
The Future of Food and Farming in Europe: the Polish example

**Presented by
Sir Julian Rose and Jadwiga Łopata of the
International Coalition to Protect the
Polish Countryside - ICPPC**

**Sunday 16 May at 3 pm
Studio Theatre, The Courtyard,
Edgar Street, Hereford, HR4 9JR**

Tickets £5 (£3 concessions)
available only from The Courtyard Box Office
Tel: 01432 340555 www.courtyard.org.uk
(All ticket revenue donated to ICPPC)

2010 is Biodiversity Year and concepts of sustainability will be presented for discussion. Biodiversity is the foundation of health - in all spheres of life, and yet biodiversity is now under intense threat from corporate agribusiness and monocultures in the mind of those who dictate policy. Can we instigate a new agenda to replace the moribund Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union? Can the regions regain their powers and give birth to new localised marketing initiatives? Can farmers and consumers work together to close the gap between production and consumption? These are some of the questions that will be central to the day's proceedings.

The Future of Food and Farming in Europe: the Polish example

Presented by Jadwiga Łopata, who has just received the Golden Cross of Merit from the Polish President for her voluntary work, and Sir Julian Rose, of the International Coalition to Protect the Polish Countryside (ICPPC). This coalition was initiated by 41 organizations from 18 countries. www.icppc.pl and www.gmo.icppc.pl

The speakers are also the special guests attending the grand finale of the Complete Chopin piano recitals at Holy Trinity Church on 15 May. www.borderbicentenary.co.uk

Jadwiga Łopata is the Polish initiator of the ICPPC and President of ECEAT-Poland (the European Centre for Ecological Agriculture and Tourism-Poland), a member of ASHOKA-Innovators for the Public. Jadwiga is the owner of a small organic farm and a director of ECOCENTRE ICPPC www.eko-cel.pl . In April 2002, she was awarded the Goldman Prize - Ecological Nobel - for its international campaign to protect Polish, small, family farms.

Sir Julian Rose is a farmer, forester, writer and social entrepreneur. He is an early UK pioneer of organic farming methods, commencing the conversion of his UK farm in 1975. He started out as an actor and teacher in holistic thinking, before taking on the management of the Hardwick Estate, a family property in South Oxfordshire. Julian has served on many national committees concerned with the British rural economy. He has advised government and founded three organisations specifically related to helping protect and advance the needs of family farms and quality foods. He broadcasts, writes extensively and is the author of the book entitled "Changing Course for Life - Local Solutions to Global Problems".

Enormous efforts have been made to create a national and international campaign to protect the Polish countryside. Real gains have been made. 480 Polish and international organizations representing over 30 million people have been supporting ICPPC and have signed its "CHARTER 21 - Manifesto for the Polish Countryside 21st Century". In June 2002, ICPPC's headquarters in Stryszow were visited by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

The audience will be invited to take part in a discussion following the presentation.
