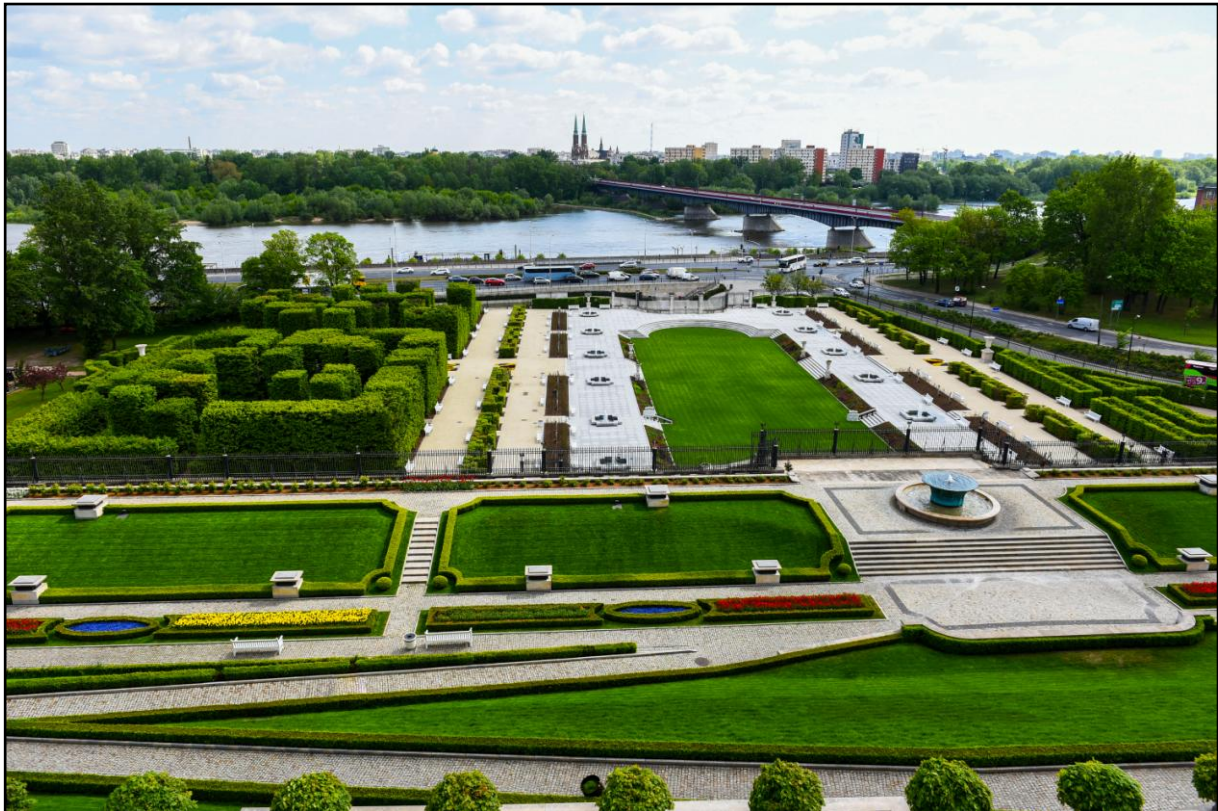


**GARDENS RETURN TO THE ROYAL CASTLE IN WARSAW
CEREMONY OPENING OF THE GARDENS 11-12 MAY 2019**



On May 11, 2019, the Royal Castle in Warsaw ceremoniously opened its gardens to the public. For the first time, the gardens are accompanied by a residence that gains a place worthy of the place of kings and the Republic.

Gardens are back in dialogue with their past, with the tradition of the place and established forms. After more than 70 years, the stage of many great project visions, started and unfinished projects, situations destroying the area for nothing, devastation, disregard and marginalization of the Castle's surroundings are over.



fot. M. Kmiecński - view of the reconstructed gardens from the Castle building

The lack of existence of gardens was very visible in the landscape of Warsaw. In the past, since the eighteenth century, since the times of King Stanisław August, attempts were made to develop the area under the Castle. Whenever an opportunity arose, the course of history interrupted efforts to achieve the goal.

