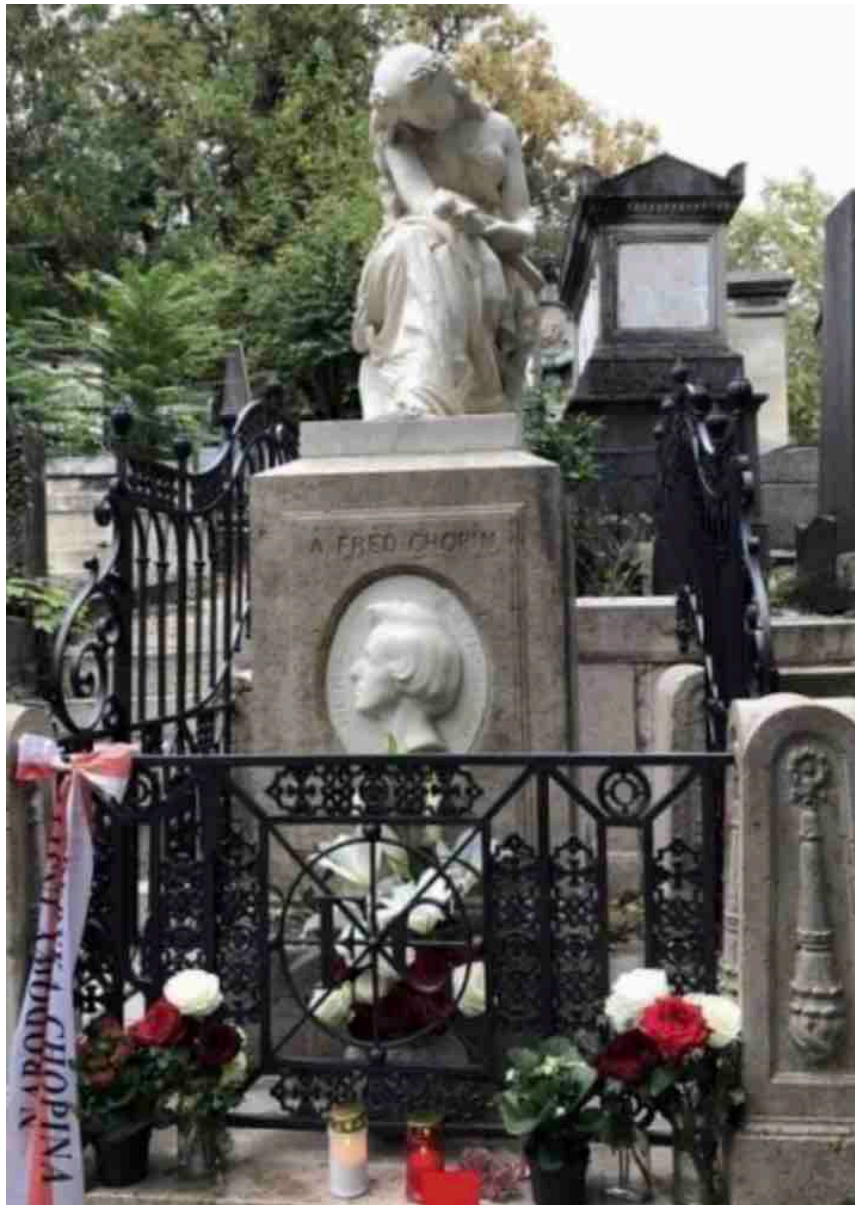


## Fryderyk Chopin

On October 17, 1849, in Paris died Fryderyk Chopin, one of the most important Polish composers in history and one of the most famous Polish artists in the world. His funeral has taken place in the Père-Lachaise Cemetery in Paris.

