Christmas in Poland

The Chorus and Orchestra of the “Slask” Ballet / Feliks Raczkowski at the Oliwa Organ
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There are many Christmas carols for vocal soloists with organ accompaniment, while others are in purely instrumental arrangements. Some of the most beautiful are for solo organ, an instrument eminently suited to carol music.

The rich variety of Polish carols attracted such eminent composers as Feliks Nowowiejski, Stanisław Niewiadomski, Jan Młakiewicz, and many others who arranged carols for all male and mixed choirs, both a cappella and with instrumental accompaniment.

Notes by Bogusław Breli

A Note on the Cover: Manger Scene from the Stvos Altar

The high altar of the Church of Our Lady (Mariacki) in Cracow is the work of Vit Stvos (1445-1533). The 466 statues, bas-reliefs, and other parts of the altar — all carved in wood were dismantled and carried away to Nuremberg in 1539 by the German invaders. The parts were subsequently brought back and the altar restored in 1946.

This recording will never be obsolete. You may play it on all 33 1/3, long-playing phonographs and high fidelity systems, regular or stereo.