

## The European Forum of Women Business Owners

## Passion to create



From right: actress Krystyna Janda and Marta Kaczowska, the Board President of the Forum

**For** several years now the European Forum of Women Business Owners has been bestowing the title of "Distinguished Woman" on outstanding representatives of the fair sex in Poland. The idea is to honour and distinguish outstanding women for their achievements in professional and public activities and pursuing their ambitions with passion and commitment.

The title this year was bestowed on accomplished actress Krystyna Janda (pron. yanda), at a special ceremony held in the Business Centre Club in Warsaw on May 27. The award was presented by Marta Kaczowska, the Board President of the Forum, in the presence of prominent guests and representatives of the Distinguished Women's Lodge Krystyna Woźniak-Trzosek (editor-in-chief of "Polish Market") and songstress Krystyna Prońko.

From right: The earlier representatives of the Prominent Women's Lodge Krystyna Woźniak-Trzosek (editor-in-chief of Polish Market) and songstress Krystyna Prońko



Krystyna Janda has been on stage and screen for more than 30 years performing to wide acclaim of the public. She made her debut in the theatre in 1975 playing the part of Dorian Grey in a performance based on "The Picture of Dorian Grey" by Oscar Wilde. In that same year she made her first appearance on the screen as Agnieszka in Andrzej Wajda's "Man of Marble". Since then she appeared in more than sixty plays performing lead parts in classic, Shakespearean and modern plays as well as in several dozen feature films produced at home and abroad.

The actress is the laureate of many prizes and awards. She won the Gold Palm at the Cannes Festival for her part in Ryszard Bugajski's "Interrogation" and the "Silver Shell" at the San Sebastian Film Festival for her performance in "Dismissed from Life" by Waldemar Krzystek.

Krystyna Janda is also a director of theatre productions and films, author of books and a columnist. In May this year, she received the Charlemagne Award for her outstanding accomplishments, pro-European attitude and campaigning for women's equal rights.

Last year, she took up the challenge of creating her own private theatre in Warsaw. "I have done this mad thing and opened a theatre where we have staged first of all plays dealing with women's life", said Krystyna Janda. "For the time being we are playing on the small stage but I dream of opening the big stage by autumn this year. We intend to start off with "God" by Woody Allen and to stage Samuel Beckett's "Happy Days" next. We are also planning an Anton Chekhov Festival to be attended by Chekhov theatres from throughout the world. I have already drawn up the programme of the first artistic season and am currently in talks with actors and producers of the particular plays. Meanwhile, I am performing all the time and continue building the theatre. I am alternatively seized by unhampered joy and fear; I am very tired but very happy. All distinctions, awards, words of recognition help me in one – in

building this theatre. I am particularly happy with the distinction just received from the Forum. I appreciate it especially because it was bestowed on me by women. I am confident that this will prop me up in my work to create an independent theatre in Warsaw's former Polonia cinema halls."

HENRYKA KOPACZ

