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**THE QUESTION OF CHOPIN'S DATE OF BIRTH
ON MONUMENTS AND COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUES
FROM THE YEARS 1850–1910**

This article represents a contribution to the discussion over Fryderyk Chopin's date of birth, which has been on-going for more than a century and a half, and also to research into his commemoration in Poland and beyond. It presents the titular question of the date inscribed on monuments and plaques over the period between the second half of the nineteenth and the early years of the twentieth century. The problem was recognised with the realisation of several inscriptions: on the gravestone at Père Lachaise cemetery in Paris, the epitaph plaque in the Holy Cross church in Warsaw, the monuments in Cracow and Żelazowa Wola, and the plaque on the house at 12 Place Vendôme in Paris. The problem was essentially caused by the different dates of birth for Chopin written by the composer himself, by his biographers, and on his birth certificate. The above-mentioned inscriptions bore different years and days: 1800, 1 and 2 March 1809, 22 and 28 February and 1 March 1810, and even 28 February 1814, which must have affected the realisation of the monuments and plaques and their social reception.