

# Notes from Poland

UCSI UNIVERSITY'S School of Music and Student Affairs Office jointly organised a Polish Piano Guest Recital by pianist Janusz Florczyk.

The event was attended by Deputy Head of Mission/ Counsellor from the Polish Embassy, Katarzyna Wilkowiecka and the First Secretary Robert Andrzejczyk.

Almost 200 guests attended the recital.

Florczyk performed pieces from famous Polish composer Frederic Chopin, as well as works by Karol Szymanowski, Artur

Malawski and Marcin Dominik Gluch.

The pieces chosen for the recital were meant to highlight the distinct style of composers from Poland, compared to music from other parts of Europe. The recital also aimed to educate the university's music students on how a native would interpret and play Polish music pieces.

A graduate from the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice, Florczyk was the first prize winner of the pianist competition in Kiev-Vorzel, as well as the winner of the ministry of culture's "Młoda Polska" scholarship.

When asked for his advice to aspiring musicians on building a successful musical



Florczyk playing a classical piece at the recital.

career, he says it depended on what motivated them.

"The money is not much, but I believe if you have the passion for it, it will definitely sustain you," he said.

The university was Florczyk's third stop in his first tour of Asia.

According to Faculty of Music, Social Sciences and Design associate dean Assoc Prof Dr P'ng Tean Hwa, musical events such as these enrich students' experience.

"By inviting world renowned musicians to the university, we are bringing the world to the students. They are able to experience the different techniques and different types of music without having to travel far," he said.