

# THE GRAND OPENING

**The Museum with its  
Core Exhibition is an  
agent of transformation  
in Poland and the world.**



"We continually repeat that Museum of the History of Polish Jews is a museum of life, not death. Most Jews in Poland and Europe were murdered, but our history remains, and continues. After the war, attempts were made to erase that history. The Museum's mission is to tell that story anew, to fill the void.

**This is something we all need  
because there is no history of Jews  
without Poland, and no history of  
Poland without Jews."**

**- Marian Turski**

*Chairman of the Museum Council, Deputy Chairman of the Board,  
Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland*





“Twenty-one years, hundreds of people, dozens of projects, many moments of joy, but also doubt. Today we can say that the most difficult, the most turbulent phase of the creation of the Museum is behind us. Before us is the next step, when the institution starts to live its own life; the work is released from its creator and takes on as many meanings as there are audiences.

**It remains for me to hope that the Museum will surpass all the expectations that our founders imagined.”**

**- Piotr Wiślicki**

*Chairman of the Board, Association  
of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland*





**“The creation of the Museum is part of a wider and extraordinary process of restoring the memory of Polish Jews.**

This process involves hundreds if not thousands of initiatives in the fields of science, culture, heritage, and commemoration. All these initiatives express the conviction that is the basis for this Museum: that the history of Polish Jews is an inseparable and magnificent part of Poland’s history.”

**- Prof. Dariusz Stola**

*Director, POLIN Museum of  
the History of Polish Jews*



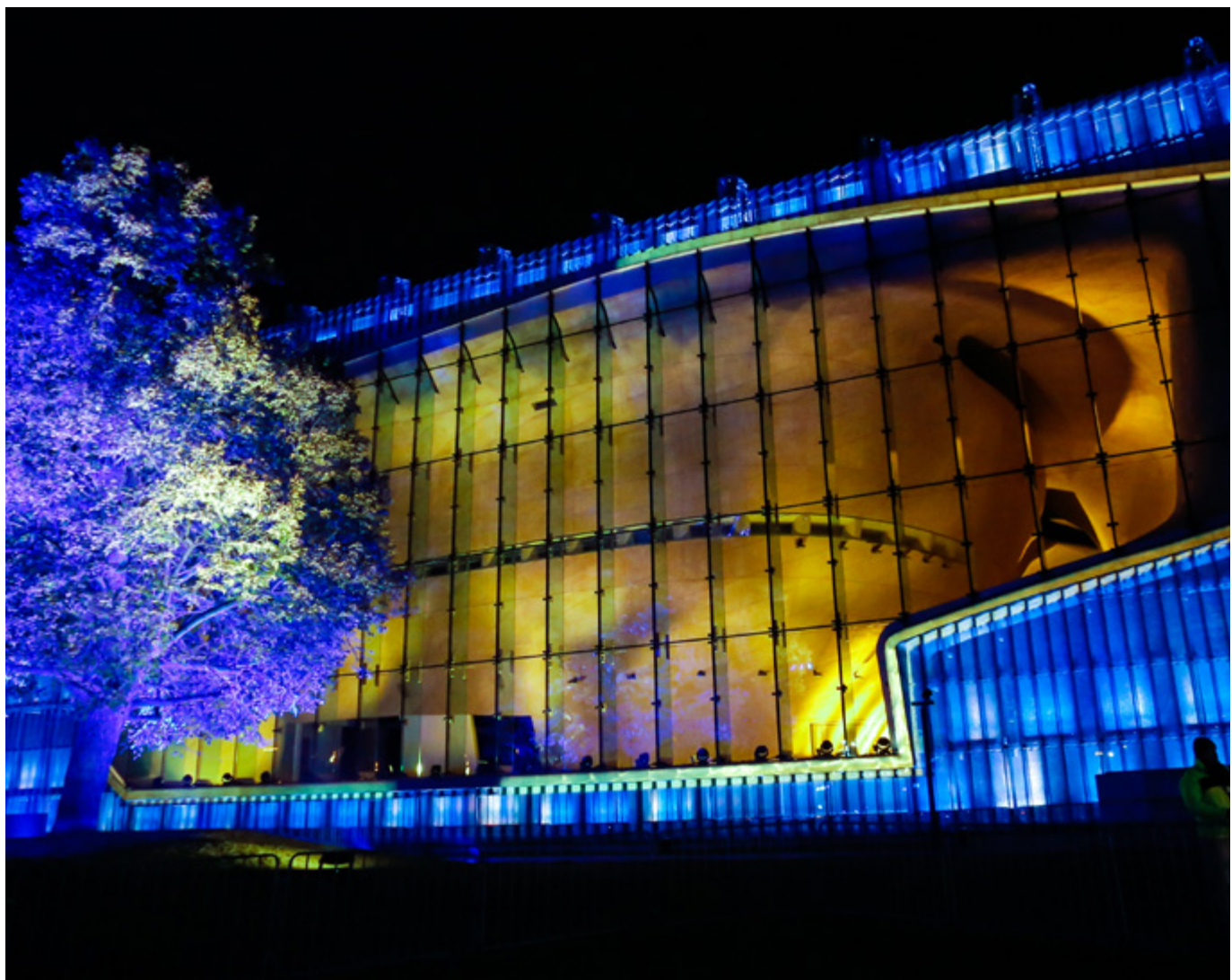
# A DREAM COME TRUE ...

