

C H R O N I C L E

**108th AES Convention, Paris
19 – 22 February, 2000**

Polish participation in the AES Conventions has already become a well founded tradition. So it was this year also, at an exceptional place and date — Paris 2000. The 108th Convention was the first in the French capital for five years. It was held at the newly refurbished Palais des Congrès (see photo of a group of Polish participants before the Palais front), which played host to over three hundred exhibitors' booths from all over the world; among them all leading enterprises in the field of sound and vision techniques.

Opening ceremonies held on Saturday, noon, February 17, were devoted in particular to stressing the role of AES Conventions on the brink of a new century. “For over 50 years the AES and its Conventions have been the link within the international audio community: a forum for exchange of new ideas. At the dawn of the new millenium and the age of globalization, the role of the AES is more important than ever before” — said the Convention Chairman, Daniel Zelay rightly in his Welcoming Address.

The most interesting for the Polish representatives was the second part of the ceremonies devoted to the announcement of Awards to distinguished members of the Society. First of all, the significant accomplishments were honoured by AES citation awards, namely: Irina Aldoshina — for her significant contribution to the Russian AES Sections, Vytautas Stauskis — for his contribution to architectural acoustics and foundation of the Lithuanian AES Section, Marina Bosi and Karlheinz Brandenburg — for cochairmanship of the 17th AES International Conference. Next, the highest AES award announced in Paris, the Fellowship, was presented to Andrzej Czyżewski — for his pioneering achievements in applications of computing (see the enclosed copy).

Polish attendees warmly applauded Prof. Czyżewski, as he received the Fellowship testimony on the auditorium stage, being duly proud of his outstanding achievement.

Although no Polish enterprise participated in the huge exhibition, a number of Polish authors contributed to scientific sessions, running parallel to the exhibition and to other Convention events. Among 100 papers read during 19 thematical sessions, 5 were presented by Polish authors and coauthors, coming mainly from the Technical Universities of Gdańsk and Wrocław (see Appendix). It may be added here that Prof. George Papanikolaou from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, the member of the

Polish Acoustical Society, cooperating for many years with the Sound Engineering Department of Gdańsk Technical University, presented 3 papers in Paris, together with a group of his coauthors.

A characteristic feature of the Paris Convention was the growing participation of students, organized within the AES Student Sections all over the world. Several special events were organized in Paris for students, such as Student Delegate Assembly, Student Section Report, Education Fair, Poster Session, Job Forum, Recording Awards etc. Polish AES Student Section was represented by 44 participants. They organized their own information desk (see photograph), disseminating information concerning studies on sound engineering in Poland.

The most valuable, however, for the Polish students was their participation in the Convention workshops. During the 15 workshop sessions leading scientists and professionals demonstrated practical solutions of selected problems, connected with the techniques of sound and vision. This was a true laboratory for students, familiarizing them with the most modern equipment and systems recently developed by world-renowned producers.

The 108th Convention was as successful as the previous one in Munich as regards to the general number of attendees, number of exhibitors and visitors in particular. Let us hope that the next two Conventions scheduled to be held in Amsterdam in 2001, and Munich in 2002, will also be successful, and that the Polish participation and contribution remains, at least, on the level characterized in brief in this report.

Marianna Sankiewicz

Appendix

Papers presented by Polish authors during the 108th AES Convention in Paris

1. Grzegorz SZWOCH, Bożena KOSTEK, Andrzej CZYŻEWSKI, TU Gdańsk, *Simulating Acoustics of Hearing Aids Employing Nonlinear Signal Filtering and Waveguide Modelling* — Session C4, Preprint 5087.
2. Andrzej CZYŻEWSKI, Bożena KOSTEK, Piotr SUCHOMSKI, TU Gdańsk, *Expert System for Hearing Aids Fitting* — Session D5, Preprint 5094.
3. Andrzej DOBRUCKI, Grzegorz MATUSIAK, TU Wrocław, *Symmetrical Loudspeaker Band-Pass Systems of Eighth Order with Passive Filter* — Session G2, Preprint 5107.
4. Piotr PRUCHNICKI, TU Wrocław, *The Influence of Measuring Accuracy on the NARMAX Model of Dynamic Loudspeaker* — Session G6, Preprint 5111.
5. Bożena KOSTEK, Andrzej CZYŻEWSKI, TU Gdańsk, *Automatic Classification of Musical Sounds* — Session H2, Preprint 5115.



AUDIO ENGINEERING SOCIETY, INC.

presents this

Fellowship Award
To

Andrzej Czyżewski

*FOR his pioneering achievements
in applications of soft computing techniques
to audio engineering
and for numerous related publications.*



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Fig. 1. Fellowship Award certificate presented in Paris to Prof. Andrzej Czyżewski.



Fig. 1. Modernized front of the Palais des Congrès; a group of Polish participants before entrance.



Fig. 2. Polish Student Section information desk — (l. to r.) K. Kąkol, J. Czerniawski — Board members, and P. Ody — Chairman of the Section.