

XX- XXI CENTURY JOBS- BRIDGE THE GAP

**An interview with a pilot,
Jakub Jablecki,
a Pole born in Krosno,
now living in Norway
Erasmus+ Project,
The Second High School
in Krosno, Poland**

Anna Drobek

My guest is a Pilot - First Officer with Norwegian Air Shuttle – Jakub Jablecki. I have some questions regarding your job and life.

1. Did you always want to become a pilot, or did someone else awake the passion of aviation in you?

Aviation has always been an inherent part of me. When I was 4 years old, I flew for the first time in my life from Warsaw to Oslo. On that particular flight, I was invited to visit the cockpit and see all the buttons and lights. Apparently, this started my passion. Moreover, my uncle in Poland had a small private aircraft for a short period, but he did also feed me with aviation magazines. All these things inspired my passion for aviation.



2. A pilot's job might seem to be easy, let's talk about how it was to get to this goal? How much did you have to sacrifice?

Before I could apply for the flight school (Luftfartsskole) I had to complete the military service in Norway. The flight training took 3.5 years and was divided into two parts; the theoretical part in Norway, while most of the flying part (practical) took place in USA. The training was intensive and required discipline, hard work, motivation and sacrifice. Often you had to choose between friends and studying.

3. How do you recall the time in the military? Was it horrible, or did it teach you something?

Life in the military taught me some very useful skills. I learned that

military training and service are the best ways to get them quickly and establish them as a habit. This is because you are thrown into a completely foreign environment.

You need to adapt to survive:

- Personal Discipline. Life in the military will instill high standards in all personal departments. This may be from hygiene to uniform, from physical training to the office work that you do.
- Teamwork. One of most primitive, integral aspects ingrained from the time you join the military to the time you're separated is the requirement that you are able to function as a part of a cohesive team.
- Tenacity. Whether it's running up hills with bags of sand or keeping yourself awake during an ice cold night watch you learn to push through mental and physical barriers.
- Firing Weapons

The mind and body are capable of a great deal more than we realize. It's just that most people never push themselves hard enough to discover their full potential

4. Which airline do you work for? How many places have you seen?

I work for Norwegian Air Shuttle which is third largest low-cost carrier in Europe, with the fleet of 102 aircraft (94 Boeing 737's and 8 Boeing 787's Dreamliner).

Europe, Middle East, North Africa, Svalbard (most Northerly destination in the world that an airline operates to).



At my office – Boeing 737

5. **Can you describe your work in one word?** Responsible.
6. **How is it`...each flight is exposed to a great amount of pressure because you are responsible for the aircraft. Passenger safety depends on you. Are you despite that, able to perform your tasks while still enjoying flying with passion?**

Normally, we are fully aware of the fact that there are many passengers behind us, in the aircraft. However, we cannot focus too much on that because this will draw our attention away from the task we are performing. Yes, we are able to enjoy the flying even though there is a great amount of pressure.



Planning, preparing and setting up the approach in to Nice, France

7. What was the toughest challenge, or unforeseen situation you have ever faced?

So far, I have been lucky and not had any emergencies. However, on several occasions we were close to make an emergency diversion, due to passenger's medical problems.

8. Are there any female pilots? If yes, what are they like? What do you think about them?

We do have some female pilots in Norwegian Air Shuttle. Some days ago, I flew with one female Captain for the first time in 8 months.

Female pilots are professional and adept, like every other pilot in the company.

9. You have to be an ambitious person because everyone can say, "I want to become a pilot", but few actually pursue that dream. However, you have actually made it. I have heard that you study a lot...

It's true, I have been dreaming of becoming a pilot, like many other young guys. In order to succeed, I had to work hard, sacrifice and maintain high level of discipline. Throughout my education, I set myself achievable goals, in order to stay motivated. I am a short-term realist, but long-term optimist, This keeps me running.

As pilots in Norwegian Air Shuttle, we have to stay proficient in all of the aspects of the job, and that includes simulator training every six months that First Officers and Captains go through. It's a constant learning environment, which requires constant dedication. You don't just get this job and it's like, "Okay, I got it. I've made it." It's constant learning, you're always trying to increase your knowledge.

10. Do you think your job is prestigious? It's after all highly valued and necessary in the world.

Being an airline pilot for Norwegian might be a little prestigious, because we are responsible for transporting passengers from one place to another, safely, quickly and efficiently.



