International Student LiedDuo Competition 2015

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION
FOR STUDENT LIED DUOS VOICE & PIANO

10-12 April
ENSCHERED
The Netherlands
www.liedconcours.nl
The International Student LiedDuo Competition
...offers you as a duo an opportunity to practise lied performance on a high level, already during your studies. In this competition, you can develop your artistic and technical skills by competing against other students of music. It also gives you an excellent chance to present yourselves to a jury of well-known artists and experts. Seize that chance!

Why duos? Why lied?
“A duo of voice and piano is the most beautiful combination that exists.” Many people share this opinion with me. The blend of text and music for these two instruments has always been an inspiration for great composers. Even today, the lied genre is an esteemed composition form.

In lied performance, all the attention is focused on two “voices”, the human voice and that of the piano. Two voices, which both in their own way and by their own means pursue unity in interpretation, inspiring each other to come to the very heart of a composition.

While many competitions are held for singers, and many competitions for pianists, a competition for duos is unique.

Goals of this competition
History teaches that a distinctive achievement at a competition often proves an important boost to the career of an artist. The competition also aims at furthering enthusiasm for lied art in young music students and their audience. Moreover, the goal is to keep alive the practice of lied composition. Therefore, you are expected to perform a new song, exclusively commissioned for this competition.

On behalf of the foundation International Student LiedDuo Competition, I cordially invite you to participate in our competition.

Yours sincerely,
Marien van Niekerken
Artistic Director

Prizes
First prize: € 5,000
Second prize: € 2,500
Third prize: € 1,500
The first prize winner is eligible for contracted concerts in The Netherlands.

Jury
Ad ‘s-Gravesande
Olaf Bär
Hans Eijsackers
Rudolf Jansen
Thomas Steinhöfel
Carolyn Watkinson
Johannette Zomer
Marien van Niekerken

Board of Recommendation
Hans Hieck: former managing director of the Gelders Orkest
Paul Komen: pianist
Jan Willem Loot: former managing director of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra
Daan Manneke: composer
Lodewijk Meeuws: baritone
Jard van Nes: mezzo-soprano
Leo Samama: composer, musicologist and former managing director of the Nederlands Kammerkoor

Executive committee
Marien van Niekerken, artistic director: pianist, lied specialist, professor at ArtEZ Academy of Music
Govert Valkenburg, general director: academic researcher at Maastricht University, tenor, engineer

Foundation board members
Jan Wolters, chairman: director at Saxion University of Applied Sciences, former director of the Music Academy in Enschede, pianist
Govert Valkenburg, secretary: academic researcher at Maastricht University, tenor, engineer

Thomas Beke, treasurer: management consultant

Rules of participation (excerpt)
The complete rules of participation in the competition, including strict conditions on the repertoire to be performed, can be found on our website: www.liedconcours.nl
Participation is open to duos of which both pianist and vocalist are registered as students in either a bachelor or a master programme at a music academy anywhere in the world. If one half of the duo is no longer studying but has obtained their degree not earlier than 10 April 2014, while the other half is still studying, the duo is also eligible for participation.

Participants may apply for the competition at the website, www.liedconcours.nl/apply.
It involves uploading audio and photo material, so timely preparation is advisable. The deadline for completing the application is 30 January 2015, 18:00. The registration fee is €150,- per duo. The jury assesses the audio material and decides on admission of the duos. No more than 30 duos will be admitted.

Course of the competition
Day 1: Preliminaries
In the first round every duo will perform a programme of 12-15 minutes. The repertoire is in part mandatory, in part free to choose.

Day 2: Semi-finals
Twelve duos will be admitted to the semi-finals. The performance will last 20 minutes, consisting of mandatory and free repertoire as well as the commissioned composition.

Day 3: Finals
Six duos will compete in the finals. Every duo will perform during 30 minutes, with a programme they can freely choose.