The Core Exhibition, a 1000-year history of Polish Jews, opens to wide acclaim.

**We wish to express our deepest appreciation to everyone who made this possible.**

Thousands of guests from across the globe took part in the Grand Opening on October 26-29th. The President of Poland was joined by the President of Israel and state officials from the United States, Canada, Germany, and Norway. Among the distinguished guests were museum donors and representatives of Jewish communities in Poland and abroad.

This album captures this historic moment in words and images.



# DONORS DAY





# DONORS DAY

1. From right: Distinguished Benefactor Jan Kulczyk, Founding Benefactor Hon. Tad Taube, Core Exhibition Program Director Prof. Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, POLIN Museum Director Prof. Dariusz Stola.

2. From right: Ewa Markowicz, Founding Benefactor Monica Markowicz, Clara Markowicz.

3. First row: Clara Markowicz and Geoffrey Rolat. Second row, from right: Museum donor Krzysztof Rozen, Andrzej Ścisłowski, Managing Partner KPMG - Museum donor; Stine Andresen and Ingrid Schulerud, EEA - Norway Grants - Distinguished Benefactor.



From right: Museum donor Samantha Rolat Asulin, Museum Council member Małgorzata Niezabitowska, Roman Polański, Teatr Wielki - Polish National Opera General Director Waldemar Dąbrowski; Second row from right: Museum donors Andrzej and Małgorzata Rojek.





# DONORS DAY



1. From left: Mayor of Warsaw Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz, Minister of Culture and National Heritage Małgorzata Omilanowska, Marian Turski, Piotr Wiślicki.

2. From left: Foundation, Board Members: Richard Atkinson, Richard Greene, Anita Friedman.

3. Mayor of Warsaw and Minister of Culture and National Heritage received a gift from the Association of the JHI.

4. Distinguished Benefactors, from right: Krzysztof Miszczak, Director, Board Member - Foundation for Polish-German Cooperation, Helen Tramiel, Jeanette Neubauer, Ygal Ozechov, Tomek Ulatowski.



# DONORS DAY

1. Minister Małgorzata Omilanowska and Marian Turski.

2. Founding Benefactor Victor Markowicz.

3. Distinguished Benefactors Anita Friedman and Rosalie Chris Lerman.



# DONORS DAY

"The Museum of the History of Polish Jews is part of the very history that it presents. It is an agent in that history and not simply a mirrored reflection of it. Our goal is to create an exhibition that is memorable. To be memorable, it must be emotional, but to be worthy of being memorable, it must be thought provoking."

## - Prof. Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett

*Core Exhibition Program Director*



... a replica of the 12th century bracteate.



*Prof. Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett thanked all donors to the capital campaign for financing the Core Exhibition and presented an exclusive gift...*



**ZAŁOŹYCIELE MUZEUM/MUSEUM FOUNDERS:** Ministerstwo Kultury i Dziedzictwa Narodowego, Miasto stołeczne Warszawa, Stowarzyszenie Żydowski Instytut Historyczny w Polsce

**DARCZYŃCY ZAŁOŹYCIELE/FOUNDING BENEFACTORS:** Monika i Wiktor Markowicz, Zygmunt Rolat, Hon. Tad Taube

**ZNAMIENICI DARCZYŃCY/DISTINGUISHED BENEFACTORS:** Koret Foundation, Jan Kulczyk w imieniu Kulczyk Holding, Zygmunt Rolat, Taube Family Foundation, William K. Boes, Jr. Foundation, Rodzina Perlewska, Rodzina Kohn, Irene Kronhill Pletka oraz The Kronhill Pletka Foundation, Tomek Ulatowski oraz Carmel i Ygal Ozechov, Janette i Aleksander Goldberg, Foundation for Polish-German Cooperation, Conference on Jewish Materialism - Ignacy Jan Paderewski, The Neubauer Family Foundation w imieniu Miles'a Lermana, The David Berg Foundation, Theodore Henry i Frances Koshland Geballe, Rodzina Hellman, Fundacja Rodziny Hirschman, George Polak, Rodzina Skolimowski, Federal Republic of Germany, Kingdom of Norway





Donors wall designed by Bad Design: Katarzyna Kunkiel and Kuba Tkaczyk.

# DONORS DAY



1. Grażyna Pawlak – 1993-96 chief coordinator of the Museum project on behalf of the Association of the JHI, director of the Prof. Moses Schorr Foundation.

2. Distinguished Benefactors Ygal Ozechov and Jeanette Neubauer.

3. From left: Distinguished Benefactor Irene Pletka, Director Dariusz Siola, Małgorzata Niezabitowska.





# DONORS DAY



1. Minister of Culture and National Heritage  
Małgorzata Omilanowska.

2. Chairman Piotr Wiślicki.

3. Press briefing. From left: Marian Turski and  
Distinguished Benefactors: Hon. Tad Taube,  
Corinne Evens, Sigmund A. Rolat, Jan Kulczyk,  
Victor Markowicz and Piotr Wiślicki.

4. Director Dariusz Stola and Shana Penn,  
Executive Director of Taube Philanthropies –  
Distinguished Benefactor.



# DONORS DAY



1. Founding Benefactor Sigmund A. Rolat.

2. From left: Tomasz Nowakowski and Dominique Lesage, Orange Polska - Distinguished Benefactor.

3. From right: Distinguished Benefactor Aleksander Goldberg, Anna Seitz-Wichlacz, Zev Furst, Deborah Furst, Marcin Dackiewicz.