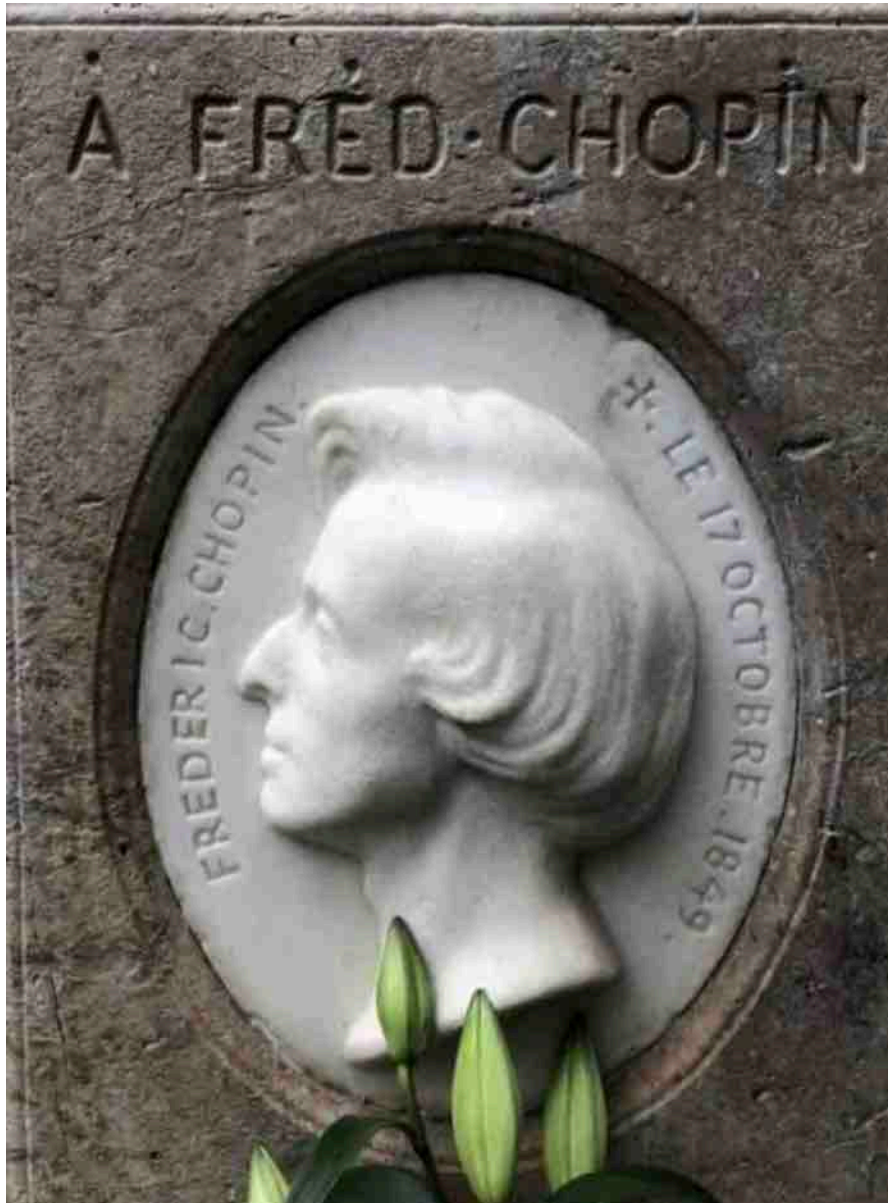


*Fryderyk Chopin's tomb at the Père-Lachaise cemetery in Paris.  
Photo: Dorota Janiszewska-Jakubiak*

The composer's funeral mass took place on October 30, 1849, in the Paris church of Saint Magdalena. The solemn funeral procession, led by Prince Adam Jerzy Czartoryski, was attended by a crowd of Chopin's friends and compatriots, as well as many eminent personalities of the French cultural world. During the farewell Chopin's music was played and fragments of Mozart's Requiem, which was one of Chopin's last wishes.

