

Sion | **Concours**

Concours International de Violon Tibor Varga, Suisse
Tibor Varga International Violin Competition, Switzerland

TIBOR VARGA INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION

Rules & Regulations

2021 Edition

Final Version, 5 August 2020

Member of the World Federation of International Music Competitions

FOREWORD

The Tibor Varga International Violin Competition aims to discover new talents, to enrich the experience and musical practice of the participants and to provide encouragement and support to the winners for the rest of their careers. To achieve these objectives, the International Jury, comprised of recognized violin specialists (performers and teachers) and other world-renowned musicians, will focus on showcasing the musical qualities of each candidate.

PARTICIPATION CONDITIONS

The Tibor Varga International Violin Competition, Sion, Valais, is open, without distinction of sex or nationality, to all violinists born after 1 September 1995 (under 26 years of age).

Candidates who have already won first prize at the Tibor Varga International Violin Competition in the past are not allowed to enter the competition.

PROGRAMME

Each candidate must select their Competition pieces from the lists below.

The pieces must be played from memory, except the work composed by Michel Petrossian for the first round, all pieces mentioned in lists A and B for the second round and the Trios for the chamber music final.

For repeats: at the free choice of the candidate but preferably without repeats (Sonatas and J. S. Bach).

Preselection by Video:

- A. Niccolò Paganini A Caprice of your choice, Op.1
- B. Sonata The first movement of a Sonata from the 2nd round list A

First round: solo violin (maximum time of 30')

A piece from each category: A, B and C.

The Jury reserves the right to choose the movements to be played.

- A. J. S. Bach Two consecutive movements from a Partita or Sonata for solo violin, except the *Chaconne* from Partita for violin N°2
- B. Eugène Ysaÿe One of the six Sonatas for solo violin, Op. 27
Niccolò Paganini A Caprice of your choice, Op.1 (It is possible to select the same Caprice as for the preselection round)
- C. Piece by Michel Petrossian commissioned for the Tibor Varga International Violin Competition 2021.

Second Round: solo violin with piano (maximum time of 45' to 60')

A piece from each category: A, B and C.

The Jury reserves the right to choose the movements to be played.

- A. Ludwig van Beethoven Sonata N° 3, 5, 6 or 8
Johannes Brahms Sonata N° 1 in G major, Op. 78
 Sonata N° 2 in A major, Op. 100
 Sonata N° 3 in D minor, Op. 108
Wolfgang A. Mozart Sonata in C major, K.403
 Sonata in B-flat major, K.378

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| | Franz Schubert | Sonata in A major, D. 574 |
| | Robert Schumann | Sonata N° 1 in A minor, Op. 105 |
| | | Sonata N° 2 in D minor, Op. 121 |
| B. | Claude Debussy | Sonata for violin and piano |
| | Leoš Janáček | Sonata for violin and piano, JW VII/7 |
| | Sergei Prokofiev | Sonata for violin and piano N° 1 or N°2 |
| | Georges Enesco | Sonata for violin and piano N° 3 in A minor, Op. 25 |
| | Francis Poulenc | Sonata for violin and piano |
| | Béla Bartók | Sonata for violin and piano N° 1, Sz. 75 or N° 2, Sz. 76 |
| | Maurice Ravel | Sonata for violin and piano M. 77 |
| | Arnold Schönberg | Phantasy for violin and piano, Op. 47 |
| | Karol Szymanowski | Sonata for violin and piano in D minor, Op. 9 |
| | Sándor Veress | Sonata for violin and piano N° 2 |
| C. | Piece of virtuosity for solo violin or violin with piano at the candidate's free choice | |

First part of the Final: Chamber Music with two members of the Jury who will play the piano and cello parts. (maximum time of 45')

- **Compulsory piece**
Felix Mendelssohn Trio in D minor N° 1 Op. 49, Scherzo
- **A Trio of your choice from the following list:**
Ludwig van Beethoven Trio N°5 in D major, Op. 70 N° 1, entitled "Geistertrio"
Johannes Brahms Trio N° 3 in C minor, Op. 101
Dmitri Shostakovich Trio N° 2 in E minor, Op. 67
Frank Martin Trio based on popular Irish melodies
Maurice Ravel Trio in A minor, M. 67

Second part of the Final: Concerto with Orchestra

A Concerto of your choice from the following list, to be played from memory:

