

Concours international de piano d'Orléans

Concours international de piano d'Orléans has selected a list of recent piano works for the semi-finals of the 62nd Ferruccio Busoni International Piano Competition.

The Works

Thomas Adès (UK): *Mazurkas for piano op. 27* (2009)
ca. 8 min.
Editions Faber Music UK

Régis Campo (France): *Hommage à Georges Cziffra* (2009)
ca. 8 min.
Editions Lemoine

Philippe Schoeller (France): *Prélude 1 - Omaggio a Cy Twombly & Prélude 3 - Ritualis Vincent van Gogh* (2018)
ca. 8 min.
Editions Artchipel

Mikel Urquiza (Spain): *Contrapluma* (2016)
ca. 6 min.
Editions Suvini Zerboni

Lorenzo Paglieri (Italy): *Uno: Courbes* (2005/2006)
ca. 6 min.
Editions Suvini Zerboni

Deqing Wen (China): *Love Song, River Chant* (2006)
ca. 9 min.
SME Editions – Mauro Ursprung

Augusta Read (USA): *Two Thoughts about the piano* (2017)
ca. 5 min.
Editions Nimbus Music Publishing

Olga Neuwirth (Austria): *Trurl-Tichy-Tinkle for piano* (2016)
ca. 9 min.
Editions Ricordi Berlin

Bettina Skrzypczak (Poland): *Daphnes Lied (Daphne's Song)* (2002)
ca. 9 min.
Editions Ricordi Berlin

Francesco Filidei (Italy): *Berceuse* (2018)
ca. 6 min.
Editions Ricordi Milano – Annamaria Macchi

Alex Nante (Argentina): *Invocation* (2017)
ca. 8 min.
Editions Durand Salabert Eschig – Isabella Vasilotta

Philippe Manoury (France): *Nouvelles études: Vitesses paradoxales / Suspensions – Effondrements* (2017)
ca. 8 min.
Editions Durand Salabert Eschig – Isabella Vasilotta

Throughout his lifetime, Ferruccio Busoni was a trailblazer – a pioneer in search of the new and the unexplored. In this sense he never viewed piano activity as an end in itself, but rather as a tool that furthers experimentation. The Ferruccio Busoni International Piano Competition not only affords contemporary music its due regard, but also selects its repertoire in keeping with Busoni's penchant. Thanks to a fruitful collaboration with the Orleans international piano Competition, which dedicates itself with the utmost professionalism to contemporary piano music of the twentieth and twenty-first century, the 27 finalists of the 62nd Ferruccio Busoni International Piano Competition will be able to choose from 12 new works for solo piano that offer a wide aesthetic variety and an array of technical challenges. Handling repertoire that embraces the many facets of that which is contemporary is a fundamental trait for any performer at the apex of his or her day. This collaboration with the Concours d'Orléans is an important first step towards this end.

Peter Paul Kainrath

Concorso Pianistico Internazionale Ferruccio Busoni
Artistic Director

Orléans Concours International, a French institution founded by pianist Françoise Thinat and focusing on XXth and XXIst centuries works, has been selecting young talents accomplished in contemporary piano repertoire since 1994. Excellence and innovation are the values that have always guided OCI's artistic activities, which include the *Concours international de piano d'Orléans*, the *Brin d'herbe* international Junior Piano Competition, the recording of numerous albums and the commissioning of new works by internationally renowned composers while simultaneously championing the works of emerging young composers. Likewise, OCI guides and supports its laureates as their careers evolve through concerts, master classes, exhibitions, conferences and events, all the while focusing on the piano repertoire from 1900 up the present day. Beginning with the very first Concours international de piano d'Orléans in 1994, works by Xenakis, Ligeti and Messiaen have been performed side by side with those of Debussy, Casella and Fauré. The biennial competition is devoted wholly to the repertoire from 1900 to the present, with no aesthetic censorship whatsoever and with artistic quality as its sole aim. From its third occurrence forward, the competition has had the privilege of awarding a composition prize: the *Prix André Chevillion–Yvonne Bonnaud*. This prize, granted under the aegis of the Fondation de France, is awarded to a work by a candidate pianist who is also a composer or to an unpublished piece that has never been performed in public and was commissioned by the candidate to a pianist composer. The award was introduced in order to encourage artistic encounters and research within contemporary music, and to push our candidates to engage with the composers of today. The award immediately achieved distinction for its excellence, as evidenced by the first year recipient: Unsuk Chin, a Korean composer of great reputation, whose studies now form an integral part of the repertoire for any pianist who addresses today's music.

For the second time, due to its specificity in regards to contemporary repertoire, the Ferruccio Busoni International Piano Competition has asked the International piano competition of Orléans to create a selection of a short piano pieces, written between 2000 and 2018, to be integrated into its 62nd competition program. This collaboration came about thanks to the World Federation of International Music Competitions, an institution that brings the world's most prestigious competitions together and thus makes these exchanges possible. For logistical reasons, the list comprises works for acoustic, unprepared piano, without the aid of electronics; the works were selected from amongst those submitted to the competition in past years, those recorded and subsequently performed at concerts given by our laureates and those nominated for our Chevillion–Bonnaud composition prize. In our selection, we tried to provide a tableau as international and diverse as possible, which reflects today's piano scene.

To all of the pianists who take on the challenge of this musical adventure in discovery of sound: Good luck! And to the Busoni Competition: We hope that the 62nd competition will be as memorable as always. The 14th Concours international de piano d'Orléans will take place in April 2020; the regulations will be posted on our website www.oci-piano.com by the end of January 2019.

Isabella Vasilotta

Concours international de piano d'Orléans – France
Artistic Director

