

The goal of the Women of Krakow Trail is to help society remember these outstanding and courageous women. The tourist route dedicated to those women will imprint them on the urban fabric together with places associated with the emancipation movement, and emphasise the important role of women in the development of Krakow in various dimensions.

The route was created thanks to the cooperation of the Municipality of Krakow with the PTTK Central Mountain Tourism Centre, and with the substantive support of dr. hab. Agnieszka Chłosta-Sikorska, a professor at the University of the National Education Commission in Krakow. The route is part of the "Women of Krakow" project.

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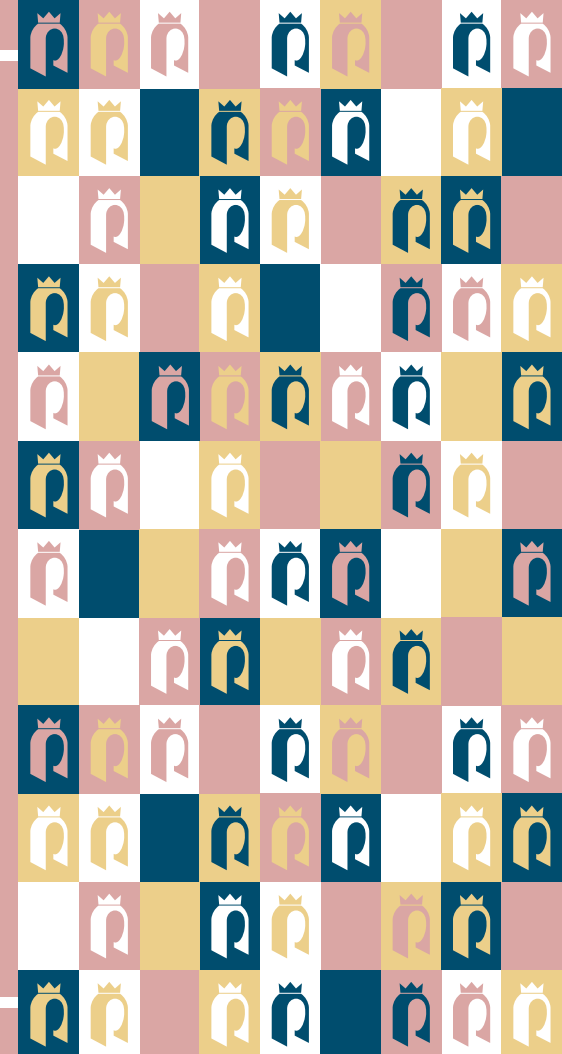
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CITY ROUTES
OLD TOWN

THE WOMEN
OF KRAKOW TRAIL



1



MARIA JAREMA

(1908-1958) – a painter, sculptor, student of Xawery Dunikowski, co-founder of the avant-garde Krakow Group, stage designer, and the designer of theatrical costumes for Tadeusz Kantor's Cricot and Cricot 2 Theatre. Her works were exhibited at home and abroad, and can be viewed, among others, in the National Museums in Krakow, Warsaw and Wrocław, and the Museum of Art in Łódź.

2



ZOFIA DASZYŃSKA-GOLIŃSKA

(1866-1934) – a graduate of the University of Zurich, where she was the first woman to complete a doctorate in 1891, while at the Humboldt University in Berlin, she earned the title of associate professor. In 1898, she moved to Krakow, where at the Jagiellonian University she was denied habilitation. She gave lectures for women, co-founded the Women's League, and established abstinence societies. In 1918, she moved to Warsaw, where she worked as a professor at the Free Polish University. Between 1928-1930, she was a senator and actively participated in committees dealing with social issues.

3

FIRST UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

For a long time, it was unthinkable that women could walk the halls of the Collegium Maius and Collegium Novum together with men. Nawojka, the first legendary female student, who joined the University in the 15th century, studied in Krakow illegally, disguised as a man.

A breakthrough came in 1824, when sisters Konstancja and Filipina Studzińska passed the final exam in pharmacy, although it was only at the end of the 19th century, in part thanks to the efforts of the Bujwid married couple, that women could officially enter the Jagiellonian University.

In 1894, beating dozens of female candidates, Stanisława Dowgiałłówna, Jadwiga Sikorska and Janina Kosmowska began their studies at the oldest Polish university.

Nawojka
(1400/1420-?)

Konstancja Studzińska
(1787-1853)

Filipina Studzińska
(1797-1877)

Stanisława
Dowgiałłówna
(1865-1933)



Janina
Kosmowska
(1864-1951)

Jadwiga
Sikorska-Klemensiewiczowa
(1871-1963)



4

EWA DEMARCZYK

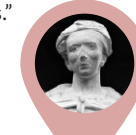
(1941-2020) – a talented artist, gifted with a piercing voice, interpretive talent and extraordinary power of expression. She was applauded on stages all over the world. She cooperated with "Piwnica pod Baranami" in 1962-1972, where Zygmunt Konieczny composed songs for her. Her biggest hits included "Carousel with the Madonnas," "Black Angels" and "Peas and Roses."