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| Béla Bartók | Concerto N°2, Sz. 112 |
| Ludwig van Beethoven | Concerto in D major, Op. 61 |
| Johannes Brahms | Concerto in D major, Op. 77 |
| Dmitri Shostakovich | Concerto N° 2 in C sharp minor, Op. 129 |
| Felix Mendelssohn | Concerto N° 2 in E minor, Op. 64 |
| Piotr I. Tchaikovsky | Concerto in D major, Op. 35 |

BIS: Piece for solo violin, preferably composed after 1970, at the free choice of the finalist (max. 5')

PROGRAMME SUBMISSION

All candidates are required to submit their programme by midnight (UTC+1) on 15 April 2021. Under exceptional circumstances, changes may be made to the programme until 30 June 2021 at the latest. No further changes can be made to the programme after this deadline.

SCORES

All candidates must use the original scores of the works they perform. The organisers of the Competition¹ cannot be held responsible for any fraud by a candidate (public use of illegal copies). Upon arrival in Sion, candidates are required to provide the organisers of the

¹ The organisers of the Competition is run by the Foundation Board or a delegation of its members.

Competition with a copy of the scores for their free choice pieces (second round and final) no later than 17.00 on 27 August 2021.

REGISTRATION

The registration deadline is midnight on **15 April 2021 by midnight (UTC+1)**. Candidates must register online on the website www.sion-concours.ch. **Registrations received by post will not be considered.**

The registration will be confirmed only when the online registration process has been successfully completed (please ensure that high-quality copies of the following documents are uploaded with your application):

- An official document showing proof of age (photocopy of birth certificate or passport).
- A brief curriculum vitae (education, teachers, titles obtained, professional activities).
- Two recent royalty-free photographs of excellent quality: one portrait and one photo of the candidate playing the violin.
- A high-quality, unedited video recording of the performance of the aforementioned preselection programme, that also displays the date and place of recording.

All candidates are responsible for obtaining their own visa for Switzerland for the duration of the competition and are requested to take all necessary steps to obtain it. The Competition declines all responsibility regarding visas.

The choice of works indicated on the registration form is final, except in exceptional cases that have been approved by the organisers of the Competition.

Registered and selected candidates who are unable to take part in the Competition must inform the organisers immediately.

Only communications made by the administrative team of the Competition are official. Any information from any other source will not be considered valid.

REGISTRATION FEE

The registration fee will be \$ 150.- (one hundred and fifty dollars, approximately one hundred and fifty Swiss francs). This fee is to be paid in one go in accordance with the online payment procedure. The registration fee will not be refunded under any circumstances.

ACCOMPANISTS AND REHEARSALS

Accompanists are provided to participants free of charge.

Each candidate is also able to use their own accompanist during the second round of the Competition on condition that they do so at their own expense. Candidates who use the accompanists chosen by the organisers of the Competition will have the opportunity to rehearse with their designated accompanist free of charge. The free rehearsal time with the accompanist for each candidate is 90 minutes.

For the two final concerts, the rehearsal time will be as follows:

- 90 minutes for the first part of the Final: Chamber Music
- 60 minutes for the second part of the Final with Orchestra

The organisers of the Competition reserve the right to modify the rehearsal time according to the number of candidates or under exceptional circumstances. The organisers will inform the candidates of any changes as soon as possible.

The rehearsals with piano and orchestra are private; only the candidate and their accompanist can be present. However, all of the concerts are public.

The complete schedule of the Competition includes a video submission and four public events, all of which are recorded.

VIDEO PRESELECTION

The goal of the video submission is to choose a maximum of 28 candidates to be invited to Sion to participate in the public rounds of the Competition. The submissions will be considered behind closed doors in the presence of the international Jury chaired by the President of the Jury for the 2021 Competition. The names of the selected candidates will be published on our website on 15 May 2021. Successful candidates will be personally notified and receive their official invitation before this date (by email) mentioning the place and time at which they must personally report to Sion for the subsequent rounds of the Competition.

ORDER OF PLAYERS

The order of players will be determined by a random drawing of names on **27 August 2021 at 17:00 in Sion**.

If a candidate is unable to attend this meeting **due to unforeseen circumstances**, they must notify the organisers of the Competition at least 72 hours before the draw. At the candidate's request, a designated representative of the candidate or a representative from the Competition will partake in the draw in the candidate's place. Candidates who were not present at the draw are required to immediately contact the organiser at its conclusion to receive the allocated date and time at which they must be present for their first-round performance in front of the jury.

