





EVA SZAJKOWSKI  
The change is justifiable

I am writing to you to explain the recent change in Metropolitan Separate School Board policy to the effect that delegation will be heard at committee meetings rather than full Board meetings.

- a) to provide more effective parental and community input into Board decisions;
- b) to provide adequate time for the consideration of the Boards business at full Board meetings;
- c) to ensure that all schools and school committees are treated equally;
- d) to eliminate the orchestration of delegations and the subsequent grandstanding of those who wish to pressure the Board and/or otherwise frustrate the decision making process.

ALLIANCE

VOL. 2, No. 3

Krzysztof Penderecki

"It is very dangerous for artists to become involved in politics. Art is beyond politics..." So Krzysztof Penderecki was quoted in the Christian Science Monitor last November. And yet in his thoughts, his activities, his philosophy and his music, Penderecki (pronounced Penderetski) is consumed by the difficulties in his homeland Poland and the overwhelming social/political/moral quandaries of our time.

Since 1960 Penderecki has held a position among the world's leading composers. Then twenty-seven years old, he emerged artistically fully-formed with his eloquent Threnody for the Victims of Hiroshima, a statement which clearly identified him as a composer who would link abstract musical forms to the moral concerns of the day. Through stylistic changes and the passage of time, he has retained this overriding concern, one might even say obsession, with large-scale religious and moral themes.

By this time, the possibilities of electronic music had opened new vistas of sound to Penderecki. He spent hours in the Warsaw Electronic Studio, experimenting with new timbres and textures and then reproducing these sensations through conventional instruments. By 1959 Penderecki had laid his musical foundations. That year he anonymously submitted three student compositions to a national competition in Warsaw, and won all three top prizes. An instant celebrity at home, he took his first trip abroad with the prize money. The following year, he garnered international acclaim with Threnody for the Victims of Hiroshima. Poland had already established herself as a leader in the field of new music with the annual Warsaw Autumn Festival, the premiere event of its kind in the world.

With the subsequent writing of the phenomenally successful St. Luke Passion (1965), Penderecki found his own way into the future. "For me, I feel, this was good," he now says. "I'm having to study the modern styles. I was free to work on creating my own musical language, devising new possibilities of string technique, also new notation." Malawski died in 1957, and Penderecki was in his graduating year in his 1957 and 1958, and most recently the Polish Requiem, a work still in progress. This religious cast to much of Penderecki's music files in line of the solemnity of electronic music had opened

work was at odds with the dramatic tradition of opera, and subtitled it a "Sacra Rappresentazione", more of an oratorio. He expressed Penderecki's own internalized, abstracted brand of drama. He continues to experiment with the operatic form. He has started an opera buffa based on Alfred Jarry's *Ubu Roi* and 1957. At that time, religious music was really forbidden. But he became such a success in the West, they allowed it also to be performed in a church in Poland. That started a change in the whole situation; we (now) have many composers writing religious music almost exclusively. I no longer have problems getting my religious pieces performed... "This relative licence is underlined in the Polish Requiem, movements of which were premiered in Washington, D.C. on Penderecki's birthday last November 23. Segments of the work are dedicated to Lech Wałęsa, the late Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński, those who died in the 1970 Gdansk uprising and Saint Maximilian Kolbe who died at Auschwitz in the place of another prisoner. "I call it the Polish Requiem", he says, "because some sections are connected with events in Poland in the last forty years, a very turbulent time in our history". When completed, the work will encompass around ninety minutes of music. Penderecki revels in such large forms. They match the scale of his philosophical conception. Both his opera take on similar dimensions but cannot be called dramatic in the conventional theatrical sense. The Devils of Loudun (1969) has had much success and in many ways foreshadowed the problems that beset the later Paradise Lost, commissioned by the Polish Lyric Opera for its 1976 Bicentennial celebrations. This project survived many initial difficulties: the outrage of indigenous American composers that a Pole should have been picked for the honour, the unintentional irony of the subject matter (Milton's Paradise Lost — to mark the 300th birthday of the United States, and a completed score which arrived in 1978, two years too late for its original purpose. Production problems in Chicago exacerbated the situation and the opera's premiere was "coolly received". By this time, Penderecki had entered an intensely lyrical phase, and critics were uncomfortable with the change. He himself was conscious that the

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POLAND AND THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF JOHN PAUL II'S PAPACY

By DOMINIK MORAWSKI  
On Sunday, October 10, 1983 the fifth anniversary of John Paul II's pontificate was celebrated. This past year was characterized by the integration of the main currents of the pope's social teachings. Certain illusions disappeared particularly those unfounded expectations in the area of political activism. It has become clear that the pope's role is not a highly charged international scene has subjected the pope's role to many restrictions. His ability to influence and reduce tensions is limited, despite the fact that his pronouncements, endorsed by many national authorities, are reckoned with by world leaders in the West as well as the East.

Of particular significance during this papacy has been the pope's reaching out directly to world statesmen and political leaders, union activists, representatives of academia and culture, industry and commerce and to white and blue collar workers. This is an ongoing effort to create conditions conducive to the complete liberation of individuals as well as entire societies, so as to construct a new, just international order.

