Jan Slovák
Foreword

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The 16th Winter School 'Geometry and Physics' was organized at the usual place, the village Srní in the Czech Republic, in the period January 13 – January 20, 1996. During the school, eight invited lecture series were presented by Dmitry Alekseevski, Toby Bailey, Thomas Branson, Michael Eastwood, Thomas Friedrich, Christian Kassel, Lionel Mason and Alexander Stolin. In the remaining program, 35 further lectures, communications and posters were presented in two sections.

The Proceedings of this school, published traditionally in Supplemento ai Rendiconti del Circolo Matematico di Palermo, contain written versions of three of the invited lecture series and 13 further contributions by the participants. The titles of the remaining five lecture series were: *Classification of extended Poincare Lie algebras and superalgebras* (Dmitry Alekseevski), *The Penrose transform* (Toby Bailey), *Selberg–Witten theory, new invariants of four-dimensional manifolds* (Thomas Friedrich), *Quantum and Vassiliev invariants of knots using categories* (Christian Kassel), and *Global problems in twistor theory in split signature* (Lionel Mason).

The list of all 68 participants is included below.

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