# DONORS DAY

1. Waldemar Dąbrowski and Lawrence Perelman.

2. From left: Roman Kent, Treasurer, Claims Conference - Distinguished Benefactor; Stanlee Stahl, Executive VP, The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous; Director Dariusz Stola.

3. Paule Maarek, European Committee for the Support of the Museum and Maurice Skornik, Federation des Sociétés Juives de France - Museum donor.

4. Distinguished Benefactors Tomek and Żanna Ulatowscy.

5. Tomek Ulatowski with daughters.

6. From right: Distinguished Benefactor Jan Kulczyk and Jarosław Sroka, Board Member at Kulczyk Holding; Peter Jassem, Canadian Committee for the Support of the Museum.





# DONORS DAY



1. Piotr Wiślicki and Aleksander Kwaśniewski, President of Poland 1995-2005.
2. Geoffrey Rolat and Jacky Goldman, North American Council of the Museum.
3. Museum donors Julian and Fay Bussgang.





# DONORS DAY

1. From right: Prof. Hanoch Gutfreund, Israeli Committee for the Support of the Museum and Dov Tadmor, European Committee for the Support of the Museum.

2. From right: Chief Rabbi of Wrocław Tyson Herberger; Rabbi Yisroel Lew - Chabad Bloomsbury, London; Rabbi Mendel Lew, United Synagogue, London.

3. From right: Krzysztof Kasprzyk, Sławomir Grünberg, Berel Rodal.

4. Jan Kulczyk and Piotr Wiślicki.



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# DONORS DAY



1. Henryka Bochniarz, President of Boeing International CEE – Museum donor.

2. From left: Paweł Potoroczyn, Director of Adam Mickiewicz Institute – Museum donor; Jonathan Brent, Director of YIVO; Museum Director Dariusz Stola.

3. Center: Jerzy Warman, North American Council of the Museum and Museum donors Sylvia and Avi Safer.

4. From left: Distinguished Benefactor Aleksander Goldberg and Museum donor Nimrod Ariav.



# DONORS DAY



1. Distinguished Benefactors Jeanette Neubauer and Krzysztof Miszczak, Director, Board Member, Foundation for Polish-German Cooperation - Distinguished Benefactor.

2. From left: Museum donors: Anna Podniewska, Irena Szolomicka-Orfinger and Henryk Orfinger.

3. Shannie Ross and Jan Chodakowski, British Committee for the Support of the Museum.

4. From right: Jeff Farber, CEO of the Koret Foundation, Shana Penn, Hon. Tad Taube.

5. From left: Mirosław Nizio, Rainer Mahlamäki, Ilmari Lahdelma, Maria Mahlamäki.





# DONORS DAY



3.



1.



2.

1. From left: Victor Markowicz, Ewa Markowicz,  
Clara Markowicz, Monica Markowicz.

2. Museum donors Yitzhack Asulin and Avi Safer.

3. Sylvia Safer and Alon Goldman, North American  
Council of the Museum.



# DONORS DAY



1. Ruth Lévy and Quentin Kopp.

2. From left: Piotr Wiślicki, MEP Michał Boni, Tomasz Thun-Janowski, Head of Warsaw Culture Office.

3. From left: Markus Meckel, German Committee for the Support of the Museum and Edward Serotta, Director of Centropa.

4. The German Committee for the Support of the Museum.



# DONORS DAY



1.



2.

1. Krystyna Zachwatowicz and Prof. Adam Daniel Rotfeld, Member of the Museum Council.

2. From right: Marta Prochwicz, Swedish Committee for the Support of the Museum, Rainer Mahlamäki; Maria Gruber-Bień, Jackie Jakubowski, Swedish Committee.

# DONORS DAY



1. Distinguished Benefactors, Nissenbaum Family.

2. Distinguished Benefactor Ygal Ozechov and David DeBenedetti, DeBenedetti Majewski Szczesniak.

3. From left: Peter Jassem, Eli Rubenstein, Museum donors Joseph and Lori Gottdenker



# DISTINGUISHED BENEFACTORS MET WITH THE PRESIDENT OF POLAND



# PRESIDENT OF POLAND BRONISŁAW KOMOROWSKI

**"This project is an initiative and investment, political and emotional, in the future of Polish-Jewish and Polish-Israeli relations."**





# INAUGURAL CONCERT

"POLIN Museum is far more than the home of a great exhibition or center of education and scientific discourse. It is a sign of the dominance of good over evil, a sign of eternal hope and great strength, which contrasts with the memory of tragedy.

**It is a Museum of Life,**

which, by drawing on the history of a thousand years, will carry the message inscribed in tonight's music to future generations."

**- Waldemar Dąbrowski**

*Director General, Teatr Wielki - Polish National Opera*



# INAUGURAL CONCERT

"I call you friends and dreamers because for many years the Museum was our common dream. And now that dream has come true. I am proud of our magnificent work together, and I am proud to be a Polish Jew."

## - Piotr Wiślicki

*Chairman of the Board of the Association  
of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland*



*From left: Waldemar Dąbrowski, Małgorzata Omilanowska, Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz, Piotr Wiślicki.*



# INAUGURAL CONCERT

"The Museum is a keeper of the memory of the history of Polish Jews, its bright and dark chapters."

**- Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz**

*Mayor of Warsaw*

"Thanks to your gift this museum has come into being, and thanks to the Museum, we will be enriched as a nation. Many of you left Poland against your will. I allow myself to interpret your donation as a gesture of reconciliation and forgiveness. As a gesture of trust that free, democratic Poland is ready to receive what you carry in your hearts."

**- Prof. Małgorzata Omilanowska**

*Minister of Culture and National Heritage*



# THE GRAND OPENING





# OPENING CEREMONY



*Marian Turski, President Reuven Rivlin and President Bronisław Komorowski.*

"This museum constitutes a telling sign of the changes that have been occurring ever since Poland won its freedom 25 years ago. Indeed, without Polish freedom this museum would not have been possible in its present form. One of the central themes in our drive to freedom was to put right the account of history that had been corrupted, manipulated and distorted in so many ways during the non-democratic communist era. This effort was badly needed with respect to the entire modern history of Poland, including the history of Polish Jews and Polish-Jewish relations. Only [...] parallel stories of greatness and smallness, heroism and cowardice, sacrifice and crime, life and death, can bring the idea of Polin back again."

**- Bronisław Komorowski**

*President of Poland*

# OPENING CEREMONY

"Although Jews were torn away from Poland, it is difficult, or even impossible, to tear Poland away from Jews. It is impossible to erase a history so rich, so full, and so extremely painful. [...] It seems to me that Polish society becomes more and more courageous in confronting themselves on a day-to-day basis; in confronting its past and its future. Only through this kind of courage shall we be able to write – and we have already started that process – a new, promising chapter of our mutual history, which we have shared throughout centuries."

## - Reuven Rivlin

*President of Israel*



1. From left: German Secretary of State Maria Böhmer, German Ambassador Rolf Nikel, Norwegian Ambassador Karsten Klepsvik, Ingrid Schulerud from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bruno Duthoit, President of Orange Polska - Museum Distinguished Benefactor, Association of the JHI Board Members Piotr Rytka-Zandberg and Albert Stankowski.

2. From left: Prime Minister of Poland Ewa Kopacz, Prof. Władysław Bartoszewski, President Aleksander Kwaśniewski, Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, President of the European Council Donald Tusk, Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz





# OPENING CEREMONY



1. From left: Director Dariusz Stola during the opening speech. Anne Applebaum and Speaker of the Sejm Radosław Sikorski; First Lady Nechama Rivlin and President Reuven Rivlin; President Bronisław Komorowski and First Lady Anna Komorowska; Speaker of the Senate Bogdan Borusewicz.

2. Over 1,500 guests attended the official opening ceremony at the Square of the Ghetto Heroes.



# OPENING CEREMONY



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3.

1. Museum donors Alan Silberstein and Stanley Skalka.

2. Representation of the Nissenbaum Family Foundation, Distinguished Benefactor.

3. Prime Minister Ewa Kopacz.

4. Distinguished Benefactors, Federal Republic of Germany and Kingdom of Norway - Ambassador Rolf Nickel (left) and Ambassador Karsten Klepsvik.

5. Marian Turski and Museum donor Ronald S. Lauder, President of the World Jewish Congress.



# OPENING CEREMONY



1. Founding Benefactors, from right: Hon. Tad Taube, Victor Markowicz, Sigmund A. Rolat.

2. Distinguished Benefactors, from right: Irene Pletka, Jeff Farber, Hon. Tad Taube, Shana Penn.

3. Distinguished Benefactors, from right: Irene Pletka and Corinne Evens.



# OPENING CEREMONY



1. Sigmund A. Rolat and Dominika Kulczyk.

2. From left: Lee A. Feinstein, former US Ambassador to Poland; Roman Rewald, Partner at Weil, Gotshal & Manges - Museum donor.

3. Ada (Krystyna) and Samuel Willenberg.



# OPENING CEREMONY



1. From right: Jeff Farber, Hon. Tad Taube, Shana Penn.

2. From left: President Aleksander Kwaśniewski, Donald Tusk, Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz.

3. From left: Canadian Ambassador Alexandra Bugailiskis, US Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney, US Ambassador Stephen Mull.

# OPENING CEREMONY

"During the Second World War, Jewish partisans sang a song, which later became the anthem of the underground movement. Its final words were: MIR ZENEN DO. WE ARE HERE! Now that this museum has been built, I, a member of the Jewish community in Poland, can today also repeat with them: MIR ZENEN DO. WE ARE HERE! [...] My father, my brother, you who died in the gas chambers – I, who survived Auschwitz, wish to tell your shades, and the shades of those murdered like you, MIR ZENEN DO. WE ARE HERE! [...]"

**Today, when I say MIR ZENEN DO. WE ARE HERE, I am totally convinced, I am certain, that I will hear the response of many wonderful people: We are with you, We are with you all.**

This also, and perhaps this above all, symbolizes the Museum, which we are opening today."

**- Marian Turski**

*Chairman of the Museum Council, Deputy Chairman of the Board, Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland*





# OPENING CEREMONY



1.

1. Museum Chief Historian Prof. Antony Polonsky with wife Arlene.

2. From left: Bożena Pancer, Yitzhack Asulin, Samantha Rolat Asulin, Geoffrey Rolat, Clara Markowicz, Ewa Markowicz.

3. Minister of Culture and National Heritage Małgorzata Omilanowska.



2.



3.



# OPENING CEREMONY



1.



