

Piano  
String Quartet



6/5—15/5/2021

72nd International Music Competition

competition

Prague Spring



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# General Provisions

The 72nd Prague Spring International Music Competition, a member of the World Federation of International Music Competitions in Geneva, will take place in Prague **on 6–15 May 2021** in the categories **PIANO** and **STRING QUARTET**.

The piano competition will be held in memory of Rudolf Firkušný.

**The Competition is intended for artists of all nationalities who:**

- a) satisfy the age limit
  - piano – 30 years (i.e. those who are born after 6 May 1991 inclusive)
  - string quartet – 120 years (i.e. total age of all quartet members on 6 May 2021)
- b) have not already won 1st prize in the relevant category at the Prague Spring International Music Competition

**APPLICATION DEADLINE – 1 December 2020.**

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# Application Process

## Application

Persons interested in participating in the Competition shall apply online at the Competition's website, where they shall complete and confirm an online application form and attach the following attachments:

- a) **A copy of the applicant's birth certificate** or **proof of identity**
- b) **A portrait photo suitable for reproduction** (without copyright) – min. 1MB and 300 dpi
- c) **An unedited VIDEO recording** of the compositions listed in the "Competition Repertoire" section of this General Conditions (find the technical requirements below)
  - A recording need not be sent by applicants who have won the 1st prize at selected competitions – please refer to the "Competition Repertoire" section
- d) **A statement from a professor or other person of artistic standing** (e.g. a sound engineer) guaranteeing the authenticity and quality of the recording – a form can be downloaded on the Competition's website
- e) **Proof of payment of the registration fee in the amount of EUR 30** (for costs associated with registration and the prelimi-

nary round) – always state the full name of the competitor / ensemble in the comment

- payment to the Prague Spring account no. 3633372/0800 held at the Česká spořitelna bank, IBAN CZ64 0800 0000 0000 03633372, B.I.C. GIBACZPX (all fees must be transferred „free of bank charges for the recipient“)
- payment via PayPal service (platbaPP@festival.cz)

### **Application deadline – 1 December 2020.**

(The date of the submission of the electronic application is decisive.)

Only complete applications will be accepted.

By 20 January 2021, the candidates admitted to the Competition (i.e. those successful in the preliminary round) shall be notified about their admission by an e-mail. After the receipt of the admission confirmation, the **participation fee – PIANO 80 EUR, STRING QUARTET 190 EUR – must be transferred to the Competition account by 15 February 2021 at the latest.** The accepted candidates shall be sent a letter with complete information concerning the organization of the Competition, as well as the sheet music for the commissioned piece.

Neither the registration nor the participation fee can be refunded.

### **Requirements for the recording**

The selection of candidates to take part in the Competition in Prague shall be based on this recording, shall be anonymous and in random order. The video recording must fulfil the following parameters:

- Pieces must be recorded in their entirety and without any cuts or editing
- Individual parts of the pieces (movements) must be recorded separately or indexed
- Microphones should be positioned at a distance allowing to obtain a good sound quality
- The video should be filmed from a fixed camera angle; musician's hands and face must be entirely visible all the time
- It is highly recommended to ensure a good sound quality of the recording, to provide the jury with the best possible conditions for judging in the preliminary round
- Public recordings are accepted if they meet the recording conditions stated above (especially no cuts)
- **Upload your recording (recordings) to a cloud server such as Dropbox, iCloud, Google Drive, etc. (not YouTube) and include the link in your application – always set the access to the video as public**

## **Technical requirements**

- Video quality – 720p or 1080i or 1080p
- Audio quality – PCM, flac, mp3 min. 256kbps or aac min. 128kbps
- Microphone of adequate quality (no built-in microphones in mobile devices)
- File format – mp4, mov, avi, mpg or mkv

## **Consent to the competition conditions and to the processing of personal data**

By submitting the Competition application, the participant gives his/her consent to the processing of personal data in accordance with the following information on their processing, and confirms that he/she has read and accepted the Competition Conditions before registering for the Competition, and that he/she agrees with the fact that not granting or revoking this consent excludes his/her participation in the Competition.

