
78^e CONCOURS DE GENÈVE

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION

15 – 22 OCTOBER 2024

Composition Rules



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CONCOURS DE GENÈVE

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION

COMPETITION OFFICIAL PARTNER

The 78th Concours de Genève will be presenting composition. This discipline pursues the tradition of the Queen Marie José Prize and aims at encouraging and promoting contemporary creation and supporting a high-quality performance.



I. GENERAL CONDITIONS

CONDITIONS OF ADMISSION

The 78th Concours de Genève is dedicated to Voice & Composition and will be held from 15-22 October 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Composition Competition is open to candidates born after 20 October 1984 (40 years old). Composers who have already won a First Prize at one of the earlier Concours de Genève are not allowed to enter for the same discipline again.

REGISTRATION

Application deadline is 29 May 2024.

Candidates must register on: www.muvac.com/concours-de-geneve

The following documents are required to complete your registration:

- One musical score, with a title or a motto, all completely legible and original, without any mention of the composer. The candidate must remain anonymous to the Jury.
- And the following documents:
 - A copy of ID or Passport
 - A filled-in resume on Muvac (studies, teachers, professional activities, awards)
 - A short written biography in English or French (max. 500 characters spaces not included)
 - 2 different and recent high quality colour photographs (300 dpi)
 - A programme note presenting the submitted work (max. 3300 characters spaces not included)
 - An authorization for its performance and broadcast
 - A short text or video (max. one page/3 minutes) presenting the candidate's work in general and his/her artistic project for the future.
 - A detailed list of existing works

For all questions or issues regarding registration, please contact us at the following address: application@concoursgeneve.ch

REGISTRATION FEE

AMOUNT OF THE FEE

The registration fee for the Concours de Genève 2024 is **CHF 100** (one hundred Swiss francs) payable in a single instalment.

CONDITIONS OF PAYMENT

By debit or credit card directly on the registration website.

The registration fee is not refundable.

THE COMPETITION

The aim of the 2024 Composition Competition is to reward new works for solo viola and chamber orchestra, composed after May 2021.

The Competition's official Jury will meet in Geneva from 11 to 13 June 2024 (to be confirmed), to evaluate submitted compositions that comply with the rules. They will select a maximum of 3 Finalists whose works will be performed by the Orchestre de Chambre de Genève in Geneva on 20 October 2024.

The 3 chosen Finalists will be announced on the Competition's website on 13 June 2024 (to be confirmed). They will receive a personal confirmation.

Finalists will be invited to Geneva from 16 October 2024 and will have the opportunity to:

- Follow the rehearsals of their work for the Final Round with the Orchestre de de Chambre de Genève.
- Participate in a chamber music concert, during which one or two of their works will be performed.

WELCOME CEREMONY

Candidates who are selected for the Final Round will be invited to the Welcome Ceremony to be held in Geneva on 16 October 2024. Official registrations will take place during this Ceremony.

Attendance to this event is mandatory in order to participate in the following stages of the competition (exceptions may be granted in duly justified cases).

ACCOMMODATION, MEALS, TRAVEL EXPENSES & INSURANCE

ACCOMMODATION

Candidates selected for the Final Round will be provided with free host family accommodation during their stay in Geneva. If a Finalist wishes to stay with a family member or spouse, he/she must make a special request to the competition, but there is no guarantee that this request will be granted.

MEALS

Finalists will receive a daily allowance to cover their meal expenses.

TRANSPORT

Finalists will have free access to Geneva public transport throughout their stay in Geneva.

TRAVEL EXPENSES

The Concours de Genève will cover the travel expenses of the Finalists. The Competition will cover the cost of a round-trip economy class air ticket, a 2nd class train ticket or the equivalent of the latter for a car trip.

INSURANCE

The Concours de Genève is not accountable for the costs of candidates' illness and/or accident during their stay in Geneva.

RIGHTS

The prize-winning works remain the full and complete property of their authors, who give their personal written consent to their performance and broadcast free of any rights (except for copyright and editing right).

Prizewinners waive any and all rights to audio/video recordings and radio/television/internet broadcasts of the public sessions of the Competition, as well as to the further use of pictures or videos from themselves taken during the Concours de Genève.

II. WORK & SHOWCASE CONCERT

WORK TO SUBMIT

The subject of the 2024 Composition Competition is a work for **solo viola and chamber orchestra**, to be performed with the Orchestre de Chambre de Genève. The work must be composed with the following characteristics:

- The work must have a duration of approximately **15 minutes**.
- The work must be written for **solo viola and chamber orchestra**.
- The chamber orchestra must be within the following range:
2*.2*.2*.2* - 2.2.1.0 - keyboard (1) - percussion (2) - strings: 8.6.4.4.2

The total number of musicians in the chamber orchestra is 40. The number of musicians in the wind section may be reduced, but not the number of musicians in the other sections. In addition to the 40 musicians mentioned above, 2 extra musicians playing special instruments may be added upon request. A keyboardist may play multiple keyboards (piano, celesta, etc.). A detailed list of percussion instruments must be provided.