2.



3.

1. From left: Prof. Władysław Bartoszewski, Marian Turski, Piotr Wiślicki.

2. From left: Marian Turski, Małgorzata Omilanowska, former Minister of Culture, MEP Bogdan Zdrojewski.

3. Anne Applebaum and Radosław Sikorski.



# OPENING CEREMONY



1.



3.



2.

1. Director Dariusz Stola and Chairman of Yad Vashem and Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv, Yisrael Meir Lau.

2. Representatives of two generations of Polish Jews, Marian Turski and Joasia Widła entered the Museum followed by the Presidents of Israel and Poland and the remaining guests.

3. Marian Turski, a Holocaust Survivor and Joasia Widła, a 13 year-old graduate of the Lauder-Morasha school in Warsaw leading the way to open the Museum.



# VISITING THE CORE EXHIBITION



*From right: Bogdan Zdrojewski, Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz, President Komorowski, President Rivlin and the First Lady.*



*The Presidents of Israel and Poland accompanied by First Ladies tour the Core Exhibition with Director Dariusz Stola.*



*Presidents of Israel and Poland visiting the Core Exhibition.*



## VISITING THE CORE EXHIBITION



*Distinguished Benefactors joined the Presidential delegation for a command performance of Cantor Yaakov Lemmer from the reconstructed bimah beneath the Gwoździec synagogue's painted ceiling. Both the bimah and the synagogue's roof and ceiling were reconstructed by a team lead by Rick and Laura Brown, directors of Handshouse Studio.*



# VISITING THE CORE EXHIBITION

1. From left: President Reuven Rivlin, Hon. Tad Taube, Anita Friedman

2. From left: Sigmund A. Rolat, Jan Kulczyk, President Reuven Rivlin.

3. From left: Irene Pletka, President Bronisław Komorowski, President Reuven Rivlin.





# GRAND OPENING PERFORMANCE



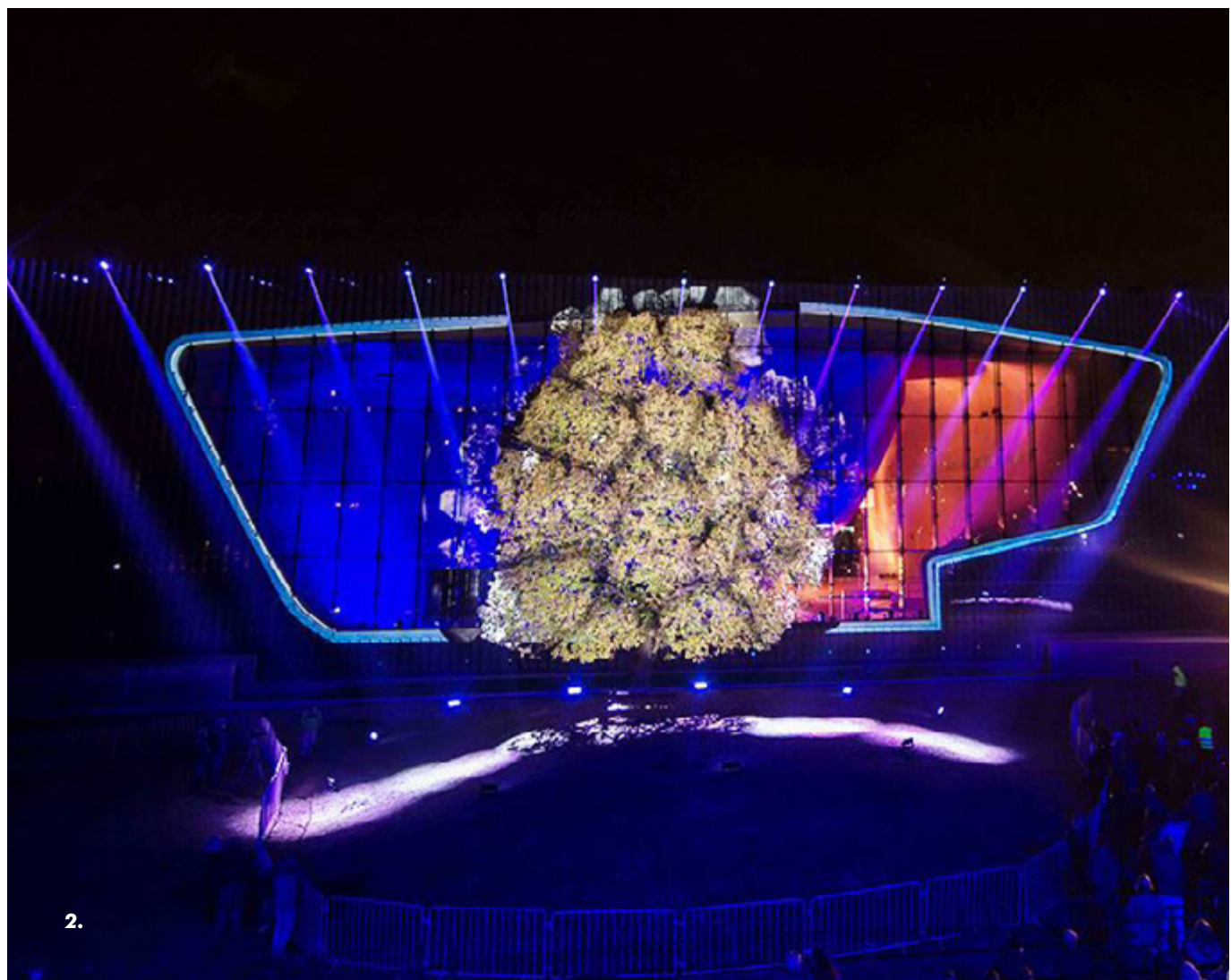
David Krakauer's opening concert



# GRAND OPENING PERFORMANCE

1. World's famous trumpeter Tomasz Stańko performed the suite composed for the Grand Opening of the POLIN Museum.

2. The music performances were accompanied by visualizations and mappings produced by Małgorzata Szablowska Studio.





# GRAND OPENING PERFORMANCE





# CORE EXHIBITION



1.