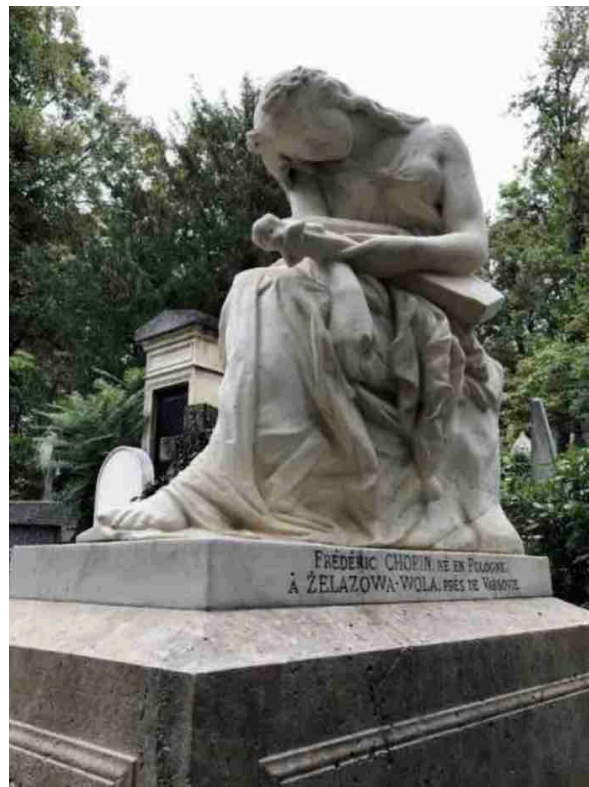
Chopin's burial place is decorated with a monument by the French painter and sculptor Jean-Baptiste Clésinger (called Auguste). It was unveiled on October 17, 1850, the first anniversary of the composer's death.

The tombstone consists of a simple pedestal on which a marble figure is placed of the Muse Euterpe leaning over a broken lyre. The front wall of the plinth is decorated with a medallion with an image of Chopin depicted from the left profile.



*Fryderyk Chopin's tomb at the Père-Lachaise cemetery in Paris.  
Dorota Janiszewska-Jakubiak in profile with the image of Chopin.*

Above there is the inscription: "À FRÉD. CHOPIN / SES AMIS" (to Fryderyk Chopin his friends). Subsequent inscriptions in French are placed on the side walls of the pedestal informing about the place of Chopin's birth and his family origin. After many years of Polish government's efforts, the grave of Fryderyk Chopin - finally in 2008, in accordance with the order of the Minister of Culture and Communication of the French Republic - was entered on the list of Historical Monuments. Conservation works were carried out by Polish conservators in 2017-2018 thanks to funds from the Program of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage obtained by the *Terpa Foundation* for the Preservation of the Common Cultural Heritage.



*Fryderyk Chopin's tomb at the Père-Lachaise cemetery in Paris.  
Photo: Dorota Janiszewska-Jakubiak*



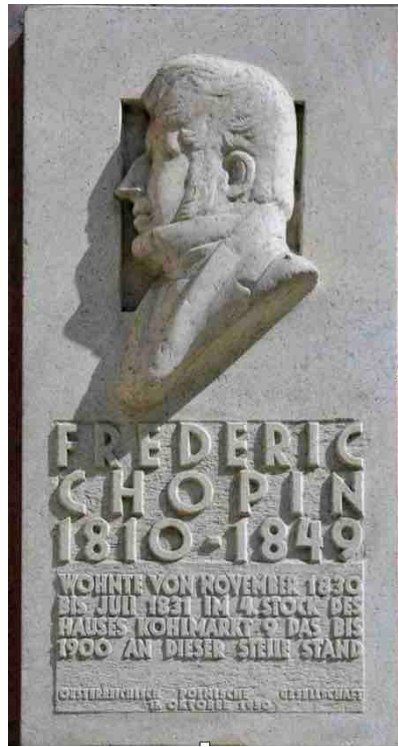
*Monument to Fryderyk Chopin in Paris  
Photo: Guillaume Jacquet CC BY-SA 3.0*



In accordance with Chopin's last will, in January 1850 his heart was brought secretly to the country (Warsaw) by his sister Ludwika Jedrzejewicz. The heart was placed in the church of the Holy Cross in Warsaw. Fryderyk Chopin was commemorated not only in Poland. The great artist has his monuments in Valldemossa, Mallorca (where Chopin spent the winter of 1838/1839 with George Sand), Singapore, Tirana, Shanghai, Havana, Cleveland, Ohio, Buffalo, New York, Gödöllő, Hungary, and even San José, Costa Rica.



*Fryderyk Chopin plaque in Prague, Czech Republic  
Photo: Yair Haklai CC BY-SA 3.0*



*Plaque dedicated to Fryderyk Chopin in Vienna  
Photo: GuentherZ CC BY 3.0*



*The bust of Fryderyk Chopin in Valldemossa, Mallorca  
Photo: Michal Osmenda CC BY 2.0*