

The Warsaw Voice

Warszawa

03-12

M. / Nr 3

**Bohemian Rhaps... Oops...
Symphony**



The Alla Vienna chamber orchestra and a 19-person choir called Vivid Singers will take the stage in Cracow March 25, kicking off this year's series of *Queen, Symphony-Style* concerts, which are music shows featuring inventive arrangements of songs by the British rock band Queen.

The project had its premiere Nov. 30 last year at the Wytwórnia club in Łódź. Seen by an audience of 1,000, it met with such an enthusiastic response that the musicians felt encouraged to carry on with the project this year and showcase the talents of Queen to listeners in other parts of Poland.

Jan Niedźwiecki, the lead musician in Alla Vienna and a double-bass player at the Łódź Philharmonic, says he has been intrigued by "the symphony element" in Queen's music since he was very young. "I treat the opportunity to extract this element and bring it to wider audiences as an artistic tribute to my non-classical idol," Niedźwiecki says, referring to Queen frontman Freddie Mercury.

The first, "classical" part of the concert comprises the most familiar Queen tracks, selected to illustrate the diversity of the band's output. The songs range from the earliest albums released in the 1970s to "Let Me Live," a song from the 1995 album *Made In Heaven*.

The other part is a Queen-style rock concert. The group's greatest hits will be performed in rock arrangements featuring a bass guitar instead of double-bass. The musicians will deliver a live version of "Bohemian Rhapsody," which is highly exceptional given that even during Queen's original concerts, the operatic parts were played from tape. Then, for the grand finale, the stage will be taken by a Freddie Mercury soundalike, who will perform "We Will Rock You" and "We Are the Champions."

March 3, 5:30 p.m.
Cracow, Łaźnia Nowa Theater,
25 Osiedle Szkolne