John Paul II is a pope of synthesis. The political labels of progressive or conservative that have been pinned on him are meaningless. He attempts to penetrate an everchanging, dynamic reality, linking what is individual and unique with the universal. This has major significance in a situation such as that of Poland. For two centuries, the anguish of Poland's fate can be linked to a dichotomy between what is Polish and what is universal. What is at issue here is a need for a synthesis of individual and universal experiences as John Paul II is the pope of this synthesis.

In his efforts on behalf of peace and mutual trust in this divided world, the Pope is aiming at the rapprochement of Western and Eastern Christians. He knows well that his message is not only for Catholics but for all men. He also recognizes that the Pope will not condescend into Caesar anything that is God's. John Paul II knows, in practice, where this dividing line lies. No doubt the synthesis he has a purely Polish source. It runs counter to the egocentricism of the West that equates the Church and Christianity exclusively with the West.

The Polish elements of the need to renew a dialogue as proof of the simultaneous victory of the Pope and the Church. He was referring to a moral victory which could lead society from its present divisiveness and restore national unity.



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People's voice suppressed

On Thursday, February 16th, the Separate School Board voted 13-10 to end its long-standing tradition of hearing delegations during the public session of the full board. This "delegations" item on the agenda (which has now been deleted from the by-laws) was of great benefit to the public as it provided the opportunity for citizens to speak and be heard by the full board of 24 trustees who are the governors of the entire system. The public could thereby try to influence any decisions before the board that evening.

- 1. Counselling in advance on how to effectively address the time-pressed board.
- 2. A stricter time restriction for all speakers.
- 3. Screening delegates to avoid the duplication of views that are common.
- 4. Permitting only one speaker per evening on behalf of the same group or cause.
- 5. A yearly quota on the number of presentations by the same person or organization.
- 6. To require delegates to first inform committees and only if dissatisfied with committee's recommendations may they speak to full board.
- 7. Other?



OPINIE I POLEMIKI

Jak się sprzedaje książkę emigracyjną?

Właśnie ukazała się druga pozycja Polskiego Funduszu Wydawniczego w Kanadzie. Książka światowego pisarza Andrzeja Chciuka, laureata nagród "Kultury" i "Wiedomości", pt. "Trzysta miesięcy" — to dzieło każdego z nas: emigranta, anowu ciężko pracującego rolnika z kręgiem rodzinny w Europie, później wychodzącego w głąb kraju osiedlenia, ciężką pracę zdobywającego byt, zamożność, lepszą przyszłość.

gdzie przy przedzielnym stożku zastąpił nas wielki, nasi opatrnostowi, nasi niezastępieni. Rok Książki? Był, przeszedł, nie ma. Któż by się zatroszczył, pomyślał, zastanowił się, że tuż pod nosem, na własnym podwórku, działa organizacja, która byłaby pomoc, chociażby dobrą słowem i dobrą wolą?

DLA BLISKICH w POLSCE na WIOSNĘ I KAŻDĄ OKAZJĘ... WYŁĘBY SZYBKIE TANIO... MIĘSO, TŁUSZCZE... MASZYNY ROLNICZE... T.V. — PRALKI — LODOWKI...

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Za niezłą tray tygodnie, jeden z najbardziej znanych mieszkańców Oshawy, pan Jan Drygala, zostanie uhonorowany przez gubernatora najwyższym odznaczeniem kanadyjskim — Orderem Kanady.



W związku z tym wydzierżawia redakcja "Związkowic" złożył wzięty panu Janu Drygale, w ich domu w Oshawie, czego wynikiem jest poniższa relacja.

Jeszcze nie tak dawno salonik państwa Drygalał musi być znaczące dzieło, którymi to trójka dzieł — miskałka Tazera z rodzicami. W tej chwili najstarszy z potomstwa 41-letni John Józef mieszka w Scarborough, gdzie też pracuje jako architekt. Młodsza o 5 lat Mariuca Helena jest nauczycielką w Ontario Park London, gdzie uczy języków hiszpańskiego i francuskiego (tzn. również i polski, niemiecki i rosyjski).

KALENDARZ POLSKI na rok 1984... Obok kalendarium trybunał znajduje się sporo skoncentrowanej wiedzy, ciekłej dobrej literatury, mass porad lekarskich i praktycznych, Philadelphia, s. 448.

ZOFIA CZERNY KSIĄŻKA KUCHARSKA (w j. angielskim) POLISH COOKBOOK... Bogato i kolorowo ilustrowana książka kucharska w pięciopięciu oprawie i pięknej okładce zawiera 1200 przepisów zup, mięs, ryb, sosów, ciast, deserów itp.

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Ważnym jest podstawić w pomocy dla zgranicy... (Canadian Scene) — W okresie ubiegłych 10 lat kanadyjski program pomocy dla zgranicy wykazywał się jeżeli chodzi o ilość osiągniętych sukcesów, to kwoty zaangażowane do zgranicy — zakres wydatków. Obecnie ponownie jest to w pierwszym rządzie na rolnictwo, energię, komunikację i transport.



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