

Dear friends and colleagues, ladies and gentlemen

Welcome to our campus

Welcome to the University of Dortmund

"If I had to start all over again I would start with culture<sup>^</sup>, said the famous european Jean Monnet - emphasising the important role that culture and cultural events play for the development and creation of mutual understanding *in the world*.

It is my particular pleasure that I can start with culture: as I have become president of this university just a few days *today*, ~~is~~ is the first international reception I'm attending in this position. And it is my particular pleasure that this first international reception is ~~is~~ addressed to you - the participants of our 4. Campus Cantat international music week.

When Campus Cantat came into being 1985, its inventors, first of all created it as european event. Most of the participants came from partner *and sister cities* universities in England, the Netherlands, Italy, Poland, Norway and the USSR. Bringing together young people from all these institutions served *beyond the musical goals* - as one instrument to fill a gap in european education.

Today the intra-european communication is much stronger than ~~it~~ was a couple of ~~years~~ ago. I even feel that the intensification of intra-European relations, the making of a "Fortress Europe" has had repercussions ~~an~~ on the relationship of EC Member States with other countries not only in economics but also in the field of educational transfer and international student ~~exch~~ange.

Many people abroad expect the transatlantic ties becoming looser as a result of Europe's increased self-awareness.

We are very much concerned about that. The University of Dortmund today has more than 1.300 international students - but only 14 !! come from the United States - a number which I feel, is by far too low.

In this sense you may understand the 4. Campus Cantat week as a sign: we are good Europeans but we also want to maintain and to develop our strong links with America.

Let me therefore first of all thank our esteemed <sup>(american)</sup> guests ~~from~~ for coming to Germany and to our campus. Let me thank you Mrs. SYMONETTE and the Weill-Foundation for supporting Campus Cantat 1990 so generously. Let me extend my thanks once again to you, dear Willy Gundlach - the father of Campus Cantat, to our choir, the solists and the orchestra - not to forget the families which accomodate our guests <sup>not to forget</sup> and all the people working in the background.

This event, I'm sure will help to build a strong transatlantic bridge. Ultimately the strength of this week and the quality of your program lies in the people who develop it: you are an impressive group of people with an impressive musical and communicational potential.

In supporting and fostering your work, the University of Dortmund and myself understand, that we are investing in an event which will earn resounding success.

I wish you all a good time, successful performances and I hope that some of our american guests sometimes come back to Dortmund - perhaps for a longterm stay at our University.

Wann Sie da ist?

It's a great privilege to have you with us today