**THE LENTZ VILLA’S MISSION AND SCOPE OF ACTIVITY**

The Lentz Villa began its operations in June 2021 as Szczecin’s youngest local government-run institution of culture. Its unique seat is the finest villa of the former Westend district, built in 1888–1889 for August Lentz, director and co-owner of Stettiner Chamottefabrik A.G. (Szczecin Factory of Fireclay Products). The former Lentz family residence is one of the most precious monuments of 19th-century architecture in Szczecin. Its splendid interiors, dating back to the age of the city’s greatest prosperity, attract the curiosity and admiration of Szczecin’s present-day inhabitants. The project of restoring them to their former splendour was launched in 2018, when the residence was renovated with great care for the minutest details. The restored villa continues to enchant all visitors.

The Lentz Villa’s mission is to promote beauty and close contact with art; to present products of the city’s unique spiritual, intellectual, and material culture; to inspire reflection on the past and cultural heritage, as well as artistic exploration, cooperation, and creative approach to the future. The Villa is a custodian of memory about the past, a living, modern centre of culture, and a platform for cooperation. As an interdisciplinary hub, it brings together various disciplines of art and provides space for the presentation of works by eminent artists, for artistic experimentation, and exchange of ideas.

All this serves to create a prestigious and recognisable venue, in which time flows more slowly, offering a chance to meet and contemplate art. The celebration and promotion of beauty results in a fascinating synergy of interiors and human emotions. Szczecin’s inhabitants as well as numerous visitors from outside the city can well sense the character of this unique space, housing the city’s new artistic salon.