1. Members of the Core Exhibition team.

2. Press conference with the Core Exhibition designers, from right: Mirosław Nizio, Nizio Design International; Arnaud Dechelle, Event Communications; Prof. Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett and Piotr Kossobudzki, POLIN Museum spokesperson.



2.



# CORE EXHIBITION





CORE  
EXHIBITION





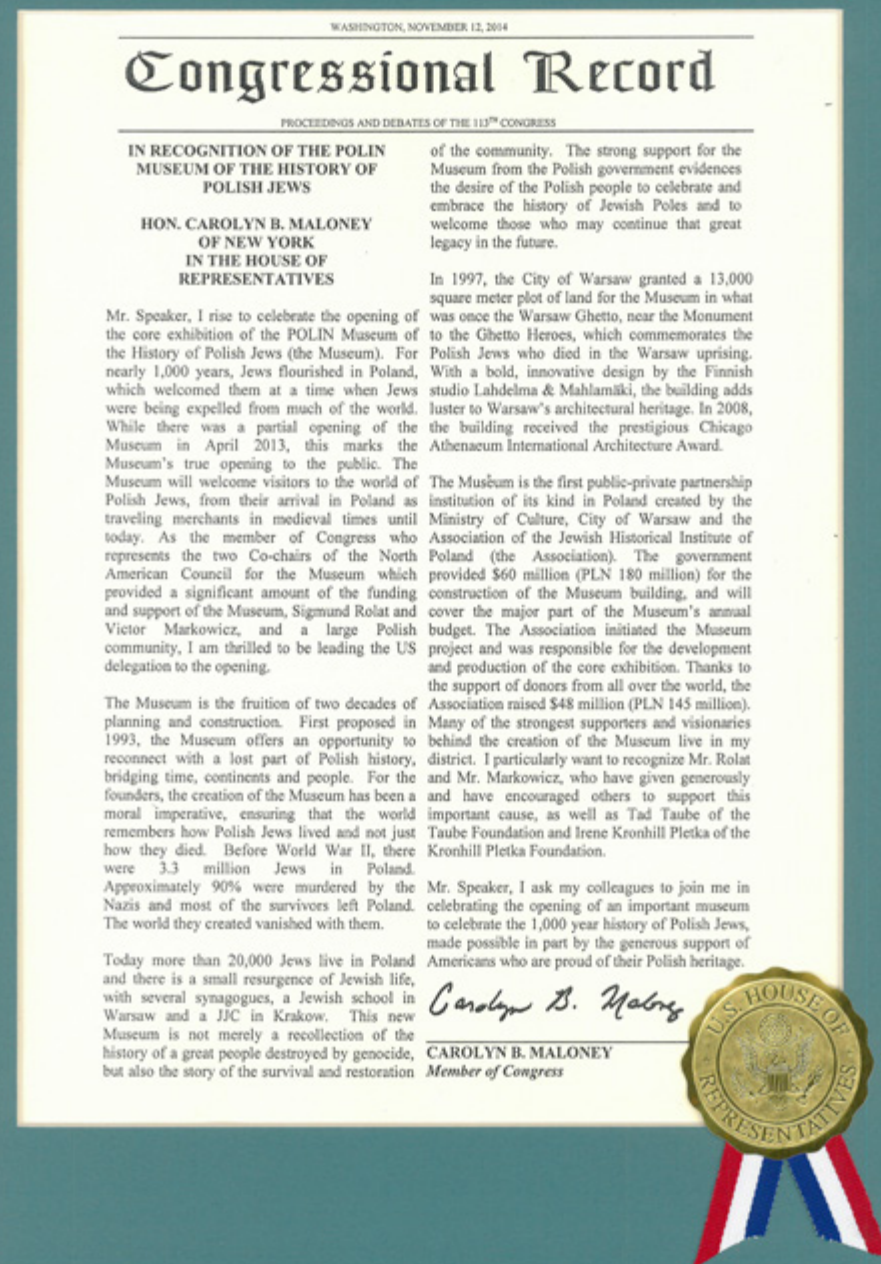
# INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION



