

KROKE

KROKE (which means Kraków in Yiddish) was formed in 1992 by three friends and graduates of the Kraków Academy of Music: Jerzy Bawoł (accordion), Tomasz Kukurba (viola) and Tomasz Lato (double bass).

The members of the group completed all stages of standard music education, including jazz and contemporary music.

KROKE began by playing klezmer music, which is deeply set in Jewish tradition, and adding a strong influence of Balkan music. Currently, they draw inspiration from a variety of ethnic music from around the world, combining it with elements of jazz and improvisation, creating their own distinctive style.

KROKE's first concert outside Poland was in 1993 at the "Survivors Reunion" ceremony in Jerusalem upon the invitation of Steven Spielberg. Since then, the band has gained a loyal and devoted following by touring throughout Europe.

In nearly twenty years together, **KROKE** has performed at many prestigious festivals, including:

EBU Broadcasting Union Festival (Roskilde - Denmark); 1996

WOMAD (Reading – Great Britain); 1997

Haapavesi Folk Festival (Haapavesi - Finland); 1997

North Sea Jazz Festival (Hague - Holland); 1999

Nine Gates Festival (Prague – Czech Republic); 2000, 2003, 2008

Festival de Flandres (Ghent, Brussels - Belgium); 2001

Museum Insel Festival (Berlin - Germany); 2002; 2004

Schleswig Holstein Musik Festival (Hamburg - Germany); 2003; 2010

Festival Ile de France (Paris - France); 2004

URKULT Festival (Näsåker - Sweden); 2004; 2010

Vienna Accordion Festival (Vienna - Austria); 2005

XXVII Festival de Jazz de Madrid (Madrid - Spain); 2010

The band has recorded 8 albums together (one of them – "Sounds of the Vanishing World" – received the German Record Critics' Award in 2000).

KROKE has also recorded albums with Nigel Kennedy (East meets East), Edyta Geppert (Śpiewam Życie) and Maja Sikorowska (Avra)

MUSICIANS:

Jerzy Bawoł – accordion
Tomasz Kukurba – viola
Tomasz Lato – double bass

DISCOGRAPHY:

[1996] „Trio” (*Oriente Musik*)
[1997] „Eden” (*Oriente Musik*)
[1998] „Live at The Pit” (*Oriente Musik*)
[1999] „Sounds of the Vanishing World” (*Oriente Musik*)
[2003] „Ten Pieces To Save The World” (*Oriente Musik*)
[2003] „East meets East” – with Nigel Kennedy (*EMI*)
[2004] „Quartet - Live At Home” (*Oriente Musik*)
[2006] „Śpiewam życie” – with Edyta Geppert (*Agencja Artystyczna Edyta*)
(in 2007 released in Europe by *Oriente Musik* as „I Sing Life”)
[2007] „Seventh Trip” (*Oriente Musik*)
[2009] „Out of Sight” (*Oriente Musik*)
[2011] „Avra” – with Maja Sikorowska (*Pomaton EMI*)

KROKE ON THE WEB:

<http://www.kroke.krakow.pl> – official band’s website
<http://www.facebook.com/kroke.trio>
<http://www.myspace.com/kroketrio>
<http://www.oriente.de> – record label releasing Kroke’s albums
<http://www.shop.gigicd.com> – CD’s distribution in Poland