

Ladies and gentlemen,
Distinguished guests from the Czech and Slovak Republic and other European countries,

As we already mentioned in the bulletin of the festival, this year's Award of the Czech Music Council represents for us after twenty-six years not only recognition what has been, but also the opportunity to carry out in unifying Europe the project of festival, about which we know that its future is still ahead. We understand it also as a certain gentlemen gesture of help in this difficult time, when even the prestigious events of the European level are struggling to survive.

For many reasons, this future is still far away - there are not only economic reasons, there are today in a global scale primarily unclear relationship between art and consumer society where it seems that the quantity of marketing production completely engulfs value of minority of art.

In the spirit of famous speech of Martin Luther King in the sixties I have a Dream

http://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/I_Have_a_Dream

we would like to paraphrase now his vision of equality: we dream about day when European contemporary music and art scene will have at least the same chance as the preferred priority of pop culture as a folk entertainment that today in fact are expelling the arts into marginal positions.

We have a dream that the conditions for the existence of independent art in Europe will really improved, and that the authors of demanding works will not be continue in the role of a beggar - because what remains after each epoch will be just only its current today art.

We dream about that even in our country relevant actors will understand that investing into contemporary culture will sooner or later return - as we can observe today on richest countries of Europe.

And finally - we dream that this beautiful city will become a recognized European center of art - Kroměříž has all the assumptions for it, as evidenced this day...

We wish all present guests a meaningful and memorable time in our country, in our city, with music and art just of this festival...

Václav a Zdenka Vaculovičovi