

AKADEMIA MUZYCZNA W KRAKOWIE

Krakow, 15th December 2009

Dear Colleagues,

It is our honour and pleasure to inform you that, as agreed with Prof. Eero Tarasti, the President of the International Association for Semiotic Studies (IASS), the forthcoming 11th International Congress on Musical Signification (ICMS) will take place in **Kraków**, Poland, between 26th September and 1st October, 2010.

The **Academy of Music** in Kraków is the organizer of the Congress under the auspices of IASS, with the University of Helsinki and the International Semiotics Institute (ISI) as co-organizers and Prof. Eero Tarasti (University of Helsinki) and Prof. Stanisław Krawczyński (Rector of the Academy of Music in Kraków) as Directors.

We have invited to the Scientific Committee of the Congress the following eminent scholars: Michał Bristiger, Ludwik Bielawski, Ruben Lopez Cano, Constantin Floros, Marta Grabocz, Robert Hatten, Stanisław Krawczyński, Teresa Malecka, Dario Martinelli, Costin Miereanu, Raymond Monelle, John Rink, Rūta Stanevičiūte-Goštautienë, Gino Stefani, Ivanka Stoyanova, Eero Tarasti, Mieczysław Tomaszewski and Agostino Zino.

The 11th Congress will have for its theme **Music: Function and Value**. We hope that this will allow us to see musical semiotics from yet another angle. It seems that, in the present state of world culture, dominated as it is by mass and popular cultures and subcultures, by media and postmodern trends, a discussion and a definition of the function and the value of a work of music become particularly relevant.

At the same time, the proposed general theme of the Congress is versatile enough to realize a broad spectrum of topics and to view the entirety of the question from a multitude of perspectives.

Those of particular interest could include:

- Music in an axiological perspective
- Culture and popculture
- The work of music as a carrier of value, content and meaning
- The work's character and genre versus its function in musical life and in culture
- The issue of limits in art: norm and transgression
- The semiotics of the masterpiece and of kitsch
- The avant-garde and the relevance of the work's function, meaning, content and value
- The mode of existence, the repertoire and the hierarchy of values
- The relevance of truth and beauty in contemporary art
- The sacred and the profane values and functions
- The syndromes of the work's quality and their aesthetic significance
- The axiological aspect of tonal systems
- The musical work's values in male versus female perspectives
- Novelty versus value in the work of music
- Intertextual and intersemiotic relationships; their axiological aspect.

The year 2010 is celebrated worldwide as **the Year of Chopin** for the 200th anniversary of his birth. This is why any reference to his work – especially in terms of its function and value in history and culture – would be especially worthwhile.

The Congress will be accompanied by a variety of events: concerts (featuring, among others, the music of Chopin, Szymanowski, Penderecki, and Górecki), exhibitions of musical manuscripts (by Polish composers from Chopin to Penderecki) and works of art (associated with music); a film on Polish culture will also be shown.

It is already a tradition that the Congress has English, French and German for its official languages.

Notification of participation in the Congress should be sent in no later than 31st March, 2010.

the Organizers,