

*"I was the first woman to make clear paintings and that was the origin of my success. Among a hundred canvases, mine were always recognizable. I worked quickly with a delicate brush. I was in search of technique, craft, simplicity and good taste. My goal: never copy. Create a new style, with luminous and brilliant colors, rediscover the elegance of my models."*

*Tamara de Lempicka*



*Portrait d'Arlette Boucard*

*"I live life in the margins of society, and the rules of normal society don't apply to those who live on the fringe."*

*Tamara de Lempicka*

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*Prepared by the American Institute of Polish Culture, 2017*

# Tamara L



*Self portrait in Green Bugatti*

**Thursday, November 9, 2017 at 7:00 pm**

**Post-performance reception with artists and VIP guests**

**FIU Biscayne Bay Campus – Mary Ann Wolfe Theater  
3000 NE 151<sup>st</sup> St., North Miami, FL 33181**



**Tamara de Lempicka** (1898 - 1980) was an artist whose stunning work defined the glamour and sophistication of the Art Deco period - cool and clean with sinuous lines and sleek details. The figures are sensual, languid, aloof, almost statue-like as they lounge against backdrops composed of contrasting light and dark forms. The vibrant but simple palettes and sure handed application of paint create very compelling images, while the somber, expressionless faces bear a regal beauty that makes them almost otherworldly. This atmospheric work remains unique, iconic and instantly recognizable to anyone who admires this dramatically stylized era.

She was born Maria Gorska into an affluent family in Poland. She married Tadeusz Lempicki and lived in St. Petersburg, Russia, but during the Russian Revolution they fled to Paris. She immersed herself into the life of an artist there, changed her name to Tamara de Lempicka, studied with successful cubist and avant garde painters, and began to develop a visual style that set her apart from other artists of the day - it brought her fame, fortune, awards and exhibitions all over the world. She also lived in cultural centers in Switzerland, Los Angeles and New York.

In the late 1940's, Art Deco lost its allure and Lempicka's commissions began to drastically recede. She altered her style a bit but was not able to regain the kind of interest and accolades she enjoyed for so many years. When she died, Art Deco was just starting a renaissance in the design world and her work regained popularity because it symbolized the essence of hip and cool. Her strong characters, usually women, resonated with a new generation of art lovers and collectors, including celebrities Madonna, Barbra Streisand, and Jack Nicholson.



*Lady in Blue with Guitar*

## TAMARA L

Presented by

The Blanka Rosenstiel Lecture Series on Poland at FIU

Performed by **Maria Nowotarska and Agata Pilitowska**

from The Salon of Poetry, Music and Theatre in Toronto, Canada



**Maria Nowotarska** graduated from the Academy for the Dramatic Arts in Krakow, Poland. She has worked with many renowned theatrical directors and appeared in a number of films and TV productions. She emigrated to Toronto, Canada in 1990 and co-founded "The Salon of Poetry, Music and Theatre." In collaboration with Kazimierz Braun and her daughter, Agata Pilitowska, they have presented many original plays about celebrated Polish women, including actress Helena Modrzejewska, scientist Maria Sklodowska Curie, and singer Pola Negri.

She has received numerous awards for her contributions to the Polish arts: the Medal of Polish Senate, Cross of Merit by the President of the Republic of Poland, Gloria Artis medal, Distinguished Advocate of Polish Culture title by the Polish Minister of Culture and National Heritage, and the Gold Medal from the American Institute of Polish Culture, Miami, in 2011, and in October 2017 she accepted an award in Poland for her 60 years as a professional actor. In 2013, Ms. Nowotarska and Ms. Pilitowska performed the play, *Radiation* about Marie Curie and in 2016, they presented *Bonsoir Monsieur Chopin* as part of the Blanka Rosenstiel Lecture Series on Poland at FIU.



**Agata Pilitowska**, a graduate of the Krakow School of Drama, has portrayed many famous and accomplished Polish women in over 100 stage productions throughout North America, South America and Europe. Her successful collaboration with her mother, Maria Nowotarska and Kazimierz Braun in "The Salon of Poetry, Music and Theatre" in Toronto, Canada has earned her widespread acclaim and recognition. Her artistic achievements have been honored with the title of Merit for Polish Culture

conferred by the Polish Government, and in 2006 she received the prestigious medal Gloria Artis from the Minister of Culture and the National Heritage of Poland.