National Film, Television and Theatre School in Lodz
(1962). He was an artistic and managing director of the J. Osterwa Theatre in Lublin (1967-1974) and Wspó?czesny Theatre in Wroclaw
(1975-1984). He has directed more than 100 plays for theatre and television.

Braun was a lecturer at the University of Wroclaw and State Drama School in Wroclaw. Because of his theatre production of “The
Plague” by Albert Camus, referring to the martial law in Poland (introduced by the communist government to crush political opposition of
“Solidarity”’s activists), he was forced to immigrate abroad. Since 1985, he has been a Visiting Professor at Swarthmore College,
University of California, Santa Cruz and is currently a Professor at State University of New York in Buffalo.

About Maria Nowotarska (actress)
Ms. Nowotarska graduated from the Ludwik Solski Academy for the Dramatic Art in Krakow. After completing her studies, she was
employed by the prestigious Juliusz S?owacki Theatre in Krakow and began performing under direction of some of the most renowned
Polish theatre directors, among them Erwin Axer, Lidia Zamkow and Krystyna Skuszanka. She also appeared in a number of films and
TV productions.

Mrs. Nowotarska moved to Canada in 1990 and immediately became involved in Polish theatrical life in Toronto. She singlehandedly
created “the Salon of Poetry, Music and Theatre” as its founder, manager, stage director, script writer and an actress. She also created
an Actors’ Studio which is associated with the Salon and introduces young people of Polish origin to the work on stage.

Mrs. Nowotarska’s was honored with the Medal of Polish Senate, “Cross of Merit” by the President of the Republic of Poland and “Gloria
Artis” medal and “Distinguished Advocate of Polish Culture” title by the Polish Minister of Culture and National Heritage.

About Agata Pilitowska (actress)
Ms. Pilitowska graduated from the Ludwik Solski Academy for the Dramatic Art in Krakow. After her graduation, she gave numerous
guest performances at the Juliusz S?owacki Theatre and at the Stary National Theatre in Krakow. She also cooperated with Polish TV.

She moved to Canada in 1986 and since 1992 she has been associated with the Salon of Poetry, Music and Theatre where she has
appeared in more than 100 productions, most notable in the series of dramas, directed and written especially for her and Maria
Nowotarska by Kazimierz Braun. With these productions The Salon was on tour in many cities in Canada, United States and Europe.

Since 1999 she has been a presenter, journalist and host of a weekly program “Z ukosa” (Sideglance) at the OMNI television in Canada.
Agata Pilitowska was given the “Distinguished Advocate of Polish Culture” title (2004) and was awarded the “Gloria Artis” medal (2006)
by the Polish Minister of Culture and the National Heritage.

the sanatorium in Sancellemoz, in the French Alps in 1934, where Maria came for treatment of a mysterious illness. While taking care of
her aged mother, Eve interviews her for a book that she is about to write. Maria recalls her years of struggles, studies, experiments and
discoveries as well as her relationship with Pierre Curie and Paul Langevin, and her friendship with Albert Einstein. It turns out that her
illness is the result of overdoses of radiation. She dies dreaming about returning to Poland.
About The Salon of Poetry, Music and Theatre

The Salon of Poetry, Music and Theatre was created in 1991 by Maria Nowotarska, former actress of the Juliusz S?owacki Theatre in Krakow, Poland. She is the Salon's artistic manager, stage director, script writer and frequently performs in the Salon's theatre productions.

The Salon of Poetry, Music and Theatre is a part of the Polish Canadian Society of Music formed in 1986. It promotes Polish culture in Canada and North America. The Salon's mission is to serve Polish communities by responding to their need for Polish culture and provide community members with the opportunity to participate in the arts as well as to present Polish culture to Canadians and Americans.

Although the core of the actors, musicians and stage designers collaborating with the Salon represents the highest professional competence, the Salon invites volunteers and amateurs to participate. In 2000 the Actor's Studio of the Salon was created to train young people to perform in the Salon's productions.