By submitting the application, the Competitor gives his/her consent to the Organiser to process the following personal data as a controller, in accordance with Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (hereinafter only the "Regulation"), and Act No. 110/2019 Coll. on the processing of personal data, as amended:

- Name and surname
- Date of birth
- E-mail
- Telephone number
- Address

The Organiser processes the personal data provided only based on the consent given by the Competitor and for the purpose of fulfilling the contract – ensuring the Competitor's participation in the Competition. These data will be processed by the controller for the duration of the contractual relationship.

The provision of personal data is voluntary. Consent can be revoked at any time, for example by sending an e-mail or letter to the Organiser.

Personal data is processed by the Organiser as the controller, but personal data may also be processed for the Organiser by processors acting on behalf of the Organiser. In this case, the Organiser undertakes to ensure that the processor fulfils its obligations under the Regulation.

Under the Regulation, the Competitor has:

- The right to withdraw his/her consent at any time
- The right to request information as to which personal data are processed and to obtain a copy of such data
- The right to request access to such data and to have it updated or corrected or to request processing restrictions
- The right to request the deletion of such personal data
- The right to request explanations
- The right to data portability (in case of automated processing)
- The right to lodge a complaint with the Office for the Protection of Personal Data if there are doubts as to compliance with the obligations relating to the processing of personal data

Personal data provided by the Competitors shall not be provided to third parties.

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## Course of the Competition

Piano competition shall be held in four rounds, the string quartet competition in three. The number of candidates in all rounds is limited. For both categories, a maximum number of Round I candidates is 45, a maximum of 12 candidates in the piano category and 8 candidates in the string quartet category shall advance to Round II. 6 candidates will advance to the semi-finals of the piano competition. 3 candidates shall advance to the finals of both competition fields.

All rounds of competition performances are public.

### Schedule

#### Piano

Acoustic rehearsals	6 May	Academy of Performing Arts, Martinů Hall
Opening and drawing	6 May	Academy of Performing Arts, Martinů Hall
Round I	7 and 8 May	Academy of Performing Arts, Martinů Hall
Round II	10 May	Academy of Performing Arts, Martinů Hall
Semi-finals	12 May	St Agnes' Convent
Finals (part of the festival)	14 May	Rudolfinum, Dvořák Hall

## String Quartet

Acoustic rehearsals	7 May	National House of Vinohrady
Opening and drawing	7 May	National House of Vinohrady
Round I	8 and 9 May	National House of Vinohrady
Round II	11 May	National House of Vinohrady
Finals (part of the festival)	13 May	Rudolfinum, Dvořák Hall
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<b>The Prize Award Ceremony</b>	15 May	Old Town Hall

The Organiser reserves the right to make changes to this schedule.

## Presence during the competition

Each participant is obliged to register at the Competition secretariat (for the piano section – Academy of Performing Arts, for the string quartet section – National House of Vinohrady) at a fixed time, which he/she has received in the letter of invitation. The participant will identify him/herself with passport, identity card or birth certificate. Immediately after registration, an acoustic rehearsal will take place in the hall.

All participants must be present in person at the opening ceremony of the Competition and at the announcement of the results after all rounds.

Each participant accepts the obligation to remain free of all professional obligations or concerts throughout the duration of the Competition.

Competitors will be expected to receive their awards in person.

## Accommodation

All travel and accommodation expenses for the duration of Round I shall be paid by the candidates themselves. Starting from Round II, all candidates who do not have their permanent residence in Prague or live more than 100 km from Prague shall receive a contribution of 60 EUR/day. The contribution shall be provided for the duration of their active participation in the Competition. The accommodation for the prize-winners shall be covered until the day when the prizes are presented to them. This does not apply to piano accompanists or other accompanying persons.

## Audio-visual materials

By submitting the registration form, participants give consent to the recording of any audio-visual materials from their participation

in the Competition and its publication, typically in the news coverage of the Competition or by media partners of the Competition. Owners of such materials shall be the Organiser or its media partners as the producer of such materials. If participants of the Competition receive such audio-visual materials, they shall be obliged to use them only for personal, educational, non-commercial and non-public purposes.

Any radio or television broadcasts and recordings of competition performances shall be at the disposal of the Prague Spring and shall serve for the promotion of the Competition. Any commercial use of these recordings shall be the subject of further negotiations.

