

## The new face of the Clothmakers' Hall in Kraków

2010-07-26



The "Nowe Sukiennice/ New Clothmakers' Hall" modernisation project has been completed in the division of the National Museum in Kraków – the Gallery of 19th Century Polish Art at the Sukiennice. The project is one of the largest art conservation projects in Europe. The official unveiling ceremony attended by the Polish Minister of Culture and National Heritage Bogdan Zdrojewski took place on July 24. The renewed Gallery in the Draper's Hall will open to the public on September 3.

Zdrojewski said that Kraków and the Clothmakers' Hall in the heart of the city are a significant location for the Polish culture. During the ceremony, Zdrojewski appointed several "Ambassadors of the Gallery in Sukiennice" among persons particularly important in Polish culture and social life i.e. literary Nobel Prize winner Wisława Szymborska, actress Magdalena Cielecka, singer Grzegorz Turnau and charity activist Jurek Owsiak.

In the opinion of experts, the remodelled gallery more clearly refers to its 19th-century interior design i.e. in the wall colours. On the other hand, it is an interactive museum of the 21st century bringing 196 paintings, 19 sculptures and new multimedia hall, educational room and touch screens.

The Gallery in Sukiennice was closed for renovation in 2006. The project consumed over EUR 8,700,000. It was co-financed from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism, Poland's Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and the Social Committee for Historical Sites Renovation in Kraków. MP