



*Dear Contestants, Jury,
and Distinguished Guests,*

It is the eighth time that we meet in Warsaw for the Lutoslawski's International Cello Competition. For its young participants from different parts of the world let it be an opportunity to present themselves to the listeners, their jurors, and teachers. Let the friendly confrontation of their art of playing with the audience be an opportunity to forge international ties with their peer cellists and acclaimed teachers.

I wish the listeners of the competition rehearsals an artistic fulfillment and great moments of discovering new, exciting talents, and thrills in having contact with cello masterpieces, particularly with those of the competition spiritual patron - the great Polish composer of the XX century, Witold Lutoslawski.

Being grateful the organizers for their efforts, I wish them to fulfill their goals and hopes that they placed in this event.

On my part, I will do everything in my power to have the work of the jury to contribute to this goal. A judgment in the area of arts is never as unambiguous as in sports, where the winner is the one who accomplishes the „fastest, farthest, highest”. With out joint efforts we will do our best to make the final verdict the most objective one. I myself, as a music director, honored with the function of the chairman of the jury, which is composed of renowned artists and outstanding cellists, want to assure you that in our judgement we will be totally impartial and will be guided by our artistic taste and knowledge, and experience acquired in our artistic and teaching activities. It will be our absolute conviction that the most important in our Warsaw meeting is the Music. Good luck to all of you, the Contestants!

Mirosław Jacek Błaszczuk

Warsaw, February 2011