5

MIEDZIANNA

– the name given to a symbolic Krakow marketwife. The name consists of two parts: Copper (PL: miedź), as it was important in medieval Krakow trade, and Anna, as that was once the most popular female name.



6

HELENA MODRZEJEWSKA

(1840-1909) – a talented Polish actress, she played romantic and tragic parts. Socially involved, she supported numerous budding talents, including Ignacy Jan Paderewski. She was born in an apartment at 22 Grodzka Street as the illegitimate child of a widow, but despite her humble origins, her great talent helped her gain international recognition. Already a theatre star, she married Karol Chłapowski, a member of the most important aristocratic family in Greater Poland. However, her new social position did not prevent her from continuing her acting career, as well as patriotic and social actions, in which she placed particular emphasis on improving the situation of women.



7



KAZIMIERA BUJWIDOWA

(1867-1932) – born in Warsaw, where she studied biological sciences at the secret Flying University, she worked as a laboratory technician, and after moving to Krakow, she headed the Serum and Vaccine Production Plant founded by her husband, Prof. Odon Bujwid. Kazimiera Bujwidowa is one of the mothers of the emancipation movement in Krakow, contributing to women gaining the right to vote and access to education, and presiding over the Reading Room for Women. She created the first junior high school for girls with the Matura graduation exam and a programme resembling that of male institutions (1896).

8



"LADY WITH AN ERMINE"

Cecilia Gallerani (1473-1536) – a lady of the court of Duke Ludovico Sforza of Milan and his mistress. Intelligent and well-educated, she ran her intellectual salon in the country estate of San Giovanni in Croce in Lombardy. Prince Adam Jerzy Czartoryski bought her painting in Italy, around 1800, and it eventually found its way via Puławy and Paris to the Princes Czartoryski Museum in Krakow. Seized during the German occupation, the painting was found in Bavaria, and in 1946, it was returned to Poland.

9



TEODORA MATEJKOWA

(1846-1896) – musically and artistically talented, she was also gifted with beauty, as well as a personality – so much so that other residents of the house called her "the Venetian devil." She dreamed of becoming an actress, but her financial situation forced her to get married at the age of 20. "Ośka," as she was sometimes called, or "my gale" as Matejko addressed her, posed for him as the most important female figures on his canvases. Most often, her face was given to queens or great ladies. Throughout her life, Teodora suffered from diabetes, and there were attempts at treating her with morphine injections. These caused brain lesions, and her explosive and unpredictable behaviour and dramatic condition contributed to her confinement in an insane asylum.

10



ZOFIA STRYJEŃSKA

(1891-1976) – a painter, graphic artist, illustrator and theatre set designer, she began her education in Krakow at 17 Szpitalna Street. She wanted to continue her journey at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich, but, similarly to the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow, women were not admitted there. Following in Nawojka's footsteps, she pretended to be a man and, like her predecessor, she was eventually found out. After returning to Krakow, she exhibited a series of works in the Palace of Art, "Polish fairy tales and folk tales," and decorated the Polish pavilion at the World Exhibition in Paris in 1925, and the interiors of the Polish transatlantic ships "Batory" and "Piłsudski." In her work, she drew on Slavic mythology and folk motifs. After World War II, she emigrated to Switzerland.

11



BONA SFORZA

(1494-1557) – the wife of King Sigismund the Old, she was educated and intelligent, with political acumen. She created her own party in Poland and successfully influenced the affairs of the country. She followed a prudent economy in the estates received from the King, bringing to Poland from her native Italy, among others, spices, herbs, fruits and vegetables, which are still common on Polish tables today.



BARBARA RADZIWIŁŁ

(1520-1551) – she became a legend thanks to her marriage to King Sigismund Augustus. The marriage violated customs, as it was the guardians and the Senate who were supposed to decide about the future king's wife-to-be. However, against the opinion of his royal parents and advisors, he took a secret wedding with Barbara, and was later recognized and crowned King.

12



OLGA BOZNAŃSKA

(1865-1940) – one of the greatest Polish female painters, and an outstanding portraitist, she learned painting in Krakow at the famous Adrian Baraniecki's School of Higher Courses for Women. In Munich, she opened her own studio, before moving to Paris. She became a member of the French Société Nationale des Beaux Arts, and in 1937, she was awarded the Grand Prix at the World Exhibition in Paris. Her best-known paintings are "Girl with Chrysanthemums," "Lady from Brittany," and "Good Friday."

