

ANNUAL COPERNICUS LECTURE

FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2007 • 7:30 PM • RACKHAM AMPHITHEATRE

KRZYSZTOF CZYŻEWSKI is a social activist, poet, essayist, publisher, and founder of the Borderlands Foundation of Arts, Cultures, and Nations in Sejny, a small town near the Polish border with Lithuania. The foundation fosters and coordinates projects related to the multicultural regions of Central and Eastern Europe. Working to memorialize, rebuild, and sustain the rich cultural diversity that was nearly destroyed by the two world wars, it crosses boundaries between social activism, theater, museum work, and education. In 2000 the Borderlands Foundation published *Neighbors*, the controversial book by Jan T. Gross that initiated Poland's most important public debate on Polish-Jewish relations during the Holocaust.

The recipient of numerous awards and honors, Czyżewski has traveled extensively in recent years promoting his distinctive and effective techniques of bridging cultural divides and cultivating harmony in heterogeneous communities.

Sponsors: Copernicus Endowment; CREES; College of Literature, Science and the Arts Citizenship Theme Year; and the MFA Program in Creative Writing