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## Juries

The following artists have promised to sit on the juries:

### Piano

#### Chairman

Garrick Ohlsson – USA

#### Members

Ian Fountain – Great Britain

Ivo Kahánek – Czech Republic

Martin Kasík – Czech Republic

Kevin Kenner – USA

Olga Kern – Russia

Gabriele Leporatti – Italy

### String Quartet

#### Chairman

Michal Kaňka (Pražák Quartet) – Czech Republic

#### Members

Jonathan Brown (Cuarteto Casals) – USA

Leoš Čepický (Wihan Quartet) – Czech Republic

Zoltán Gál (Keller Quartet) – Hungary

Yovan Markovitch (Quatuor Danel) – France

Alexander Pavlovsky (Jerusalem Quartet) – Israel

Peter Schuhmayer (Artis-Quartet Vienna) – Austria



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# Repertoire

**The competition repertoire stated by the candidate in the application shall be binding and cannot be changed.** Later changes or failure to comply with the mandatory repertoire shall form the grounds for disqualification. Candidates must bring printed music with them and present it on demand.

The commissioned piece for the 2021 Prague Spring International Music Competition by a Czech composer shall be sent to the candidates together with instructions on the course of the Competition. The composition may not be publicly performed prior to the Competition.

For competition performances, the jury has the right to determine the order of compositions or of individual parts of compositions.

Using illegal photocopies of sheet music for public performance is a violation of the copyright and the commercial rights of the publisher and the performers shall bear all liability for any legal sanctions.

## Piano

### PRELIMINARY ROUND

A video recording with the following repertoire:

- 1 **Johann Sebastian Bach:** one of the preludes and fugues from the *Well-Tempered Clavier BWV 846–893* of the candidate's choice
- 2 **One of the etudes from the Round I of the candidate's choice** (see below)

Candidates who provide a proof that they have won the 1st prize in one of the following competitions, need not submit a recording:

- 2019 International Tchaikovsky Competition
- 2019 Ferruccio Busoni International Piano Competition
- 2018 Leeds International Piano Competition

### ROUND I (to be memorized)

- 1 **Johann Sebastian Bach:** one of the preludes and fugues from the *Well-Tempered Clavier BWV 846–893* of the candidate's choice
- 2 **Fryderyk Chopin:** one of the following etudes
  - a) *Op. 10 – No. 1 in C major, No. 2 in A minor, No. 4 in C sharp minor, No. 7 in C major, No. 8 in F major*
  - b) *Op. 25 – No. 6 in G sharp minor, No. 8 in D flat major, No. 11 in A minor*

- 3 One of the following etudes
  - a) **Franz Liszt: Etude No. 4 in D minor „Mazepa“**
  - b) **Franz Liszt: Etude No. 5 in B flat major „Feux follets“**
  - c) **Franz Liszt: Etude No. 8 in C minor „Wilde Jagd“**
  - d) **Sergei Rachmaninoff:**  
*Etudes – Tableaux Op. 39 No. 1 in C minor*
  - e) **Sergei Rachmaninoff:**  
*Etudes – Tableaux Op. 39 No. 5 in E flat minor*
  - f) **Alexandr Skrjabin: Etude Op. 8 No. 12**
  - g) **Alexandr Skrjabin: Etude Op. 42 No. 5**
- 4 A work of the candidate's choice
  - a) **Fryderyk Chopin: Ballade No. 1 in G minor Op. 23**
  - b) **Fryderyk Chopin: Ballade No. 2 in F major Op. 38**
  - c) **Fryderyk Chopin: Ballade No. 3 in A flat major Op. 47**
  - d) **Fryderyk Chopin: Ballade No. 4 in F minor Op. 52**
  - e) **Robert Schumann: Fantasie in C major Op. 17 – 1st movement**
  - f) **Bedřich Smetana: Macbeth and the Witches**

## ROUND II (to be memorized)

The candidate shall put together an interesting recital lasting 50–55 minutes. The recital must include:

- composition commissioned for the IMC Prague Spring 2021 by **Jana Vöröšová** in duration of 6´
- at least one sonata by one of the following composers: **Joseph Haydn**, **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** or **Ludwig van Beethoven** (the competitor does not have to respect the repetitions in the exposition of classical sonatas)

The competitor must not include compositions already performed by him/her in Round I.

