



*Dear Competitors,  
Welcome in Warsaw!*

*I guess most of you have come to Warsaw to win our Competition. There is nothing wrong with such attitude assuming that you give the right to win to every other Competitor. Gets hard, don't you feel?*

*I imagine you are looking forward to the possibility of playing in front of the Jury and the audiences and yet fear that you may not be perfectly disposed to present your abilities. It may turn that your playing won't be appreciated. Nevertheless you have decided to take the risk of non-winning. And that is your victory. My congratulations to every one of you for this!*

*Certainly to some degree you are anxious about the Jury's notes. You may well think the Jury is there to pinpoint your mistakes, slips, weak moments and will classify your performances 'better' or 'worse'. But the Jury shares similar concerns that it will not be able to objectively evaluate your art. This is an impossible task indeed. Please, be aware that the Jury will not evaluate or take into account your prior artistic achievements however important they were, but will judge only on the basis of the competition performances.*

*We have created this Competition to support you in the search for an individual musical path and to help you build artistic careers. We have invited eminent artists to join the Jury to help you in the search of these goals. As a tool the Jury has a set of Rules they will have to follow. The Jurors must choose those who will play in the second round and name only four finalists. These rules are clear and you have agreed to accept them. This is a tough thing for both you and the Jurors.*

*This year among the Jurors for the first time in the history of this Competition there are two Laureates that have been on your side fourteen years ago. They remember well what it means to be 'auditioned'. You may be assured they understand your problems, stress and stage fright but they cannot abstain from choosing those of you who will continue into the subsequent stages. You could imagine how hard it is to take the responsibility for the verdict they have to deliver. It may happen that you will take their place in the future.*

*And finally, please have in mind that the result of this Competition will not guarantee success nor will it cancel chances for success in the future. We will meet most of you for the first time and I wish to believe the Lutostawski Cello Competition will support future meetings on world's concert stages with you performing and us among the listeners.*

*Bogdan Patosz  
Competition Director*

Warsaw, February 2011