

Corneille Competition

Normandy International Baroque Vocal Competition

28 September to 1st October, 2023

Competition Rules

1. Competition overview

1.1 Purpose

The Normandy International Baroque Vocal Competition is organized by Le Poème Harmonique. Its purpose is to provide young performers of baroque music with an opportunity of gaining recognition from the public as well as prominent representatives of the international music scene, as a start to an international career. The Competition calls upon a jury of distinguished artists, professors and concert promoters, and creates partnerships in order to provide its laureates with the best possible opportunities.

Through this initiative, Le Poème Harmonique continues its commitment to the baroque repertoire by inviting young musicians to perform their renditions of famous or lesser-known works. The Competition thus aims at promoting baroque music beyond the margins of competitive challenge.

Finally, the Competition is an excellent opportunity for bringing together the public of Normandy and baroque music. The rounds, held over a period of several days, are to enable the audience to discover or enrich their knowledge of the presented repertoire through the diversity of the program. This event thus has the dual vocation of educating and entertaining while at the same time placing the focus on musical excellence and originality.

1.2 Venue

All rounds of the competition will take place at the Chapelle Corneille, in Rouen. Chapelle Corneille – Auditorium de Normandie
28, rue Bourg-L'Abbé
76000 Rouen
PLEASE NOTE THAT NO DOCUMENT MUST BE SENT TO THIS ADDRESS.

1.3 Competition schedule

Reception and drawing for the appearance order: Wednesday September 27, 2023 (late afternoon)
First round: Thursday 28 September and Friday 29 September, 2023
Second round: Saturday 30 September, 2023
Final round: Sunday 1st October, 2023

2. Jury

The Jury is composed of 7 distinguished artists and music professionals. The first round will be heard by 3 jury members including Vincent Dumestre.

3. Eligibility

3.1 access conditions

The competition is open to candidates born after January 1, 1993.

3.2 Application period

Applications must be filed **between March 20th and June 26th, 2023.**

3.3 Procedures

Applicants must go to Le Poème Harmonique's official website (<http://www.lepoemeharmonique.fr/>), click Competition > Competition rules and application, and create an account. They shall then have to pay a 50 euros fee, to upload the following files :

- An image file of a recent coloured photograph, for use in the program and other promotional materials (the copyright must be mentioned in the file's name)
- A PDF or image file of an official document that contains the applicant's name, nationality and date of birth (a passport is recommended)
- A curriculum vitae in pdf format ;
- A signed authorization form for image rights ;
- A PDF file of a biography ;
- A youtube, dailymotion or similar link to a video performance, following the notes in paragraph 4 (Preliminary selection) below.

Applicants may access their account to add, delete or change materials as many times as they wish until the application period is over. After June 26th, 2023, the application process will be closed and no more changes will be possible.

An exception to the age limit may be granted for artistic reasons.

A letter of motivation must be attached to the documents requested at the time of registration on the website. The registration fee will be refunded if the waiver is denied.

4. Preliminary selections

4.1 Selection process

The preliminary selection will be made on the basis of the video recordings presented throughout the candidate account.

4.2 Programme of the preselection

Applicants must present a video recording (approximately 8-10 minutes) consisting of two works from the 17th or 18th centuries of which at least one is in French.

One of the pieces must include vocalizes.

The video may be a live concert performance and may not necessarily be newly recorded for the Competition. However, material recorded in good technical and acoustic conditions is recommended.

4.3. Notification of results

The results of the preliminary selection will be published no later than **Friday, July 28th, 2023** on the competition website.

Once pre-selected, the candidate will have to specify the works he/she wishes to perform during the three rounds of the competition, as well as send the corresponding scores, by Monday, August 4th at the latest to concours@lepoemeharmonique.fr.

5. Participation in the Competition.

5.1 Application fee

Applicants must pay an application fee of €50 as part of the online application process, which is non-refundable.

No further fees will be required.

5.2 Contestant registration

Candidates must be present at the Chapelle Corneille on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, before 6:00 p.m., to register their presence and receive the order of appearance, drawn by lots. In case of impossibility to participate, a proxy can be given to the person in charge of the competition for the draw.

5.3 Homestay accommodation

In order to minimize the cost of participation for contestants, Le Poème Harmonique offers homestay

accommodation in Rouen.

Contestants who wish to benefit from such accommodation must mention it in the application process. Applications for homestay accommodation will be managed in order of reception.

5.4. Transportation

Transport costs from the candidate's place of residence to Rouen are at the candidate's expense.

5.5. Practice rooms and rehearsals

On **Wednesday afternoon, September 27th**, candidates will be able to try out the acoustics of the Chapelle Corneille during time slots assigned by the organization.

During the rounds of the Competition, practice rooms will be made available free of charge to the candidates. The allocation of slots will be made according to availability on the day in question.

