



RITA  
MARI  
SCHÄPER

is a German artist and musician living in Poland, in the Izery Mountains near Jelenia Gora. She is a graduate of Art Academy in Berlin and works as an illustrator and a songwriter. Rita loves to combine visual, performing and language arts to find new ways of expression.



IDA  
BAJ

is a Polish teacher of English and a teacher trainer. She lives in Jelenia Gora at the foot of the Karkonosze Mountains and is a passionate circle dancer and storyteller. Ida loves music and uses songs, poems, storytelling, drama and circle dances also in her teaching.



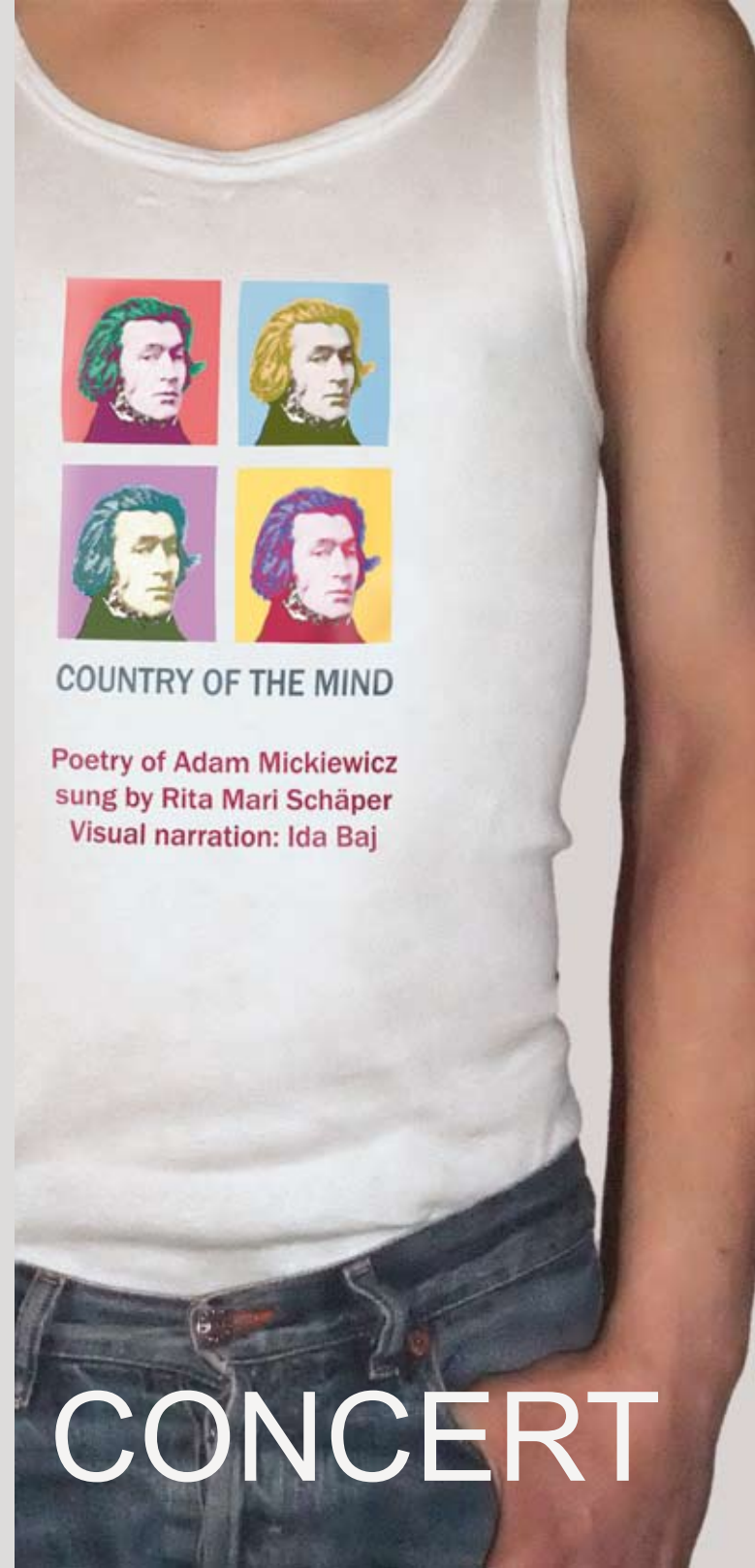
ADAM  
MICKIEWICZ

(1798-1855) was born in Lithuania and is the first and greatest of Polish Romantic poets. Starting as a teacher in Kaunas, he got punished by the Russian occupants for his involvement in a students' organisation. He had to leave his country for ever. He stayed in St. Petersburg, Odessa and Moscow, then he travelled through Western Europe. After the Polish November Uprising (1830-1831), he lived in Dresden, Lausanne and finally in Paris. Adam's life story embodies the dichotomous fate of an emigrant who shares this experience with various generations.



ANITA  
DEBSKA  
JONES

is a British teacher of English language and literature. In the nineteen fifties she came as one of the first western European students to Krakow to study Polish literature. After living in Nigeria for many years, she worked in Poland again in universities and in the field of teacher education. She is a pioneer of teaching drama in Poland. Anita published a book about Mickiewicz and is a gifted translator of Polish poetry.



CONCERT



Our concert is a journey through time and space to meet one of the finest European poets, Adam Mickiewicz.

The great Polish Romantic often regarded himself as a pilgrim wandering restlessly from country to country, but also through the depths of human experience. He transmuted all his seeking, longing, hope and despair into beautiful and haunting poetry.

Through the exquisite translations into contemporary English by Anita Debska Jones, these poems have yet another chance to be discovered.

Fascinated by their relevance Rita Mari Schäper set some of the poems to music and sings them. Her songs, accompanied by the storyteller Ida Baj and her visual narration, will lead you into Mickiewicz's 'country of the mind', giving you a glimpse into his world and a taste of his timeless poetry.

Flame devours painted deeds,  
Treasure falls to robbers' swords,  
Song survives entire.  
(Adam Mickiewicz)



contact:  
rita\_schaeper@web.de  
idabaj@wp.pl