The order of players determined by the random draw may not be modified unless, under extraordinary circumstances, the organisers decide otherwise. In all cases, only the organisers of the Competition are authorised to make any such decision.

As a general rule, the organisers of the Competition will do their utmost to respect and adhere to the fixed performance times for each candidate. Similarly, once the order of appearance and schedule are known, each candidate is obliged to arrive at the performance venue within the communicated timeframes.

PUBLIC ROUNDS

The Competition is comprised of the following rounds:

- First Round (Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 August 2021)
- Second Round (Monday 30 and Tuesday 31 August 2021)
- Final, Part one: Chamber Music (Thursday 2 September 2021)
- Final, Part two: Concerto with Orchestra (Saturday 4 September 2021)

The results will be announced at the end of each round. The decisions of the Jury are final.

PRIZES

- First Prize: CHF 20'000.-
- Second Prize: CHF 10'000.-
- Third Prize: CHF 5'000.-
- Prize for best interpretation of the piece by Michel Petrossian (compulsory piece): CHF 2'000.-
- Youth Jury Prize: CHF 500.-
- Audience Prize: CHF 500.-

At the end of the second round, candidates not selected for the subsequent round will receive a certificate of participation.

Fondation Sion Violon Musique

The prizes will be presented to the winners at the end of the Final.

The winners may be invited, for a fee to be defined, to participate in concerts as soloists at a later date.

All candidates are required to respond to media requests during the period of the Competition. The organisers reserve the right to select these requests and will inform candidates of any requests for interviews or photos that may be submitted.

JURY

- Salvatore Accardo, President (Italy)
- Kolja Blacher (Germany)
- Friedemann Eichhorn (Germany)
- Koichiro Harada (Japan)
- Yuzuko Horigome (Belgium, Japan)
- Ida Kavafian (USA)
- Pavel Vernikov (Ukraine, Israel)
- Konstantin Lifschitz (Russia), pianist, and Marc Coppey, cellist (France), will join the Jury for the Final and will form part of the trio with the finalists for the chamber music round.

During the Competition, contacts between the Jury and candidates are strictly forbidden except at the end of each round when two or three members of the Jury will be at the disposal of the unsuccessful candidates.

JURY DECISIONS

The Jury reserves the right to modify the programme of the rounds, taking into account the works announced by each candidate. They also reserve the right to interrupt the performance of a candidate if they feel that they have formed a sufficient opinion, either good or bad, of that candidate.

At the end of the first round, two or three members of the Jury will be at the disposal of the unsuccessful candidates to provide feedback on their performances.

The deliberations of the Jury are governed by internal rules.

The decisions of the Jury are final.

YOUTH JURY

A jury comprised of young musicians is nominated by the organisers of the Competition. This Jury, coached by a renowned figure in the music world, is completely independent to the International Jury.

At the end of the Final, the Youth Jury Prize will be presented to a selected candidate.

WELCOME, TRANSPORTATION AND ACCOMODATION

The candidates must present themselves in person at the Competition Office in Sion no later than 15h30 on 27 August 2021. A detailed map showing the location of the Competition Office (15' walk from the CFF train station) will be provided to candidates when their selection is confirmed. Upon their arrival at the office, the organisers will give candidates further useful information for their stay in Sion.

The organisers will cover the accommodation costs for each of the candidates (student room or youth hostel). All other accommodation and travel expenses, however, are the responsibility of the participants. Accompanying persons are responsible for their own accommodation.

The Competition offers a 50% reimbursement of travel expenses – with a maximum of CHF 700 (airfare in economy class or train ticket in 2nd class or the equivalent of the later for a car trip) – upon presentation of receipts to candidates admitted to the Final (3rd round), unless they are domiciled less than 300 km from Sion.

Candidates are responsible for taking out health and accident insurance for the duration of their stay in Sion.

RIGHTS

By submitting the online registration form, candidates declare that they accept the general terms and conditions of these regulations.

The organisers of the Competition have the unlimited right to record, reproduce and broadcast, free of charge, all of the candidates' performances on radio, television, video, CD, DVD, or any other medium. The same applies to any interviews and/or photo opportunities granted to the media.

In case of doubt, the French version of these rules shall prevail.

ORGANISATION

Tibor Varga International Violin Competition

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