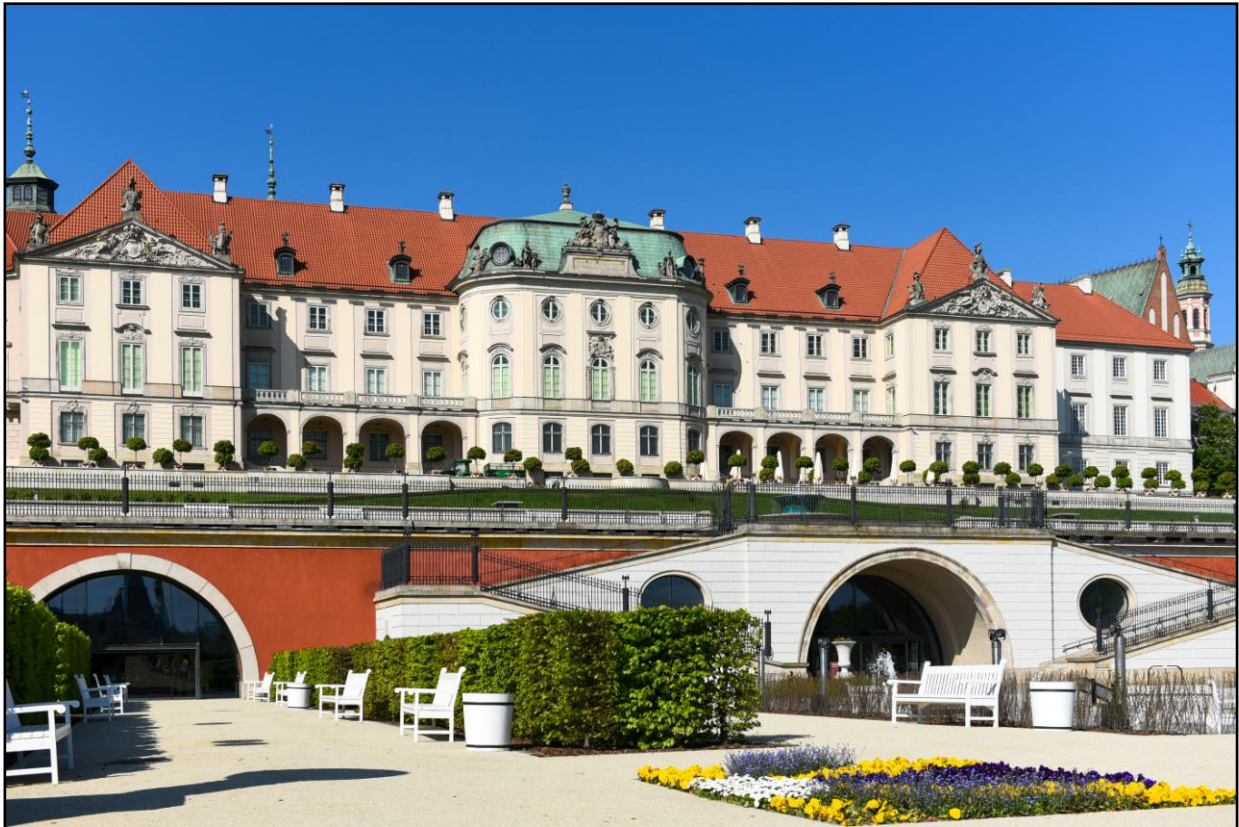
The Royal Castle in Warsaw is deeply inscribed in history as a symbol of Polish statehood and sovereignty. A representative garden has always been an essential complement to the monarchs' residence. The first mention of the Castle Garden comes from the fifteenth century, and thus from the distant times of the Mazovian Dukes. In subsequent centuries his fate was changeable - as a result of historical turmoil, he appeared and disappeared, shriveled and expanded, fell into neglect and regained his radiance.

Castle gardens - revitalized in 2015 Upper Garden and in 2018 Lower Garden - form a complementary whole, stylistically combining the spirit of the inter-war period with elements of Baroque art.