TRAIL OF WOMEN THROUGH THE OLD TOWN

WOMEN HAVE ALWAYS PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE HISTORY OF KRAKOW. IF NOT FOR THEIR HARD WORK, PASSION AND PERSEVERANCE, THE CITY WOULD HAVE A COMPLETELY INCOMPARABLE NATURE AND APPEARANCE. WOMEN ARE AMONG THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTE TO THE HISTORY OF THIS UNIQUE PLACE AND CODETERMINE ITS DEVELOPMENT, BOTH IN TURBULENT MOMENTS AND DURING TIMES OF PEACE. THE WOMEN OF KRAKOW ARE PASSIONATE AND EXUBERATE ENERGY, WHICH IS WHAT GAVE THIS EXTRAORDINARY CITY A UNIQUE ATMOSPHERE. STROLL THROUGH THE OLD TOWN TO LEARN ABOUT THE HISTORY (OR HERSTORY) OF THE WOMEN OF KRAKOW.

1 MARIA JAREMA

Few people know that the fountain opposite the Krakow Philharmonic Hall depicts piano hammers striking water strings. Maria Jarema dedicated this sculpture to Frederic Chopin.

2 ZOFIA DASZYŃSKA-GOLIŃSKA

Since 1915, the large university buildings at 20 Gołębia Street have housed the League of Women of Galicia and Silesia (from 1918, the Citizens' Committee of Polish Women). The League worked to cooperate with and actively assist women from the Austrian partition in the fight for Poland's independence, with Zofia Daszyńska-Golińska among its active members.

3 FIRST UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

When you pass Collegium Maius and Collegium Novum, you will see the Jagiellonian University buildings, where women were not allowed to study until 1894.

4 EWA DEMARCZYK

The Gothic vaults of one of the most important former seats of aristocratic Krakow, the "Pod Baranami" Palace at 27 Main Square (PL: Rynek Główny), house the famous "Piwnica pod Baranami" cabaret. Since its opening in 1956, the cabaret has become one of the most important places in the cultural history of Krakow. The cabaret entertained and provoked residents and women of Krakow, as well as guests from all over Poland. Those associated with the cabaret include Piotr Skrzynecki, Wiesław Dymny, Anna Szałapak, Krystyna Zachwatowicz, and one of the most exquisite singers, the Black Angel of Polish Song – Ewa Demarczyk.

5 MIEDZIANNA

This unusual sculpture commemorates the marketwomen of Krakow. It can be found on the second-floor facade of the Krzysztofory Palace, above the corner of Szczepańska and Jagiellońska streets. Towering over passers-by, the statue of a female marketwoman is a personalised depiction of Krakow's female tradeswomen (colloquially and clumsily called "babas"). Entrepreneurial female tradeswomen of Krakow became part of the city's image, adding to its character, and so they had to be commemorated.

6 HELENA MODRZEJEWSKA

The large Art Nouveau building on the corner of Jagiellońska Street and Szczepański Square is the seat of the National Old Theatre, which is one of the most important stages in Poland. It was named after Helena Modrzejewska, the Krakow-born most gifted Polish actress, and theatre star whose career blossomed not only in Poland but also in the United States. The most famous portrait of the actress, painted by Tadeusz Ajdukiewicz, can be admired in the Gallery of 19th Century Polish Art in the Sukiennice, and a copy is placed at the top of the theatre's stairs.

7 KAZIMIERA BUJWIDOWA

When you walk down Św. Jana Street towards the Piarist Church, remember to admire building number 11 on the right. It once housed the First Female Junior High School, opened with the help of Kazimiera Bujwidowa, and was officially opened in 1896. It was the first school on the territory of the three partitions to prepare female students for Matura graduation exams, studies or teacher's exams.

12 OLGA BOZNAŃSKA

As you continue your walk through Planty, remember to turn into Marszałka Józefa Piłsudskiego Street. Walking towards Błonia and the National Museum, you will pass the studio of 19th-century painter Olga Boznańska on your right.

8 "LADY WITH AN ERMINE"

When you walk along Pijarska Street, along the defensive walls, remember to visit the world's most famous "Woman of Krakow". Here you will see Cecilia Gallerani, painted by Leonardo da Vinci, which is the only painting by the Italian Renaissance master in Poland. It can be viewed in the Czartoryski Princes Museum.

9 TEODORA MATEJKOWA

At 41 Floriańska Street, you will find a branch of the National Museum in Krakow. This is where Jan Matejko, one of the most outstanding 19th-century artists of Polish painting, lived and worked. His life partner and muse was his wife Teodora Matejkowa.

10 ZOFIA STRYJEŃSKA

If you step off the Royal Road (PL: Droga Królewska) for a moment and walk along Szpitalna Street towards the Small Market Square (PL: Mały Rynek), you will pass the tenement house at number 17. It was here that Maria Niedzielska's School of Fine Arts for Women opened in 1908, and Zofia Stryjeńska (1891-1976) polished her talent at this school.

11 POLISH QUEENS, GRAND DUCHESSES OF LITHUANIA BONA SFORZA AND BARBARA RADZIWIŁŁ

Walk on the Main Square (PL: Rynek Główny) and the Royal Road (PL: Droga Królewska) towards the Royal Wawel Castle to follow the route that used to be walked by Polish monarchs, including two from the Golden Age of Polish history. At that time, the state reigned by the last Jagiellons was a European power in this part of the continent.