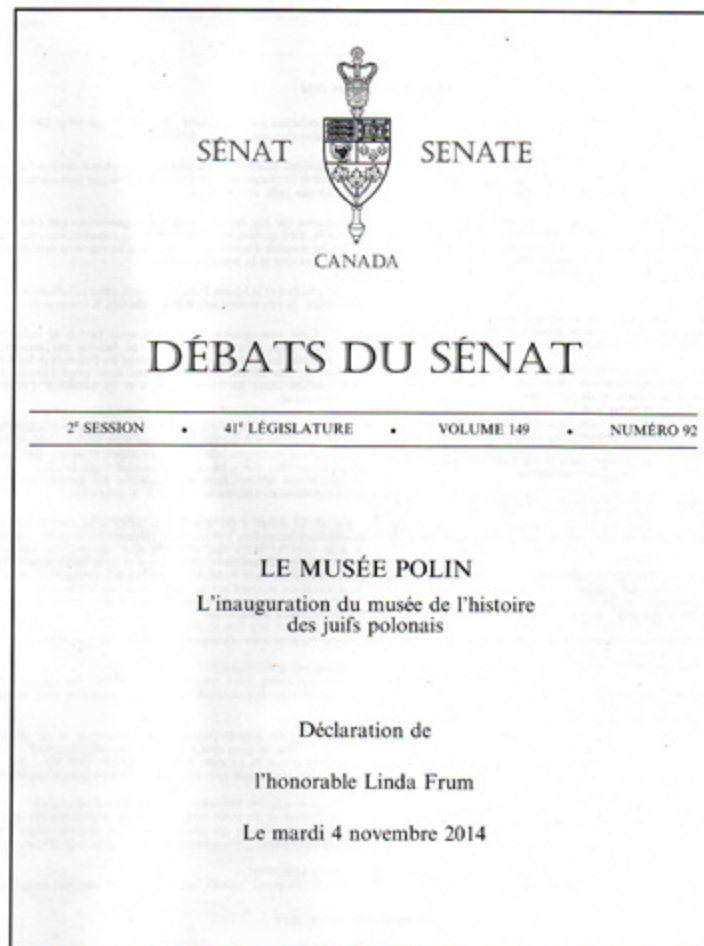
1.

1. From left: Consul General of Poland in New York Ewa Junczyk-Ziomecka; Kenneth Wetzel, Cultural Attaché, US Embassy; Museum Director Dariusz Stola.

2. Consul General of Poland in New York Ewa Junczyk-Ziomecka handed the Resolution of the US Congress to the POLIN Museum Director Dariusz Stola. Consul Junczyk-Ziomecka, former Museum deputy director, has been the driving force behind the Resolution, which was signed by Hon. Carolyn B. Maloney.



2.



2364

## THE SENATE

Tuesday, November 4, 2014

### POLIN MUSEUM OPENING OF MUSEUM OF JEWISH HISTORY IN POLAND

**Hon. Linda Frum:** Honourable senators, last week it was my great honour to be among the many international delegates at the opening ceremony of the new museum of Jewish history in Warsaw, held in the presence of the President of Poland and the President of Israel.

• (14:08)

The museum stands in what was once the heart of Jewish Warsaw — an area which the Nazis turned into the Warsaw Ghetto during World War II.

The very existence of this beautiful museum, dedicated to 1,000 years of Jewish Polish history, is something of a miracle, made possible by an \$80-million investment by the Polish government and an additional \$50 million of private funds. But even more astonishing than the generous sums raised to create this remarkable institution is the impetus behind it. This new museum is not a museum to commemorate how Jews died in Poland. It is a museum to celebrate how they lived and, indeed, how they often thrived.

Jews first arrived in Poland in the Middle Ages. By the mid-18th century, there were 750,000 living across the United Kingdom of Poland and Lithuania. Eventually, the Jewish population of Poland grew into the largest Jewish community in the world.

Anti-Semitism was an undeniable fact of Jewish life in Poland, but so, too, were periods of prosperity, creativity, tolerance, cooperation and coexistence. By the time the Nazis invaded in 1939, Poland was home to 3.3 million Jews, about one third of all

European Jewry. Ninety per cent of these innocent souls perished in the Holocaust.

As President Komorowski has now famously remarked: You cannot understand the history of Poland without understanding the history of the Jews, and you cannot understand the history of the Jews without understanding the history of Poland.

This is something that all those of us who have a connection to Poland know to be true. However, it was only after the fall of communism in 1989 that an honest and unflinching examination of the true Polish-Jewish dynamic could even become a possibility.

Now, with the opening of the Polin Museum, that possibility has bloomed into full flower. Again, in the words of President Komorowski:

It is truly special to take part in the making of history, as we are not just connecting with the centuries-long Polish-Jewish relationship, but also providing a stimulus for the future of Polish-Jewish and Polish-Israeli relations.

For my part, as a Jew of Polish heritage, married to the son of Holocaust survivors, participating in the opening of this museum was a truly emotional experience. It is with special pride that I note that the genius curator behind the museum, Professor Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, is a Toronto native.

However, the museum was born of the contributions of many, including a cadre of Canadians. To each and every person who in some way, large or small, contributed to this valuable memorialization of Polish Jewish life and civilization, may I say: Thank you and bless you. Because of your efforts, we see the promise of a new era of friendship, respect and understanding, and that is something wonderful to celebrate indeed.

Canadian Senator Linda Frum, who participated in the Grand Opening ceremony, delivered a speech in the Canadian Senate paying tribute to POLIN Museum, its donors and creators.