During a preflight inspection – under the belly of the Boeing 737

11. Many people are afraid of flying. Is an airplane a safer form of transportation than a car, or maybe it's not after all?

No other form of transportation is as scrutinized, investigated and monitored as commercial aviation. The structural and mechanical parts of planes have become more reliable while navigation systems have become more sophisticated, thus mitigating the chance of collisions due to poor visibility. A person could fly every day for an average of 123,000 years before dying in a plane crash. . Whenever we fly, we have a one one-hundred-thousandth of one percent (.000014%) chance of dying.

Car travel is the most treacherous. About 1.24 million people die on roads worldwide every year.

12. How is it soaring in the skies? How do you perceive the world with that perspective?

The flying and soaring in the skies is great. We always get to see the sun, no matter what kind of weather there is on the ground. In addition, the sunrise or sunset at 41,000 feet (12,497 meters) can create a beautiful scenery.



Cruising at 39,000 feet over the Alps (Austria)

13. You are guiding light. Do you have any advice for young people that do not know how to achieve their goals? What should they do to become successful like you?

First, get good grades and stay out of trouble. Second, here is some advice that helped me achieve my goals:

- Define success for yourself.
- Learn from those who have already achieved “your” goals.
- Set achievable personal, academic, and career goals.
- Keep your expectations high.
- Understand your abilities and disabilities.
- Develop strategies to meet your goals.
- Use technology as an empowering tool.
- Work hard. Persevere. Be flexible.
- Develop a support network. Look to family, friends, and teachers.



Landing in Oslo

Thank you very much for the interview. I wish you promotion and persistence in achieving your goals.

Anna Drobek

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**An interview with
Alan Bochnak,
an actor born in Krosno
Erasmus+ Project,
The Second High School
in Krosno, Poland**

Gabriela Urba

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Więcej etykiet

Gabriela

Brak czatów w ostatnim czasie

Rozpocznij nowy

Gabriela Urba

What could you tell me about your childhood memories? How did you spend that time in Krosno?

9.01

Alan Bochnak

do mnie

10.01

I can not answer the question definitely. We never know when we stop being kids. I love and admire Krosno. At present, most of the year I spend beyond it, so that is why it has become the town of sentiments to me, also the ones of my childhood. There are some places I always visit while walking around the city. Most of them have changed since I was playing as a boy, eg. the neighbourhood of the old ironworks, where I was running with my friends. We had fake pistols and were „blowing up” passing trains on the railroad tracks... Now, I can just sit on the slope, drink a beer and it is everything... Trains, probably all of them, we „blew up” in the air as kids.

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Gabriela Urba

Who did you want to be in the future as a child? An actor, a musician or maybe a firefighter?

9.01

Alan Bochnak

do mnie

10.01

Although I had been living next door to the fire brigade and I had been following outgoing fire trucks curiously, I had never been interested in it too much. I knew what I wanted pretty soon. I do not know when it happened exactly... As a seven-year-old boy I started to learn in music school and then, I have already known that I would like to be on stage. I did not know exactly as who. Over the years, I have known that I love music, but I would not be a musician. Thinking about theatrical art has come itself.

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Rozpocznij nowy

Gabriela Urba

It happens very often that young people do something (eg. play the piano), because their parents want it, they are not sure what they would like to do with their own life, have some moments of doubt. Did the passion for music or theatre appear in you after some time?

9.01

Alan Bochnak

do mnie

10.01

It showed to me without reflection. I have never been made to go for a lesson in music school. I have seen a lot of cases like this and, believe me, it never beared good results. The most important thing there is a PASSION! I am annoyed of my mates who chose courses of study which their parents want, to get a „reasonable” profession. I do not want to meet the doctor who is him because of imposed obligation. I find it difficult to understand the fact that someone, who is in the final class, does not know what studies to choose, but there is just my own prospect of seeing the world. Rationality and passion do not always „go hand in hand”.

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Rozpocznij nowy

Gabriela Urba

You've been touring in Poland and in the foreign countries (eg. England, France, Italy) as a teenager. It is certain you took part in a lot of samples preparing to performings. Were you sometimes angry that you had to practise new songs while your peers were playing football?

9.01

Alan Bochnak

do mnie

10.01

I did not have thoughts like these, because I knew the kids in the same situation like mine. It has made frindships, which have lasted until today. In music schools or dance groups (etc.) some special relations, emotional bonds are made. We often become a family for each other, because we sometimes spend more time together than at home. I had never liked playing football, but I was sad, when my mates were going out with girls. I made up for it with a vengeance.

