



Welcome to The First International Warsaw Cello Competition

The competition that seemed to remain in the realm of dreams has become a reality.

I wish to express my gratitude to the Jurors for accepting our invitation. We can feel honoured that prominent artists and professors - whose musical creations have become almost legendary, who shape cello art of today and will influence its future paths - often replanning their prior arrangements, have come to Warsaw to listen to and judge young cellists on the verge of their artistic careers.

I wish all the Participants who took the risk of confronting the results of their labour, that despite the unfavorable tension of a competition, they will reach a degree of concentration which will enable them to perform at their best.

The programme of the Competition includes works that constitute the canon of a cellists repertoire. It is fascinating to listen to those holy tunes of universal value performed "lege artis" i.e. respecting the composers intensions and regarding the rules of artistic craftsmanship, yet reread through the prism of one's individual sensivity, knowledge, intuition and taste.

We are looking forward to hearing often the same compositions, but in various interpretations. Performances bearing an individual touch will be the most valuable, and I hope, will facilitate their authors the start of a concert career.

Warsaw, February 1997