

Dr habilitated **ROBERT FENDER – Cello**



He performs as a soloist and chamber musician, affiliated with the Academy of Music in Łódź as an adiunkt [assistant professor] in the Department of String Instruments. He graduated with honors from the Academy of Music in Łódź, the cello class of Prof. Stanisław Firlej, in 1999. He honed his skills on music courses in Poland and abroad under guidance of renowned pedagogues: Zara Nelsova, Natalia Szachowska, Milos Sadlo, Gerhard Mantel, Karine Georgian, Angelice May. He can boast numerous prizes: 3rd prize at the Dezyderiusz Danczowski All-Polish Cello Competition in Poznań (1997), honorary mention at the Kiejstut Bacewicz International Chamber Music Competition in Łódź (1998) and the SPAM special prize at the 3rd A. Tansman International Competition of Musical Personalities (2002). In the period of 1998-1999, he was a grant-holder of the Ministry of Culture and Art.

Robert Fender has performed as a soloist with the Łódź Philharmonic Orchestra, Concerto Avenna, the Bielsko-Biała Chamber Orchestra and Łódź 'Camerata' Chamber Orchestra. He has taken part in festivals and music seminars in Poland and abroad. The artist has made recordings for the Polish Radio in Warsaw, Radio Łódź and Polish Television. Since 1997, he has been a member of the TRIO VIVO piano trio. In 2011, the ensemble's debut album, featuring works of Brahms and Arensky, was published by the DUX record label. The artist's output comprises another two records – with Paweł Klecki's Trio and with Kodály's and Ravel's sonatas for violin and cello. The latest publications are CDs recorded together with the violist Elżbieta Mrożek-Loska, presenting the Goldberg Variations by J. S. Bach in the version for a string trio, and also an album „Aleksander Tansman Chamber Music” released in 2019. The newest significant achievement of Cellist is the Silver Medal for the Goldberg Variations album. The recording was honored with this award by the Global Music Awards (USA) in 2019. Next Silver Medal was awarded to the album "Olga Hans - Da Suonare a Tre" in 2026. Currently, the cellist performs alongside excellent musicians such as Zbigniew Raubo and Hanna Holeksa, who joined the VIVO piano trio in 2018.