RECONSTRUCTION PROCESS - INVESTMENT

For the first time since the destruction done during World War II, a garden was built on the escarpment and the foreground of Arkad Kubicki.

During the design works preceding the process of garden reproduction, the fact that the Castle is the main element of the panorama of Warsaw from the Vistula side was guided primarily.



fot. M. Kmiecński - The east facade of the Castle and the Upper Garden visible on the top of Kubicki's Arcades

Works on the last stage of restoration of gardens lasted over 14 months - from September 2017 to December 2018.

The project covered an area of over 1.9 ha, and its basis was to be recreated - to the extent possible, hornbeam. There are plans to return many elements of park architecture: fountains, vases with plants, benches, paths or flower beds.

Following the concept of the architect Szyszko - Bohusz from 1937, the assumption was based on two axes of symmetry: transverse - connecting the divines, and longitudinal - connecting the Upper Garden from the elevation of the Castle with the Lower Garden to Wiślostrada Road. In the middle of the longitudinal axis, a grassy cavity ending with semi-circular stairs was to be recreated. On the sides, the lawn decorated, among others hedges hiding niches with statues.

The Lower Garden is to preserve the character given by King Stanisław August. It is to be a garden accessible to the public - a kind of public park, but of a residential nature. Hence - the garden is connected by a communication route with boulevards running along the Vistula River.

Adaptation of the gardens of the Royal Castle during the process of revalorisation to modern requirements, which is put in place for this type of objects, made it possible to obtain the planned utility goals while maintaining and respecting the historical substance.



fot. M. Kmieciński - a collection of tulips in the Upper Garden

All works carried out during revalorisation were done with emphasis on the protection and conservation of historical matter (in the Upper Garden historic wall of the Upper Terrace and the northern wall, in the Lower Garden historic elements of hornbeam bosquet, historical channel). At the same time, the Gardens have the most modern technological solutions that are "invisible" for the garden recipient: central control system for automatic irrigation, fountains and lighting control, mowers with night work function, pest infestation monitoring (pheromones), facilities for the disabled . Restoration works in the Lower Garden were financed mainly from the European Investment and Structural Funds.



'HEART OF WARSAW' - CELEBRATING OPENING 11 MAY

The completed revalorisation of the Lower Garden completes the restoration of the entire Castle and symbolically also the entire Old Town. The gardens of the Royal Castle become the symbolic "heart" of the Old Town, as well as the whole of Warsaw.

On May 11, the Lower Garden was officially opened to guests. Over 50.000 lovers of garden art visited the new space at the Castle on the weekend 11-12 May 2019. The ceremony began with the naming of a new original tulip variety registered by the Castle under the name 'Heart of Warsaw' bred specially for this occasion by the Polish breeder Roman Szymanski. The idea of associating Gardens of the Royal Castle with a place which should be the main point of visit to the capital and the Old Town will guide the promotional, informational and educational activities conducted by the Castle in the coming years.

The 'Heart of Warsaw' has thus been symbolically restored to the city and its inhabitants.



