



March 2008  
Volume 1, Issue 3

# Mission Minded Artist News

## Gospel Joy Evangelizes Poland

Allan Wiltshire, II

The impact of Gospel Joy is growing in Poland. This is a group of musicians that really love Gospel music for the energy and range of diversity that it represents. For the past 5 years, Andrew Gorski and his team have been conducting 2 day workshops in 7 cities across Poland with the help of American and European Gospel Artists.



The workshop attendees range in age from 17 to 40. On average, a workshop draws about 100 people to learn 10 songs in English and Polish before concluding the workshop with a finale concert that is usually held in a Catholic church and open to the public.

During the workshop, the guest instructors have the chance to, teach vocal parts, coach and give their interpretation of the song lyrics to the workshop attendees. In many cases, the attendees are hearing about concepts like: Grace, Salvation, Consecration and Life Style worship (Ro.12:1) for the very first time. The impact, as one would imagine is life changing. This life change is being brought about by God, of course, yet the vehicle for the change is art.

**Spiritual Fruit of Workshops**  
Marta Flocak, is a 21 year old jazz vocalist that attended one of these

workshops put on by Gospel Joy. After the experience of the workshop, this young Catholic diva began to engage in conversations with the guest instructor and members of the Gospel Joy workshop staff about spiritual things. While it did not happen instantly or as the result of one conversation, Marta received the grace of God through Jesus Christ and now

weekly attends a bible study called "Word Zone" that is conducted by the staff and members of the Gospel Joy choir.

Marta recently sang at Perimeter Church in February and brought the house down with her Jazz vocal style. *"I fumbled along on the piano."*

### Increasing the fruit

Marta is now a believer and like many of us, she is learning how to live by faith by studying God's word and being in a community of believers. Gospel Joy has planted 2 Word Zone bible studies with the attendees of workshops that have come to faith in Christ. Their focus to evangelize Poland is so clear and their resolve so strong, that they have recently appointed a person to take on the role of Word Zone Planter. This person's sole responsibility is to gather the new believers from the workshops and coordinate the birthing and health of new Word Zone bible studies in each of the cities where workshops occur.

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### 1000 Voice Choir

The popularity of the workshops is growing in Poland. The city of Posnan was the site of the first workshop and in December 2007 the site of the 5th consecutive workshop for that city. **The workshop attendees totaled 1,022** and joined their collective voices during the finale concert as the single largest choir to perform in the country of Poland in the past 50 years, if ever. The remarkable thing to note is that the number of believers in the choir totaled only 50. During the 2 day workshop and concert, 950 music enthusiasts from Poland were exposed to the Gospel and for many it was the first exposure. Through the model of the Gospel Joy workshops, the seeds of the Gospel are being planted in the lives of people thousands of miles away from the origins of the Gospel genre (the United States).



### New Workshop Instructors

During the month of March, Andrew Gorski, the president of Gospel Joy, visited several churches in Atlanta to recruit instructors for the upcoming 2008-9 season of Gospel Joy Workshops. We are grateful to God for opening doors and relationships to such churches as New Birth South, Destiny Metropolitan and of course Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church. It is our hope and prayer that God will lead some of the gifted Gospel Artists that we met to participate in the workshops.

This is only one example of the intentional use of Art to expand the kingdom of God. If you would like to try your hand at reading Polish, you can visit their website [www.gospeljoy.pl](http://www.gospeljoy.pl).

## MMA Interview on WATC 57

### Babbie's House

On March 13<sup>th</sup> we were granted the favor of God in the opening of interview schedules with Babbie Mason on WATC channel 57 in Atlanta. Babbie is a veteran of the Contemporary Gospel Recording Industry and well known song writer. As I entered her studio before the tapping of the show, Babbie asked if

I were related to her friend and fellow song writer, Avonnie Wiltshire. She noticed the family resemblance with my sister and a deep rapport ensued. It was from this place of familiarity that we began to share and catch

up with each other since the early days of first few meetings at local Atlanta churches.

Babbie has been touring nationally and internationally for many years and full well knows of the wide spread appeal of Gospel music in Europe. As a host and interviewer, there could have been none better to help promote the ministry of Gospel Joy and to give an appeal to American Gospel Artists to "go".

