

The Morning Star

No #06
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Województwo
Śląskie

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Poland 2023



→ Water balloon fight!

→ Planetarium round

→ Maria Czaplicka

foto: Kamil Jurczyszyn

Day 8 → 17th August 2023 Thursday

Students

08.00—09.30	Breakfast
08.45—09.15	Transfer to the Ogradzieniec Castle (group 1 and 2)
10.15—10.45	Transfer to the Ogradzieniec Castle (group 3 and 4)
11.45—12.15	Transfer to the Ogradzieniec Castle (group 5 and 6)
09.30—14.15	Guided tour in groups
11.15—11.45	Transfer to the hotel (group 1 and 2)
12.45—13.15	Transfer to the hotel (group 3 and 4)
14.15—14.45	Transfer to the hotel (group 5 and 6)
14.30—15.30	Lunch
15.30—17.00	Free time
17.00—21.00	Cultural evening

Team Leaders

07.30—09.00	Breakfast
08.30—14.30	Moderation
14.00—15.00	Lunch
15.00—17.00	Transfer to student's hotel
17.00—21.00	Cultural evening
21.00—23.00	Transfer to the hotel



The weather forecast

Thursday, Aug 17th 2023

Wind

SE
6 km/h

Lowest temperature (morning)

18-20C / 65-68F

Highest temperature (afternoon)

23-25C / 73,4-77F

Sunrise **05:35**

Sunset **20:00**



Water balloon fight!

On Tuesday afternoon, the weather was perfect for playing an unusual volleyball match, in which the ball was replaced by water balloons. The competition lasted a bit longer than planned by the animators, who forgot that the contestants are astronomy enthusiasts – specialists who are able to calculate every trajectory accurately... Then a balloon battle started to be very lively, during which there was no time for calculations, only pure fun.



Before planetarium round



TEREZA HANÁKOVÁ (SLOVAKIA)

"I believe in my strength. A round at the Planetarium can be very interesting. The stars I saw here a few days ago are really beautiful. On the other hand, in Slovakia we cannot complain about the observation conditions."

Planetarium round

On the seventh day of the Olympiad, groups of students came to the Planetarium – Silesian Park in Chorzów to take part in the planetarium round. It is hard to imagine a better place in the world to conduct this part of the Olympiad. After a four-year reconstruction, the Silesian Planetarium has one of the most modern sky projection systems – the optical GOTO Chiron III projector is able to display over 100 million stars on a 23-meter dome. Most of them are only visible through binoculars. The analog system is supported by 10 digital projectors working in 8K resolution. In the afternoon, the competitors visited the exhibitions in the Planetarium – Silesian Science Park devoted to astronomy and geophysics.



Maria Czaplicka

(1886–1921)

Her life was as turbulent and unusual as the subjects she was interested in. She studied ghosts and shamans. She traveled, took pictures, wrote books, learned customs and languages. She brought to life a world that remained abstract and magical for "Western man."

She was born in Warsaw, but she went to Great Britain to study thanks to a scholarship. First in London and then at Oxford, she studied geography and anthropology. There, she won a scholarship that enabled her to finance her first expedition to Siberia. It certainly helped that she spoke Russian fluently. After this expedition, she wrote her first book. It became very popular because of her simple language and its subject. The Siberian people had not been in the scope of interest before, certainly not by someone who could understand them. She decided to organize a second expedition to Siberia. Some members of the second expedition returned ahead of schedule, unable to withstand the extreme weather conditions and the journey's hardships. Maria Czaplicka, however, continued her efforts. She brought back many notes and hundreds of photos from her travels. She studied the customs, but also the people themselves. After compiling the materials she collected during the second Siberian expedition, she was offered to chair the Department of Anthropology at Oxford University as the first woman ever. She studied Eastern Europe and Siberia but was mainly interested in shamanism and the cult of spirits. She explored the subject from all perspectives: customs, legends, psychology, and sociology.

She conducted scientific work and supported organizations that fought for Polish independence. She was one of the female members of the British Royal Geographical Society and the Royal Anthropological Society. She received offers to lecture at several world universities and received several scholarships and awards. However, it was difficult for her to find a permanent job. It was not because of her incompetency but gender and eccentric behavior. As a result of a nervous breakdown, she committed suicide at the age of 35. In her will, she wished that all her notes and souvenirs go to Henry Hall – her friend, colleague, and traveling companion.

She was a restless spirit, constantly searching and nowhere home. She fought for equal rights for women and supported Poland's quest for independence. Later she actually became an ambassador for Poland. As a well-known person, she wrote articles and gave interviews about her country of origin. When



the western press made negative comments about Poland, she often spoke out strongly in its defense.

She was hungry for knowledge, first – while still living in Warsaw – at illegal schools, then at foreign universities. She was bored with working in the study room and library. Maria wanted to gain knowledge in practice, hence her long expeditions to the east, to places that no one visited then. She conducted interviews, took notes on her observations, photographed, and collected exhibits she later presented during her lectures in Great Britain or the USA. In those days, what Czaplicka described and showed seemed like sharing experiences from another world. She wrote a lot and her books were very popular. Yes, they were well written, but most of all, they were authentic and courageous.

dr Tomasz Rożek

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