**21** towns in Poland hosted the travelling exhibit *Museum on wheels* during its premier tour

**400,000**



students from schools nationwide took part in the Lesson live from the Museum broadcasted live on the radio, TV and online on October 22<sup>nd</sup>

**25,805**

viewers online and

**2,300**

spectators watched live the Grand Opening Performance



**3,500**

guests from around the world attended a three day-long Grand Opening

**600**

accredited journalists for the opening ceremony





**15,000**


visitors during  
the first two days

**26,500**

visitors during two weeks from  
the opening of the Core Exhibition



**2**



world's biggest Jewish  
cities: New York and  
Tel Aviv hosted events  
marking the Grand  
Opening

**890**

foreign publications  
reported on the Museum's  
Grand Opening



**560**

donors to the capital campaign led  
by the Association of the Jewish  
Historical Institute of Poland



**55,000,000 USD**

raised during the capital campaign for the Museum development  
since 1993, the Core Exhibition production and development, and  
educational and cultural programs of the Museum





## WORLD HEADLINES

### theguardian

*A small miracle in the tortured history of Polish-Jewish relations. In Warsaw, the opening of the Museum of the History of Polish Jews is an occasion for real hope.*

### The Economist

*Shtetl of honour. The new Museum of the History of Polish Jews will intensify the debate about how museums should think about depicting issues of national identity.*

### THE JERUSALEM POST

*A superb project, that makes wonderful use of multi-media in presenting a millennium of Polish-Jewish history.*

### BBC NEWS

*Polish museum celebrates 1,000 years of Jewish life.*

### The New York Times

*To Celebrate Its Jewish History, Poland Presents 'a Museum of Life'.  
The most ambitious cultural institution to rise in Poland since the fall of Communism.*

### THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

*The Legacy That Polish Jews Deserve. A new museum highlights a fruitful, millennium-old cultural interplay.*

### FINANCIAL TIMES

*Ninety per cent of Poland's Jews died in the Holocaust. But now a bold – architecturally and intellectually – new museum looks beyond the horror to celebrate a common heritage.*

### Forbes

*The New Jewish Museum Opens in Warsaw, Thanks To Poland's Largest Public-Private Investment into Culture.*

### The Jewish Daily FORWARD

*One of the most significant Jewish cultural projects in contemporary Europe.*



## THE HUFFINGTON POST

*New Warsaw Museum Sheds Light on 1,000 Year Story of Jews in Poland.*



*It's not often that a museum makes history as well as chronicles it, and rare too ... that it may prove a source of hope and pride that propels an entire society forward. - Arnold M. Eisen, Chancellor*



*Warsaw museum tells forgotten story of Polish Jews.*



## NEW REPUBLIC

*Jewish History is Not Just About the Holocaust.  
Finally, a Museum Gets That.*



## la Repubblica

*The most important and expensive cultural project of Poland after Communism is not a memorial of resistance to the regime, nor a place to remember the nation's Catholic identity, but a Museum where one wants to celebrate and elevate Jewish life in Poland.*



## DIE WELT

*Poland carries its new self-image to Europe. The growing self-confidence of Polish democracy is reflected in two impressive buildings: the Museum of the History of Polish Jews and the European Centre of Solidarity.*



## Süddeutsche Zeitung

*The Holocaust is not diminished, but neither is the richness of shtetl culture: the Museum of the History of Polish Jews opens in Warsaw. It is an achievement that sets new standards.*



## DER SPIEGEL

*A sensual, fascinating exhibition, deserves discovery. The museum finally fills the gap and ends the silence that prevailed in Poland's own history for so long. It is clearly expressed: Jews were and are part of Poland.*



## DER TAGESSPIEGEL

*For a long time Daniel Liebeskind's Jewish Museum in Berlin was perceived as a significant attempt to free Jewish history from the fixation on the Holocaust. Now a new Museum of the History of the Polish Jews has been opened in Warsaw. It doesn't show how to heal a wound but how to reduce it.*



# POLIN FOUNDATION



The Polin Foundation is the initiative of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland and the key Distinguished Benefactors of the capital campaign for POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews. The Association collected more than 55 million dollars USD during the capital campaign. The international community of donors is now committed to the future development of the Museum's educational and cultural programs and to its vital relevance in Poland and worldwide. Join us in taking the Museum to even greater heights.

Donors who join the Foundation are invited to serve on committees that will raise funds for a general endowment, heighten the Museum's international profile, support the building of its art collection, and make possible innovative initiatives in all areas of its activity.

For more information:

**Marta Wróbel** – Fundraising Managing Director

[mwrobel@polin.pl](mailto:mwrobel@polin.pl)

We are happy to announce two major gifts, which were granted just before the Grand Opening. They mark the beginning of a new phase in our efforts to raise funds for the programs of POLIN Museum:

**Nimrod S. and Odette Ariav neé Cygielman and their family – 500,000 USD for cooperation between POLIN Museum and Israel on educational projects for Israeli groups visiting Poland.**

**Tomek Ulatowski with Ygal and Carmit Ozechov – approx. 720,000 USD for the PIYE program (Polish Intercultural Youth Encounters) and for the activities of POLIN Museum's Resource Center.**

We thank our donors!

## The Polin Foundation supports:

- Core Exhibition enrichment and extension
- Temporary exhibitions
- Research projects and scholarship, fellowships, conferences and seminars, publications, and exchange
- Educational, artistic, and cultural programs
- International partnerships and collaboration
- Art collection endowment



# IT HAS BEEN A PLEASURE



Fundraising team, from left: Elżbieta Kossowska, Maciej Bulanda, Piotr Wiślicki, Bartosz Dymarek, Marta Wróbel, Natalia Czarkowska

# THANK YOU!





## POLIN Museum opens the past to the present and the future.

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