- The winning work will be selected as compulsory piece for the Semi-Finals of the 2025 Concours de Genève (viola). The jury will therefore be asked to take into account the playability of the work and the enhancement of the solo instrument.
- The musical score should be in digital form or handwritten, but must be perfectly legible.

SHOWCASE CONCERT

In order to give the Jury and the audience in Geneva further insight into the artistic personalities of the 3 Finalists, the Competition will be organizing a Showcase Concert on 19 October 2024.

This concert will feature works already composed by the 3 Finalists for solo instrument or small chamber music groups.

The works will be chosen jointly by the Competition and the Finalists.

The aim of this concert is to highlight Finalists' personality and artistic background. The concert is given in the presence of the official Jury.

III. CALENDAR

CALENDAR 2024

29 May

Application deadline

1-2 June*

Selection of the Finalists

3 June*

Announcement of the Finalists

16 October

Welcome Ceremony in Geneva

16 – 19 October

Stay in Geneva, rehearsals and concert

19 October

Showcase concert

Conservatoire de Musique de Genève, Salle Franz Liszt

20 October

Final Round with the Ochestre de Chambre de Genève

Victoria Hall

*Subject to changes

IV. PRIZES AND AWARDS

OFFICIAL PRIZES

The Concours de Genève offers the following official prizes:

- 1st Prize CHF 15,000.-
- 2nd Prize CHF 10,000.-
- 3rd Prize CHF 5,000.-

SPECIAL PRIZES

- Audience Prize: CHF 1,500.-
- Young Audience Prize: CHF 1,000.-
- Students Prize: CHF 1,000.-
- Nicati-De Luze Special Prize: CHF 3,000.-

The Audience Prize is awarded by the audience at the Final Round.

The Young Audience Prize is awarded by young students of partner schools.

The Students Prize is awarded by students in musicology and of partner Universities of Music.

The Nicati-De Luze Special Prize is awarded by the Nicati-De Luze Foundation to one of the finalists. It consists in one commissioned piece, for chamber music or ensemble, to be performed during two concerts.

PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY

The prizes, awards and diplomas signed by the President of the Jury, as well as the President and the Secretary General of the Concours de Genève, will be presented to Laureates during the prize-giving ceremony, which takes place at the end of the Final.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Concours de Genève offers an ambitious career development programme, providing precious support and advice to help boost laureates' careers.

MANAGEMENT & CONCERTS

In addition to the official prizes, laureates benefit from two years of services from the concert agency Sartory Artists, Paris. This includes career management, personal coaching and commissions, enabling them to take their first steps on the Swiss and international music scenes. A unique opportunity for prizewinners to establish an international reputation.

WORKSHOPS

Each year, the Concours de Genève offers a Prizewinners' Workshop: over the course of a week, participants take part in a series of workshops on topics such as performance, health, career management, image and social media. Since 2023, laureates benefit from a more extensive offer of workshops thanks to the newly founded "Association Crocus", which brings together the Concours de Genève, the Rencontres Musicales d'Évian and La Belle Saison.

MEMBERS OF 2024 COMPOSITION JURY

Pascal Dusapin, Chair
Francesco Filidei
Francesca Verunelli
Milica Djordjević
Hector Parrà

The appointment of the 5 Jury members is the sovereign responsibility of the Artistic Committee of the Competition. The members are chosen on the basis of their international recognition in the music world, regardless of any racial, ideological, political or linguistic considerations.

The deliberations of the Jury are governed by internal rules. Their decisions are final and there is no right of appeal.

EXCERPT OF JURY RULES

The Concours de Genève has a strict set of rules by which juries must abide. These include both general rules and voting procedures that change in accordance with the various stages of the Competition. Here are a few defining features:

- The purpose of the selection round is to choose the finalists whose works will be performed during the public Final Round of the Competition
- This selection phase takes place in camera in the presence of the official Jury of the 2024 Composition Competition, composed of five members. The work of the Jury, their decisions and discussions are bound by professional secrecy.
- The Concours de Genève can admit a maximum of 4 finalists to the Final Round.
- Jury members who identify a score from one of their students should abstain from voting for that score during the selection phase and leave their vote blank. This regulation pertains to students who are consistently enrolled annually with any jury member. However, participants in Masterclasses are exempt from this rule.
- The selection consists of several stages by successive elimination to the final result. Members of the Jury are invited to express their assessments by using the following system: YES – MAYBE – NO
- Official prizes are attributed in two phases: first, the Jury establishes a ranking of finalists, then decides whether or not the best amongst them deserves a First Prize.
- All prizes are not necessarily awarded.