Candidates selected for the final round will have a rehearsal time with the accompanying ensemble on **Sunday morning, October 1st**.

5.6. Order of appearance

The running order of the candidates will be drawn on **Wednesday, September 27th** and may only be modified according to the logistical necessity, by decision of the Competition Manager.

6. Program

We specify that the chosen works may not be common to several rounds of the competition.

Diapasons:

For the first and second round, 3 pitches are allowed (392 Hz, 415 Hz and 440 Hz)

For the final round, the 415 Hz pitch is imposed.

Preselection - 10 minutes maximum:

Two pieces from the 17th or 18th century, including one in French.

One of the pieces must include vocalizes.

1st round - 12 minutes maximum:

- 1) A French opera aria from the 17th or 18th century
- 2) An Italian or English opera aria from the 17th or 18th century

It is possible to use an aria for the preselection and for one of the rounds.

Countertenors may present in the first round a French baroque aria of any genre (opera, comedy-ballet, cantata, court aria, sacred music) and are allowed to transpose this aria, if necessary.

One of the works must be from the 17th century, the other from the 18th century.

One of the works must include a recitative.

2nd round: Semi-Final - 12 minutes at the latest:

- 1) A sacred work of the 17th century
- 2) An 18th century work of your choice (opera or not)

Final round : between 12 and 15 minutes

- 1) A French opera aria from the list
- 2) An Italian opera aria from the list

French arias :

Soprano :

- « Dieu du Cocyte et des royaumes sombres », Charpentier (*Médée*)
- « Venez, gloire, fierté » Campra (*Idoménée*, air d'Illione)
- « Amour, amour, lance tes traits », Rameau (*Platée*, La Folie)
- « Accourez, riante jeunesse », Rameau (*Les fêtes d'hébé*)
- « Funeste mort », Jacquet de La Guerre (*Céphale et Procris*)
- « Quel prix de mon amour », Charpentier (*Médée*)
- « Soumis au silence », Gluck (*Orphée et Eurydice*)
- « Lieux écartez, paisible solitude », Jacquet de La Guerre (*Céphale et Procris*)

Mezzo-soprano

- « Mes yeux fermez-vous », Campra (*Le carnaval de Venise*)
- « Enfin il est en ma puissance », Lully (*Armide*)
- « Il me fuit, l'inconstant » Lully (*Phaëton*)
- « Espoir si cher et si doux » Lully (*Atys*)
- « Quel prix de mon amour », Charpentier (*Médée*)
- « Cruelle mère des amours », Rameau (*Hippolyte et Aricie*, 1757)

Ténor

- « Règne Amour, fais briller tes flammes », Rameau (*Pygmalion*)
- « Bois épais », Lully (*Amadis*)
- « Apollon en ce jour », Lully (*Acis et Galatée*)
- « Amour, que sous tes loix cruelles », Jacquet de La Guerre (*Céphale et Procris*)
- « Lieux funestes », Rameau, (*Dardanus*)
- « J'ai perdu la beauté qui me rendit si vaine », Lully, (*Persée*, air de Méduse)
- « O tranquille sommeil, que vous êtes charmant », Lully, (*Persée*)
- « Unis par la plus tendre enfance », Gluck (*Iphigénie en Tauride*) (Récit et air)
- « L'espoir renaît dans mon âme », Gluck (*Orphée et Eurydice*)

Baryton / Baryton-Basse

- « Monstre affreux », Rameau (*Dardanus*)
- « Soleil, on a détruit tes superbes asiles », Rameau (*Les Indes galantes*)
- « Puisque Pluton est inflexible », Rameau (*Hippolyte et Aricie*)
- « Ah, j'attendrais longtemps » Lully, (*Roland*)
- « Vous qui suivez », Royer (*Pyrrhus*)
- « Heureux qui peut voir du rivage », Lully (*Phaëton*)
- « Que ce jardin se change en un désert affreux », Lully (*Bellerophon*)
- « Belle Hermione », Lully (*Cadmus et Hermione*)
- « Un héros qui mérite une gloire immortelle », Lully (*Phaëton*)

Italian arias

Soprano :

- « Ombre Pallide », Handel (*Alcina*)
- « Ah spietato », Handel (*Amadigi di gaula*)
- « Da tempeste », Handel (*Giulio Cesare*)
- « Ma in amor », Cavalli (*Ercole Amante*)
- « In furore - Allegro », Vivaldi (Motet *In furore iustissimae irae*)
- « Luci mie » Cavalli (*Xerse*)
- « Dorme, l'incauta dorme » Monteverdi (*L'Incoronazione di Poppea*)

Mezzo-soprano/contre-ténor

- « Alma oppressa », Vivaldi (*La fida Ninfa*)
- « Crude Furie », Handel (*Serse*)