### Babbie in Poland?

During the break, Babbie accepted my personal invitation to serve in Poland during the 2009 season. I was over joyed at her acceptance and passion to serve. Babbie asked me to return as a guest to Babbie's House at a later date to talk more about the MMA ministry. The show will be aired at the end of March and then three more times on affiliate stations across the US starting in April of this year. As air date information becomes available,

it will be communicated to you by email, newsletter and website.

## Global Spotlight Conference

### New Ministry Opportunities

During the month of February, I was afforded the opportunity to attend the annual missions conference at my home church [www.perimeter.org](http://www.perimeter.org). With representatives from the countries that we serve in attendance, a presentation was given about MMA and how partnering could have an impact on the different ministries at work around the world. The key point was that Art has a transformational role.

From that conference, We have received 6 different invitations to assess the opportunities on the ground for arts ministry and possible future "MMA" Journeys (that is how we are branding our trips). Art is currently being used intentionally with some of our partners and the results are truly inspiring.



### GOA INDIA

On an annual basis, members of New Life Christian Fellowship participate in a "battle of the bands" event near a beach community.

Several bands from across the region compete in a variety of styles from Pop to Rock and everything in between. The environment also allows for Christian bands to play and share their testimonies. When they are not on stage, a group of believers works their way through the crowd passing out tracks and praying for people that are watching the event.

**Evangelism Team – Tanzania**

As a part of the training for pastors, the ETeam has formed a band to lead in worship. The ministry of the ETeam has spread beyond the pastors conferences to include other churches and community events as a stand alone ministry. The ETeam sings, plays instruments and presents the Gospel to audiences of various sizes. The group is mobile and travels to remote places that normally would not be able to hear a large Christian group.

**CAIRO EGYPT**

A movement has begun among Christian Artists in this country to build a network of diverse groups. A full range of artistic expressions are represented within this



network. Large and small events are organized that bring awareness and encouragement to the many that have the same vision “Redeeming the Arts for Christ”. Emil and his team are focused on establishing artistic centers in their region that will aid in carrying out this vision.

This is only a small sample of the work being done all over the world in the name of the Lord. You will be hearing more about these ministries and others in later newsletters.

**WEB SITE**

[www.missionmindedartist.com](http://www.missionmindedartist.com)

We now have a website. Thanks to some dedicated and talented friends, we have a tool that provides information about the ministry and updates. From the site you can view short videos that describe our ministry and give a clear picture of our mission.

Also, from the website you can see links of our International Arts Partners (IAP’s). Not all of these

sites are in English, yet they will give you an idea of the scope of ministry.

**New Technology**

In the next few weeks, the MMA Portal will be launched and accessible from our website. The MMA Portal is way to view our partners in depth, register for trips and access other information about our ministry and the reach of Art around the world.

**Prayer Emails**

Many of you have asked how you can prayer of us and what our needs are. The best way to get this

information out to you is to use a periodic prayer email (*two times a month*). Within the next week you will be getting such an email from me or from my dear wife (Sherry) that will tell you about our personal journey and how you

can pray for us.

It doesn’t stop there, we also want to know how we can pray for you and what you are facing in your journey of faith. Please let us know how you are and how we can be of support to you - our supporters.

**Perimeter Choir Community**

On March 9, we sang in celebration of a new CD by Laura Story. Our community stands in support of the great work that God is doing in the many artists at our church. We love you sis’. Hear her at [www.laurastorymusic.com](http://www.laurastorymusic.com).

Thank you all for your support and love. I will be in touch with you very soon.

**AW2**  
A Mission Minded Artist

**Events Calendar**

**November 11, 2007**  
Norcross First Baptist Church

**November 14, 2007**  
Interfaith PR Prayer Breakfast

**November 18, 2007**  
MTW Conference

**November 21, 2007**  
Due West UMC

**December 7, 2007**  
Urban Young Life Breakfast

**December 17, 2007**  
Hopewell Choir Officer Presentation

**December 24, 2007**  
Due West UMC

**January 18, 2008**  
Atlanta Youth Academy

**February 1, 2008**  
Maxwell AFB, AL

**February 9-13, 2008**  
GO Spotlight Conference

**February 16-17, 2008**  
Hopewell-Perimeter Combined Choir

**March 6, 2008**  
Atlanta Chinese Christian Choir

**March 9, 2008**  
The Bridge, Duluth, GA

**March 7-12, 2008**  
Andrew Gorski Interyary In Atlanta

**March 13, 2008**  
Babbie’s House WATC

**March 21, 2008**  
The Bridge, Duluth, GA