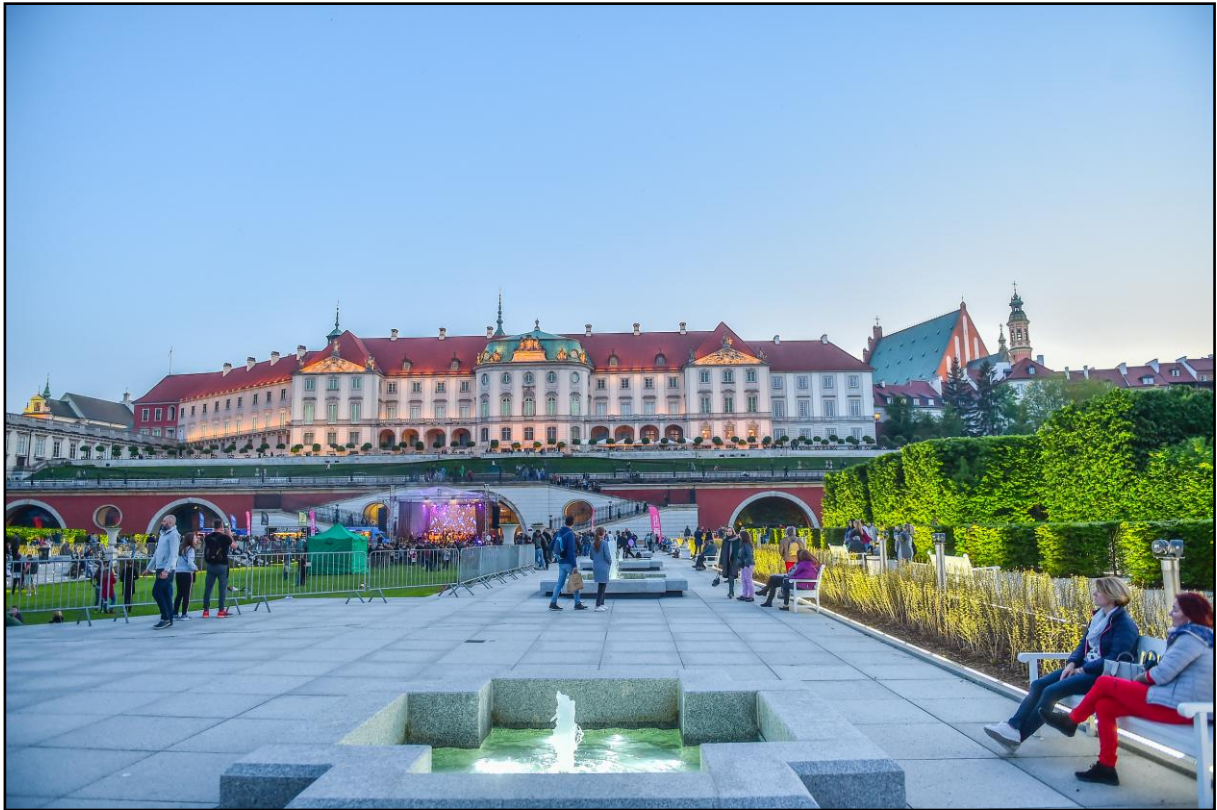
fot. M. Kmiecński - tulip 'Heart of Warsaw, the moment of naming
(Godmother: Mrs. Ewa Błaszczyk, breeder: Mr Roman Szymański)

The whole day was filled with attractions for children, youth, martial arts shows, historical costumes, concerts of classical and popular music, choir performances, demonstrations of gardening and agricultural machines, and historically stylized balloon flights.

Great moments were also accompanied by the first edition of the Royal Rose Exhibition, the originator and organizer of which was the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Poland and its co-organizer the Royal Castle in Warsaw. Honorary patronage over the event has included The International FLORINT Florists Organization and flower trade fair Flower Expo Poland.

Tens of thousands of guests admired the most beautiful roses from breeders from many countries of the world (including the Netherlands, Spain, Germany, Italy, Kenya, Ecuador and - of course - Poland). Over 140 varieties of various colors, sizes and shapes of buds in bloom

and intoxicating aroma have certainly encouraged many visitors to enter the roses in their everyday life, or to highlight the most beautiful moments with them.