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Rozpocznij nowy

Gabriela Urba

Is actor profession a prestige in your opinion? Do you feel that you are treated otherwise by entourage in your home location because you are an actor?

9.01

Alan Bochnak

do mnie

10.01

I do and I do not. On the one hand, work as work. It often happens that we, actors, hide our profession in random meetings, eg. talking while travelling, on the train, because then, people always ask us a lot of questions about our job. Usually, the set of questions is to predict. It arouses interest, much more than if I say I make the other profession. It is nice and everyone likes it for sure. Each of us has something of narcissus.

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Rozpocznij nowy

Gabriela Urba

How would you explain the fact that people still visit theatres willingly in spite of media development, mass culture and the other parts of modern life?

9.01

Alan Bochnak

do mnie

10.01

Because the theatre is meeting with people live. I am happy that they still need it. It is a great pleasure to me to get emotions from the viewer, to see secretly during the performance the woman in the fifth the row who wipes away a tear of emotion and a sitting man that is full of happiness. However, I do something to cause these emotions. The mutual exchange like that is only in the theatre and that is its strength.

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Gabriela Urba

Are you going to go beyond „the theatre boards”? I mean working in TV, film productions.

9.01

Alan Bochnak

do mnie

10.01

It is not excluded. I do not say „no”, although, while „running” for money, there is just madness to get a theatrical way as that main, however it is my ideal. Theatre absorbs my life and my time so much that I find it difficult to let myself this „outgoing”. It might take place in the future...

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Gabriela Urba

How do you remember your episodic role on the set of one of the series in which you performed? Has it been a break through in your life?

9.01

Alan Bochnak

do mnie

10.01

It was a „change” in the pocket for the student of theatrical art school, for me, because I had not enough money for „pie and bread for a day and wine for the afternoon”. Quick, easy and enjoyable job (at least as episodic dimension). It was a nice experience to see what it looks like, but it was not a crucial moment in my artistic evolution. Then, I understood how „strong” it is. It was enough to see myself on TV for a moment and then everybody knew and asked about it. I played a few roles in theatrical productions, on a lot of festivals, won some prizes, had own music performances, but noone was interested in it then...

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Rozpocznij nowy

1 2 3

Gabriela Urba

What do you think of commercial film productions? Do actors who show on them do it only for money or combine their passion with making a living?

9 01

Alan Bochnak

do mnie

10 01

There are some good productions and there are not. It is important not to get too low. That is not anything bad. Everyone would like to build a house, buy a car, support the family... Here, I use the story, which shows the best point of view of playing in commercial productions. Not long after Andrzej Grabowski, who is a very popular actor in Poland, had got the main role in a very popular Polish series, he met his mate, who was an actor too, in the street and they had a conversation like this: „I saw the series you play in. It is not even good. I would refuse it.” – „Have you ever got a proposition about it?” – „No, I have not.” – „So, if you get it, you can refuse it...”

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Rozpocznij nowy

1 2 3

Gabriela Urba

How did you get the idea of your conception of uniting music and theatrical art?

9 01

Alan Bochnak

do mnie

10 01

The cause of it was simple: I started from music school. It gave me a base I could still build for myself on. At present, it is my trump, that I have not got any problems with choreographies in theatrical performances, that I sing, that I am efficient and elastic in this area.

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Gabriela Urba

What does getting ready for the theatrical performance look like?

9.01

Alan Bochnak

do mnie

10.01

Theatrical performing is a result of common work of an actor with a stage-manager, a stage designer, a playwright etc. It often happens that the changes in the performance come from actors, because they „feel” so. It is better, because the role is more „theirs”. Everything is dependent on the concept of the director, if his view is the only right one or he takes the suggestions of the actor into account. Before the premiere of the performance, there are some series of regular rehearsals in a lot of weeks ...

Brak czatów w ostatnim czasie

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Gabriela

Gabriela Urba

What is your advice for the people who start their own adventure with theatrical art?

9.01

Alan Bochnak

do mnie

10.01

When I was standing in an entrance exam line to The Theatrical Academy in Warsaw, a student came and told me: „Remember, my brother! Courage and humility!”. They are probably very important features, if not the most important ones, you have to balance them together. I would get to that something I always mention, I mean: persistence! There is a way to a lot of renunciations, you have to get some patience on. There are some obstacles. Only the brave, humble and stubborn people get their aims.

Brak czatów w ostatnim czasie

Rozpocznij nowy