



Ladies and Gentlemen!

We meet for the tenth time here, in Warsaw, to listen to young cellists from around the world at a Competition, patronized by Witold Lutoslawski. One of the most prominent Polish Composers from the second half of the XX Century, Witold Lutoslawski is the author of many important cello pieces which have become part of the concert repertoire canon, alongside the greatest of all classical pieces. Written for Mstislav Rostropovich, Concerto for cello and orchestra puts the highest of demands on musicians. Meetings between these two Masters in concert halls and recording studios resulted in many outstanding creations of this work, which can serve as a point of reference and also a great source of inspiration for young artists. Not only were famous artists invited to perform alongside Witold Lutoslawski but also young cellists, who, under his baton were starting their adventure with contemporary music and this had great impact on their future development.

This Warsaw Competition already has a strong record and great merit in exploring artistic individuality; for several years it has added more names to the list of participants and the winners' names to the list of outstanding cellists. The winners of the first edition of the Competition are not only successfully developing their own artistic careers, but are also educating the next generation of young musicians by teaching at music schools.

We hope that the 10th Witold Lutoslawski International Competition will provide us with many artistic sensations and give all the participants great joy and satisfaction.

Elżbieta Markowska

Vice-President of the Witold Lutoslawski Society