The youth of Chopin
THE YOUTH OF CHOPIN

Screenplay & Direction
ALEXANDER FORD

Dialogues
LEON KRUCZKOWSKI & ALEXANDER FORD

Camerawork
JAROSŁAW TUZAR

Art Director
ROMAN MANN

Editing
JÓZEF KOPROWICZ

CHRISTINE TUNIS

Music by:
Chopin, Bach, Mozart, Paganini, Lanner, Serocki

Works of Chopin played by Halina Czerny — Stefańska

Works of Bach and Paganini played by Wanda Wiłkomirska

Airs of Mozart sung by Stefania Wójtowicz

Music recorded by the Vienna Symphony Orchestra conducted by L. Moralt

Poznań Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by St. Wisłocki

Ballet of the Warsaw Opera and the Poznań Opera

Production Manager: KAZIMIERZ GASZEWSKI

CAST:

Frederic Chopin . . . . CZEŚLAW WOŁĘJEKO
Konstancja Gładkowska ALEXANDRA ŚLĄSKA
J. Elsner, professor of music Jan Kurnakowicz
Joachim Lelewel . . . . T. Białoszczyński
Prince Adam Czartoryski Gustaw Buszyński
Prince K. Lubecki . . . . S. Butrym
Novossiltsoff, senator, I. Pieterszkiewicz
the tsar's favourite

J. Smiałowski
T. Wojciechowski
S. Witwicki
B. Zaleski
M. Mochnacki
J. Magnuszewski
S. Goszczyński
Zuska, Servant

L. Pietraszkiewicz
J. Duszyński
J. Pietraszkiewicz
J. Kaliszewski
J. Niewęgowski
Z. Łobodziński
J. Kreczmarowa

PRODUCED BY FILM POLSKI, WARSAW 1951
Young Chopin’s genius ripened in the period when Europe was shaken by revolutionary movements, when the people oppressed and deprived of freedom took up arms to fight for justice.

Young Frederic, when still studying at the Warsaw music school approaches the radical progressive youth opposed to the reactionary policy of the Polish aristocracy who are selling their native country to the Tsar’s tyranny.

His sensitive and susceptible artist’s disposition is not indifferent to the aspects of reality, which has a great influence on his talent. The epoch in which he lived, the life of the whole nation and love of the people have been transformed into music — a splendid music that expresses the ideals of the whole mankind and the fight for progress.

The film shows us the great composer against the background of history without neglecting to emphasize the human aspect of his personality. We see him at school, among friends, in the family circle, in touch with leading men of his epoch and with common people of towns and villages — we also accompany him through the experiences of his first love.

The film gives a full picture of the epoch thus showing Chopin truly and with realism. It penetrates to the bottom of the creative processes, linking them closely with social and political events. Thus the knowledge of the nation’s history and the great musician’s life enables us to understand better and love still more Chopin’s genius, which is the pride of the whole nation and has forever become part of its culture as well as the culture of the whole world.