## SEMI-FINALS

One of the following piano quintets

- a) **Johannes Brahms: Piano Quintet in F minor Op. 34**
- b) **Antonín Dvořák: Piano Quintet in A major Op. 81**
- c) **Robert Schumann: Piano Quintet in E flat major Op. 44**

In collaboration with Zemlinsky Quartet.

## FINALS (to be memorized)

One of the following concertos

- a) **Ludwig van Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 4 in G major Op. 58**
- b) **Antonín Dvořák: Piano Concerto in G minor Op. 33**
- c) **Fryderyk Chopin: Piano Concerto No. 1 in E minor Op. 11**
- d) **Sergei Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor Op. 18**
- e) **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky:**  
*Piano Concerto No. 1 in B flat minor Op. 23*

In collaboration with Prague Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Marek Šedivý.

## String Quartet

### PRELIMINARY ROUND

A video recording with the following repertoire:

- 1 **Ludwig van Beethoven:** *String Quartet No. 16 in F major Op. 135 – 1st movement*

Candidates who provide a proof that they have won the 1st prize in one of the following competitions, need not submit a recording:

- 2019 Banff International String Quartet Competition
- 2018 Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition

### ROUND I

- 1 **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart:** one of the following string quartets
  - a) *String Quartet No. 21 in D major KV 575*
  - b) *String Quartet No. 22 in B flat major KV 589*
- 2 **Franz Schubert:** *Quartettsatz in C minor D 703*

### ROUND II

- 1 **Slavomír Hořinka:** composition commissioned for the IMC Prague Spring 2021
- 2 **Bohuslav Martinů:** one of the following quartets
  - a) *String Quartet No. 2 H 150*
  - b) *String Quartet No. 3 H 183*
- 3 One of the following string quartets
  - a) **Johannes Brahms:** *String Quartet No. 1 in C minor Op. 51 No. 1*
  - b) **Johannes Brahms:** *String Quartet No. 2 in A minor Op. 51 No. 2*
  - c) **Johannes Brahms:** *String Quartet No. 3 in B flat major Op. 67*
  - d) **Antonín Dvořák:** *String Quartet No. 11 in C major Op. 61*
  - e) **Antonín Dvořák:** *String Quartet No. 13 in G major Op. 106*
  - f) **Antonín Dvořák:** *String Quartet No. 14 in A flat major Op. 105*
  - g) **Robert Schumann:** *String Quartet No. 1 in A minor Op. 41 No. 1*
  - h) **Robert Schumann:** *String Quartet No. 2 in F major Op. 41 No. 2*
  - i) **Robert Schumann:** *String Quartet No. 3 in A major Op. 41 No. 3*
  - j) **Bedřich Smetana:** *String Quartet No. 1 in E minor "From My Life"*
  - k) **Giuseppe Verdi:** *String Quartet in E minor*

### FINALS

- 1 One of the following quartets
  - a) **Leoš Janáček:** *String Quartet No. 1 After Tolstoy's "Kreutzer Sonata"*
  - b) **Bedřich Smetana:** *String Quartet No. 2 in D minor*
- 2 **Ludwig van Beethoven:** one of the following quartets
  - a) *String Quartet No. 7 in F major Op. 59 No. 1*
  - b) *String Quartet No. 8 in E minor Op. 59 No. 2*

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# Prizes

In each category of the 72nd annual Prague Spring International Music Competition, the following prizes are offered:

## Main prizes

### Piano category

1st prize	CZK 250,000
2nd prize	CZK 150,000
3rd prize	CZK 100,000

### String quartet category

1st prize	CZK 500,000
2nd prize	CZK 300,000
3rd prize	CZK 200,000

These amounts are gross amounts, i.e. they are subject to tax and other fees under applicable Czech legislation and regulations.

If the performances of the candidates do not reach the required quality standard, the jury shall decide whether to award all of the prizes. The jury may choose not to award any of them, if it rules that the performances of the candidates do not meet the usual artistic standards of the Competition for the awarding of prizes. If candidates' performances are of equal quality, the jury may award multiple prizes on the same level, in which case the prize money shall be added together and then divided equally to prizes of the same level. In doing so, it is necessary to make sure that the amounts of the prizes are in line with the final order of the competitors and that the amounts of prize money do not exceed the amounts offered for individual prizes.

