The International Student LiedDuo Competition...

...offers your duo an opportunity to practise lied performance at a high level, even while you are still studying. In this competition, you can develop your artistic and technical skills by competing against other students of music. In addition, it offers an excellent opportunity to present yourselves to a jury of well-known artists and experts. This is the moment to take such a 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, chairman
Wolfgang Holzmair, baritone
Hans Enigsmanns, pianist
Jard van Nes, mezzo-soprano
Anne Le Bozec, pianist
Lenneke Ruiten, soprano
Thomas Steinhöfel, pianist
Marien van Niekerken, pianist, artistic director

Patroness of the Jury
Elly Ameling, soprano

Board of Recommendation
Hans Hierck, 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 Meeuwissen, baritone
Leo Samara, 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
Harrie de Vries, producer
Rene ter Braake, fundraiser
Marc Altink, advisor

Foundation board members

Thomas Beke, chairman
Govert Valkenburg, secretary
Marcel Kampes, treasurer
Marja Reinders, member

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 web site: 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. In case one member of your duo is no longer registered as a student but has obtained their degree not earlier than 20 April 2016, while the other member is still registered as a student, your duo can still participate.

Participants may apply for the competition at the website, www.liedconcours.nl/apply.

Application involves uploading audio and photo material, so timely preparation is advisable. The deadline for completing the application is 9 February 2017, 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 50 duos will be admitted.

Course of the competition

Days 1&2: 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 3: 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 4: Finals
Six duos will compete in the finals. Every duo will perform during 30 minutes, with a programme they can freely choose.

International Vocal Competition 's-Hertogenbosch (IVC)
The IVC has since 2013 invited the finalists of the ISLDC to its First Round. With the coming International Student LiedDuo Competition in 2017, there is also a possibility for lied duos to participate in the First Round of the IVC in 2018.