

## Zbigniew Namysłowski – Winobranie (1973)

Written by bluesever

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1. *Winobranie / Jak nie ma szmalu to jest łaź*
2. *Nie mniej niż 5%*
3. *Gogoszary*
4. *Pierwsza przymiarka / Ballada na grzędzie / Misie*
5. *Taj Mahal / Winobranie* [play](#)

Personnel:

Zbigniew Namysłowski - alto sax, cello, flute, piano

Tomasz Szukalski - tenor sax, bass clarinet

Stanisław Cieślak - trombone, percussion

Paweł Jarzębski - bass

Kazimierz Jonkisz - drums

Zbigniew Namysłowski is a giant of Polish Jazz. The quote from Willis Conover himself says enough: "When I first visited Poland, I was quite unprepared to hear Polish musicians at so high level. Namysłowski was clearly the best. International voting has proved that audiences in Europe recognize the best Polish musician as among the best anywhere in the world. He honors 3 traditions, of Jazz, of Polish, of himself. Anyone who misses Namysłowski is missing a unique source of creativity in 20th century. Namysłowski is a giant!" Namysłowski is a master of many instruments. From the age of four he played piano, he mastered cello at twelve, then studied music theory in Warsaw. He initially (1950s) played trombone in Polish Dixieland, and in 1960s took up alto saxophone and ventured into modern Jazz joining Andrzej Trzaskowski's hard bop group the Jazz Wreckers. In 1963 he formed his first quartet, with whom he recorded groundbreaking album *Lola* for England's Decca label. Namysłowski cites John Coltrane, Sonny Rollins, Wayne Shorter, and Joe Henderson as his favorite musicians but also draws inspiration from other sources, including blues, rock, and traditional Polish, Balkan, and Indian music. Namysłowski is also a very successful composer, including genres outside of Jazz and

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encompassing anything from Polish version of funk to sophisticated pop music. In the field of composition, Namysłowski has created his own unique and easily recognizable language: the harmonic language, the swing that goes beyond the scale of musical transcription, the Jazz tradition, and his always present appreciation of Polish music folklore. "We have been waiting long for this album. Namysłowski's previous LPs, the internationally-successful "Lola" (Decca SKL 4644) and "Polish Jazz Vol. 6" (Muza XL 0305) were both released in 1965. Since that time Namysłowski, for long one of the most creative jazz artists on the Polish scene, has made considerable progress in his development. This record proves it well enough, featuring Namysłowski playing his new compositions. The supporting group are actually co-makers of the music. Despite their youth, they belong to the top Polish jazzmen. The music on this record, marked by the individuality of the composer- leader and his sidemen, is far from monotonous. In fact it is varied structurally, instrumentally and harmonically throughout, with changing tempos and times. What actually integrates it is the predominating cheerful mood. This climate is introduced from the very start with the title tune, Wine Feast, which opens and closes the record, fastening the whole music like a buckle. The mood is also present in the mostly humorous titles of the other pieces. On all the tracks, despite their varying character, one can feel the freshness, ingenuity and spontaneity which has always been present in Namysłowski's music." (*original linear notes from 1973*)

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