### Only one 1st prize may be awarded.

Winners of these main prizes shall also earn the title of Competition Laureate.

## Other prizes for each category

**Honourable Mention of the Jury of the First Grade** may be awarded to some of the finalists who do not receive any of the main prizes – CZK 10,000

**Honourable Mention of the Jury** may be awarded to some outstanding candidates in Round II who do not advance to the Finals  
**Czech Radio Prize** a free studio recording and presentation of the best laureate to be broadcasted by Czech Radio

**Czech Music Fund Foundation Prize** for the best performance of the piece composed for the 2021 Prague Spring International Music Competition – CZK 20,000

**Prize of the City of Prague** for the most successful laureate

**Crystal Prizes** made at the Moser studio for the winners of the main prizes

**Bärenreiter Prize** a gift voucher for a selection of sheet music published by Bärenreiter Praha and Bärenreiter-Verlag Kassel for the most successful laureate

**Czech Radio Music Publishing House** music publications and unique recordings from the radio archives for the winners of the main prizes

**Harmonie Magazine Prize** for the best Czech participant – annual subscription of this magazine

### Prizes for the piano category

**Rudolf Firkušný Prize** for the best laureate

### Prizes for the string quartet category

**Bohuslav Martinů Foundation Prize** for the best performance of the works by Bohuslav Martinů – CZK 25,000

**Viktor Kalabis and Zuzana Růžičková Prize** for the most successful ensemble – USD 1,500. The Viktor Kalabis and Zuzana Růžičková Endowment Fund and the Viktor Kalabis and Zuzana Růžičková Foundation Washington will further support concerts given by the winner of this prize with up to USD 8,500 if they include an essential work by Viktor Kalabis. Detailed conditions of the prize are to be found on the competition's website.

### Prizes offered jointly for both categories

**Oleg Podgorný Prize** for the most successful youngest Czech participant in the entire Competition (must have participated at least in Round II) – CZK 25,000 granted by the ARTIST'S LIFE FOUNDATION. The Prague Spring offers a work by an outstanding Czech graphic artist

**Czech Centres Prize** a one-week stay at one of the Czech Centres in Europe for the best Czech participant in the entire Competition

**Gideon Klein Foundation Prize** for the most successful Czech participant in the entire Competition – CZK 15,000

**Mercedes Benz Prize** for the most successful Czech participant in the entire Competition (must have participated at least in the Finals or have earned an Honourable Mention) – the company will provide a car for mutually agreed events in the 2021 concert season

These prizes shall also be gross amounts.

Winners of these additional prizes are not entitled to use the Competition Laureate title.

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## **Paid Concert Performances**

### **For each category**

A performance at the 77th annual Prague Spring International Music Festival in 2022 for the winner of the 1st prize

### **For laureates of both categories**

(the Organiser reserves the right to choose a laureate from one category)

#### **Festivals**

Prize of the Pro Harmonia Mundi Foundation, Switzerland –  
a performance at the festival Ticino Musica International Classic  
Associazione Jervolino, Italy  
EuroArt Prague International Music Festival  
Young Prague International Music Festival  
Pardubice Music Spring International Festival  
Monastery Music Festival  
Young Stage Festival as part of the series of the Czech Culture  
Festival  
Discovering the Treasures of the Broumov Region  
Třeboň Nocturnes Festival

#### **Concerts during the 2021/2022 season of the following organisers**

Czech Chamber Music Society  
Klasika Viva Concerts  
Barocco sempre giovane  
Prague Musical Nights at the Spanish Synagogue  
Antonín Dvořák Memorial in Vysoká u Příbrami

More prizes are under negotiation and they will be published on the [competition.festival.cz](https://www.competition.festival.cz) website and in the competition catalogue.

These competition conditions have been announced in compliance with the Competition Rules of the Prague Spring International Music Competition dated 25 November 2019. The Competition Conditions are issued in the Czech, English, French and German languages. In case of any discrepancy the Czech text shall be regarded as authentic.

[competition.festival.cz](https://competition.festival.cz)