

## Bartłomiej Obrochta

Called Bartuś, he was born on August 15, 1850 in Zakopane and he died there on May 1, 1926. He was buried in the New Cemetery in Zakopane. He is known as an excellent violinist and guide of the Tatra Mountains.

Bartuś Obrochta learned violin from an early age. One of his teachers was the famous Jan Krzeptowski Sabała. As an artist, he aroused interest, among others, Ignacy Paderewski and Karol Szymanowski, for whom Obrochta's music was an inspiration when composing the ballet *Harnasie*. Henryk Sienkiewicz, Stanisław Witkiewicz and Bolesław Prus also listened with interest.

Obrochta arranged melodies for the violin and for the whole band. He was also the creator of music, and also a highlander band, which included his sons, and then also his grandson. In 1897, he left for the first time with his music to Warsaw, where he played during the exhibition of the Tatra Mountains.

Bartuś Obrochta was also one of the first Tatra guides. In January 1894, accompanying Jan Grzegorzewski, he made the first winter crossing through Zawrat to Morskie Oko. He was also a companion of the expeditions of Sabała, Bolesław Prus, and Henryk Sienkiewicz, and also participated in the tours of Tytus Chałubiński. Apparently, it was during one of them that the robber dance system was established. Obrochta died with a violin in his hands on Droga pod Regłami.

In the Tatras, he was commemorated with two names. They are Bartkowa Turnia and Bartkowa Przełęczka. Since 1965, there is a regional group in Zakopane called, Bartusia Obrochty.

Prepared by Agnieszka Jurczyńska-Kłosok based on:

W. Grzybek, *Obrochta Bartłomiej (Bartuś)*: Polish Biographical Dictionary, edited by E. Rostworowski, vol. XXIII / 1, 98, Wrocław - Warsaw - Kraków - Gdańsk 1978, pp. 463-464.

L. Długolecka, M. Pinkwart, *Zakopane. Historical Guide*, Warsaw 1994, pp. 215-217.

Z. Radwańska-Paryska, W. H. Paryski, *Great Tatra Encyclopedia*, Poronin 2004, p. 832.

Fragments of compositions can be listened to in the bench:

Sabałowa,

Ozwodna. Hey mountains, my mountains

Small for size

The recordings of Juliusz Zborowski recorded on Edison's record rolls in the years 1913 - 1914 in Nowy Targ. Included on the album "The Phonograph began Collecting the Tatra Tunes", Publisher of the Tatra Museum Dr. Tytus Chałubiński in Zakopane and the Art Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw

The text is read by Andrzej Bienias - Actor of the St. I. Witkiewicz Theatre

Recording: Natalia Sosna

Recordings from the collections of the Tatra Museum Dr. Tytus Chałubiński

Bench project: sculptor Marek Szala

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