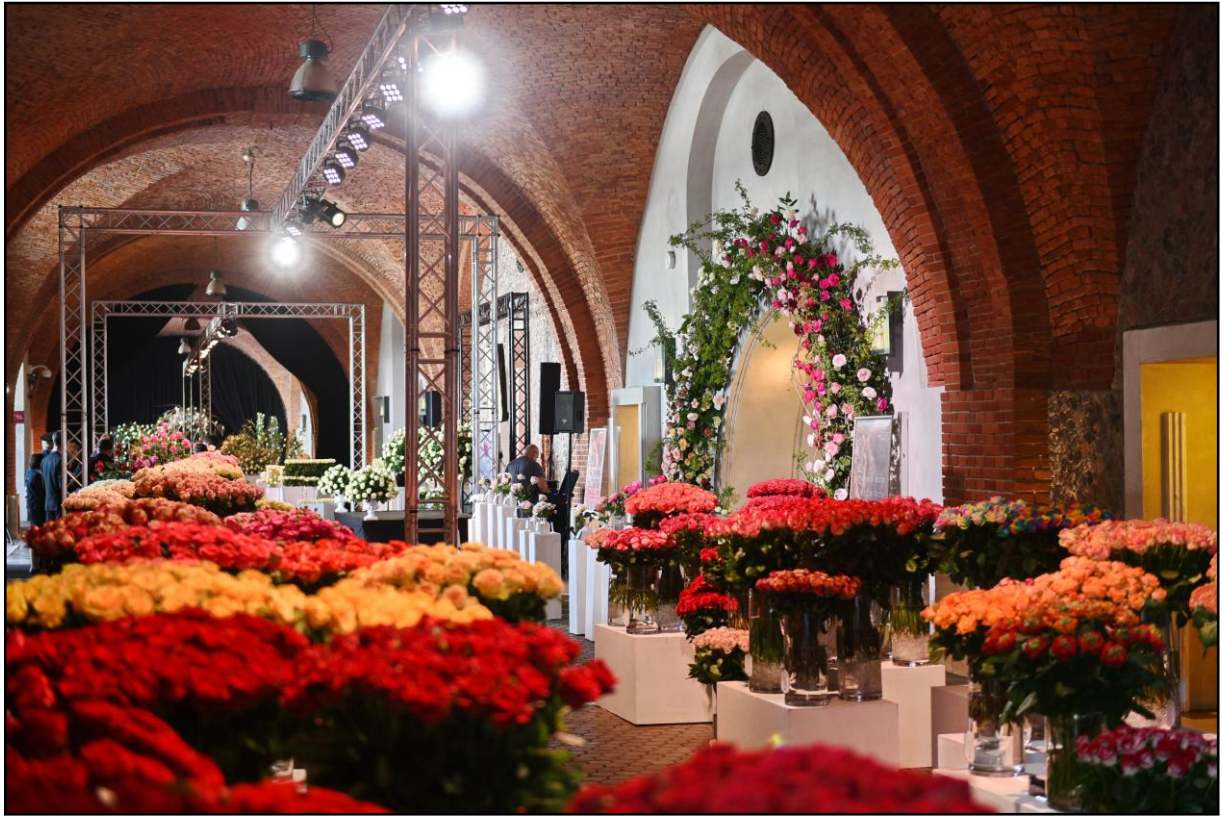


fot. M. Kmiecinski - illumination of the newly opened Castle Gardens

The queen of the first edition of the Royal Rose Exhibition was the Avalanche +[®] rose, a representative and exclusive variety. Its elegant, pastel colors and distinguished appearance have for years emphasized the chic of the most luxurious events in the world. Avalanche +[®] was presented mainly in effective floristic arrangements.

Compositions and spatial arrangements prepared dozens of florists. Their work was to arrange almost 20.000 flowers provided by 18 breeders. The event's guests also had attractions such as the fragrance stand of the Polish Rose Society and Kutno - the City of Roses, where the fragrance expert described the scent of roses and demonstrated - on selected varieties - how complex their unique smell can be.





More information on the website dedicated to the event: SwiatRozy.pl.

The gardens are open to the public every day.

More information on: <https://www.zamek-krolewski.pl/ogrody-i-arkady-kubickiego/ogrody>

Castle gardens are now a dream place of rest, available to everyone who is interested. On the one hand, surrounded by a majestic castle, on the other hand, opening onto a beautiful panorama of the Vistula valley, they create a charming space, which is an ideal escape from the city noise.

The reconstructed Gardens of the Royal Castle in Warsaw return to the history of the Castle, the look of the Old Town, and so important panorama of the city from the Vistula and the layout of the whole Skarpa Warszawska, of which they are an element

We invite you to the recreated gardens of the Royal Castle - the new HEART OF WARSAW.

Feel invited.

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