



After over two years of existence the FOUNDATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF YOUNG CELLISTS is constantly seeking for ways of how best to support young cellists. We have started with a comparatively simple task of the organization of a Competition. From this second edition on, the Competition acquired the name of Witold Lutosławski. Thanks to the Competition the FOUNDATION is known in many countries around the World, having a promotor and sponsor in the person of Maestro Mstislav Rostropovich.

We have invited to the Jury of the II. Competition eminent artists and professors of unquestionable authority from six countries. In all confidence we entrust them with the task of selecting just four Laureates and we will fully accept their choice. Those candidates who, during the presentation of their competition programs consisting of works that constitute the canon of cello music, will present the most faithful to the composer's intentions and convincing individual interpretation, will be selected the Laureates. They are in the view of their older colleagues – the Jurors, prepared to begin their professional careers. Results of the Competition should create opportunities for those young artists to bring their art to concert halls and wider audiences. The Laureates have a right to expect that, and we hope that such will be the most valuable result of the Competition.

We present ourselves, the FOUNDATION, as the sole organizer of the Competition. That means only that we take full responsibility for conducting the event. We have created the Competition with the support of numerous institutions – the list of contributors can be found in this booklet. However, the FOUNDATION and Sponsors are merely formal organizers, and the Competition was only possible thanks to individual people behind the official names. We would like to express our very warm thanks to those people who have supported us and engaged personally in bringing the Cello Competition to reality.

Warsaw, February 1999