ABOUT SPFF

**Seattle Polish Film Festival**

Seattle Polish Film Festival (SPFF) is an annual event showcasing the best of Polish cinema since 1992. The SPFF is produced and presented by the non-profit [Seattle-Gdynia Sister City Association.](http://www.seattlegdynia.org/)

SPFF was started in 1992 by Polish community leaders Tom Podl and Dr. Michal Friedrich. Mr. Podl and Dr. Friedrich were inspired by other notable Polish Film festivals in the U.S. and in Poland. They wanted to share this special part of Polish culture with the greater Seattle community. SPFF is the second longest running Polish film festival in the United States. 2014 will mark its 22nd anniversary.

From 2002 to 2005, local attorney Krys Koper directed SPFF. Mr. Koper ushered in a new era of procuring high quality films and guests. Under his direction, SPFF presented such films as *Reveng* and *When the Sun was God*, as well as classics such as*The Promised Land* and *Woman Alone.*

From 2006, local patent attorney Greg Plichta directed SPFF. Under Mr. Plichta's leadership, SPFF showcased critically acclaimed films alongside independent films, shorts, animations, and documentaries. During this time, SPFF hosted a wide variety of guests and luminaries from Polish cinema. In 2010, Dr. Michal Friedrich returned to SPFF as the Artistic Director, with Greg Plichta as Managing Director.

As of 2011, former Solidarity activist and local film fanatic Zbigniew Pietrzyk started running SPFF, and in 2012 was joined by his son Michal, a television industry professional, as co-director. This year SPFF is scheduled to reach new heights in terms of film quality, diversity, and sophistication – in large part due to the generous support of its patrons, and the selfless contributions of its dedicated, 100% volunteer staff.