- « Alto Giove », Porpora (*Polifemo*)
- « Agitata da due venti », Vivaldi (*La Griselda*)
- « Addio Roma », Monteverdi (*L'Incoronazione di Poppea*)
- « Oblivion soave », Monteverdi (*L'Incoronazione di Poppea*)
- « Sorge nell alma », Handel (*Imeneo*)
- « Erme, e solinghe cime ... Lucidissima face », Cavalli (*La Calisto*)
- « Delitie e contenti », Cavalli (*Giasone*)
- « Se fiera belva », Handel (*Rodelinda*)

Ténor

- « Un momento di contento », Handel (*Alcina*)
- « La mia gloria ed il mio amore », Vivaldi (*Arsilda*)
- « Siano gl'astri a me tiranni », Vivaldi (*Arsilda*)
- « Del mio lungo viaggio », Monteverdi (*Il ritorno d'Ulisse*)
- « Gioit'al mio natal » Landi (*La morte di Orfeo*)
- « Rosa del ciel » Monteverdi (*Orfeo*)
- « Tu sei morta » Monteverdi (*Orfeo*)

Baryton / Baryton-Basse

- « Sorge infausta una procella », Handel (*Orlando*)
- « Gelido in ogni vena », Handel, (*Siroe, re di Persia*)
- « Invida sorte umana », Handel (*Ariodante*)
- « Tirannia gli diede il regno », Handel (*Rodelinda*)
- « Solitudine amata (...) O me felice » (*L'incoronazione di Poppea* (Seneca without Mercurio part))
- « Solitudine amata (...) O me felice » Monteverdi (*L'incoronazione di Poppea* (Seneca without Mercurio part))
- Fra l'ombre e gl'irrori, Handel (*Aci, Galatea e Polifemo*)

7. Awards

If a candidate is or has been a student of one of the members of the jury, the latter is obliged to declare this to the other members of the jury.

The decisions of the jury are sovereign and without appeal. By participating in the competition, each competitor agrees to accept them and not to contest them.

Prize awarded on the proposal of the jury :

First prize: 4 000 €

Second prize: 2 000 €

Prize awarded after vote of the public :

Audience award: 1 000 €

Young Talent Award presented by a representative of Jeunes Talents :

A Concert programmed in their concert series

The Corneille Competition aims to promote the professional integration of candidates and winners, and seeks to develop opportunities for employment in partner structures.

To this end, Le Poème Harmonique organises a tour of recitals in heritage and atypical venues in Normandy in July of the year following the competition. Some of the finalists will be invited to perform in this context.

For information, venues and events that have hosted the winners of the Corneille Competition following their participation since 2016:

Chapelle Corneille, Rouen (France), International Handel Festival, Karlsruhe (Germany) Münchner

Residenz, Munich (Germany), Wiener Konzerthaus, Vienna (Austria), Grand Théâtre de Bordeaux (France), Théâtre impérial de Compiègne (France), Festival de musique baroque du Jura (France), Hôtel de Lauzun, Paris (France), Opéra royal de Versailles (France), Festival Opera Rara, Krakow (Poland), Zürich Opera (Switzerland).

8. Miscellaneous

8.1 Visa

Each contestant is responsible for applying for and acquiring his/her visa into France. Contestants can contact the French Embassies or Consulates in their respective countries of residence for further information.

If a convocation to the competition, a certificate of registration or other documents are required to obtain the visa, Le Poème Harmonique will be able to provide them.

8.2 Copyright

For any performance that takes place during the Competition, Le Poème Harmonique reserves the right to:

Broadcast it on television, radio or the internet;

Record, film and photograph it and/or have others (including press, media and partners) record, film or photograph it, irrespective of whether the recording will be broadcasted or not;

Take recordings, photos or video which will be later used to produce printed materials, CDs, DVDs etc. for promotion and sales.

8.3 Protection of personal data

Personal data of applicants and contestants collected for the Competition will be managed by Le Poème Harmonique according to French law and will be used only for the operation of the Competition.

8.4 Legal guidelines

According to French taxation law, awards money is not subject to tax.

Any disputes that arise in connection with these Competition rules will be resolved according to the original French text of the Competition rules and French law.

8.5 Sanitary situation

The Competition undertakes to respect and ensure respect for the health standards in force on the date of the competition.

The Candidate undertakes to respect the health protocol that will be sent to him/her by the organizing team.

In the event of cancellation of the Competition due to the health situation, no refund of registration fees or travel expenses will be made.

9. Organization – Le Poème Harmonique

Vincent Dumestre, Artistic Director

Christophe Winckel, Executive Director

Jacqui Howard, Concours Corneille manager

Clarisse Mathiot, Concours Corneille assistant

Raphaëlle Boyer, Administrative manager

Simon Giudicelli, Production administrator

Alice Jeuffrain, Production assistant

Romane Cadoret, Educational coordinator

10. Contact

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