

Trio for Violin, Clarinet, and Piano (2003)

Eugeniusz Knapik

"I composed the piece in the spring of 2003 as a commission from Walter Verdehr and his trio. Naturally, its instrumental line-up, unique as it is in terms of sound quality, influenced my imagination, and, consequently, the kind of musical narration. I was left with a profound wish to write a piece which would be a sum of the timbral qualities of the three instruments and of the trio's generic essence. The piece is in one movement, duration ca. twenty minutes."

—Eugeniusz Knapik

The world premiere of the *Trio for Violin, Clarinet, and Piano* was on September 26, 2003 at the Concert Hall, Frederic Chopin Academy of Music, Warsaw, Poland.

Eugeniusz Knapik (born 1951, Silesia, Poland) studied composition and piano at the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music from 1970 to 1976. In 1976, he received a French government scholarship that allowed him to study composition with Olivier Messiaen in Paris.

Knapik has composed numerous orchestral works, chamber music for a wide variety of ensembles, and four ballets. He was the recipient of many prizes awarded for composition including the Youth Forum in Krakow in 1974, the Young Composers' Competition of the Polish Composers' Union in 1976, the Chamber Music Competition in Vienna in 1977, the International Composers' Rostrum in Paris in 1984, and the Polish Composers' Union Prize in 1997.

He currently performs mainly twentieth-century music repertoire as a pianist. His cooperation with the Silesian Quartet in the 1980s resulted in many recordings. In addition to his commitments as a soloist and chamber musician, he is a professor at the Szymanowski Academy of Music, and from 1996, he has also been Director of the Composition, Conducting, and Theory Department. In 2002, he was elected the Academy's Rector.