

DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPETITION

PRESENTATION

The International Early Music Competition in Loire Valley is open to all instrumental ensembles performing repertoire from the 17th and 18th centuries on period instruments (Baroque chamber ensembles).

Organized by Stradivaria, the aim of this competition is to promote ensembles of young musicians who specialize in this repertoire.

The International Early Music Competition in Loire Valley 2024 will take place from May 22nd in Fontevraud to May 23rd in Nantes, France. The theme will be: « Man & Nature ».

The concert of winning ensemble will take place on May 26th 2024 in Angers.

STEPS AND SCHEDULE

December, 1st 2023: Opening of online applications <http://www.international-early-music-competition.com>

March, 15th 2024: Applications deadline

First-half of April 2024: Preselection on files - Preselection Committee

April, 15th 2024: Announcement of the selected ensembles

May, 22nd 2024: Semi-Finals – Fontevraud Abbey, St-Benoist Chapel (49)

May, 23rd 2024: Final – Nantes, Conservatoire (44)

May, 25th 2024: Winner Ensemble: Radio Invitation, Radio France/France Musique – Paris.

May, 26th 2024: Gala concert by the 1st Prize winner- Angers, Conservatoire (49)

LOCALIZATION

May 22 nd 2024	May, 23 rd 2024	May 26 th 2024
<u>Semi-finals</u> Saint-Benoît Chapel Royal Abbey of Fontevraud 49590 Fontevraud	<u>Final</u> Salle Wigman, Conservatoire 4 rue Gaëtant Rondeau 44000 Nantes	<u>Gala Concert</u> Auditorium, Conservatoire Esplanade Henri-Dutilleux, 49000 Angers

JURY

William CHRISTIE, *President of the Jury* - harpsichordist, director and founder of *Les Arts Florissants*

Daniel CULLER, violonist and founder of *Stradivaria* (organizer of the competition)

Corine SCHNEIDER, musicologist and executive producer at France Musique

Nicolas BUCHER, organist and harpsichordist, director of *Centre de Musique Baroque de Versailles*

Aline ZYLBERAJCH, harpsichordist, pianofortist, teacher at CNSM de Paris

PRIZES

The awards are as follow:

1st Prize Winner

- 4,000€
- 2 broadcast paid concerts in the 2024-2025 season (Nantes and Cultural Center of Thiré)
- promotional video clip lasting around 3 minutes.
- Invitation on France Musique's "live" program (hosted by Clément Rochefort and Xavier Carrère) on May 25, 2024

2nd Prize : 2,000€

The winning ensemble(s) undertake to mention the International Early Music Competition in Loire Valley in their biography and on their website during 4 years.

APPLICATIONS

ELIGIBILITY

The Competition is open to all instrumental baroque ensembles, whose average age will not exceed 30 years old on the day of the final. The Competition is only open to instrumental ensembles. All programmes with voice will not be taken into account.

GUIDELINES

Applications must be submitted only online on <http://www.international-early-music-competition.com> until March, 15th 2024.

Required documents:

- a clear copy of a proof of age document (ID or passport) of each member (.jpg format);
- a document with the biographies of each member of the ensemble, the ensemble's CV and its activity;
- audio files in .mp3 format (5 files maximum), with a piece or a group of pieces which represent(s) the ensemble's repertoire. The length of the recording must not exceed 15 minutes and must be accompanied by details on the programme (author, title, key, opus number) and a certification from a third-party that the recording is live and unedited. The recording must be representative of the competition's theme (Man & Nature).
- application fees (50€) will be paid by bank transfer or by Paypal.

Applications are not considered complete until all documents and fees have been received by the administration of the competition, no later than March 15th 2024.

SELECTION PROCESS

The preselection committee, composed of two personalities appointed by Stradivaria, will meet to listen to the recordings received with the application in order to select ensembles for the Competition.

The results of this preliminary selection will be published online and communicated to all candidates by the end of April 2024.

The selected ensembles will then have to send by April 15th 2024 at the latest, to the following e-mail address contact@international-early-music-competition.com :

- a high-definition color photo of the ensemble in .jpg format;
- detailed programmes (author, title, key, opus numbers, length) of what the ensemble will play.

For the semi-finals, the programme of the ensemble will have to be based on the following theme :« *Man & Nature* »

It will have an overall duration of 20 mn. This programme will be different from the one presented for the Final.

For the final, the selected ensembles will have to perform a choice of the following (duration, 30min):

- Carlo Farina's « *Capriccio Stravagante* ».
- an instrumental Suite by Jean-Fery Rebel on the theme "Man and Nature"

The First-Prize winner agrees to offer a Gala concert on May 26th, 2024 in the Conservatoire of Angers. The programme of this concert can incorporate some pieces performed during the Competition.

THE COMPETITION

TRAVEL AND ACCOMODATION

- Candidates are responsible for paying their own travel costs.
- CIMA is offering free accommodation to all the candidates selected for the semi-final.
 - Rooms for 4 to 6 people, shared bathrooms.
 - Arrival possible from May 21, 2024 in the middle of the day.
 - Departure on the morning of May 23.

 - Address :
Foyer Rural
11 Place de la Mairie
49650 Brain-sur-Allonnes
France

The CIMA team can organize transfers from Saumur Station to Brain-sur-Allonnes and from Brain-sur-Allonnes to the Royal Abbey of Fontevraud.

For the winning ensemble, travels from Nantes to Paris for the radio show recording and from Paris to Angers for the gala concert, as well as accommodation in Angers on May 25th will be taken in charge by CIMA.

A rehearsal room with harpsichord and organ will be available on May 24th for the winner.

SCHEDULE AND REHEARSAL

SEMI-FINAL

The Semi-Final will take place on Friday, May 22nd 2024 from 10am in the St-Benoist Chapel of the Royal Abbaye of Fontevraud (France). The Semi-Final will not be open to the public.

A rehearsal room will be available to all ensembles on May 21st at Foyer Rural during afternoon and evening and all day on May 22nd at Fontevraud according to a predefined schedule.

FINAL

The Final will take place on Saturday, May 23rd 2024 in the Conservatoire of Nantes.

Selected ensembles will have the possibility to rehearse on stage before performing in front of the jury, and a practice room will be available in order of passage.

INSTRUMENTS AVAILABLE

Practice room:

- 1 double-manual Franco-Flemish harpsichord 2 x 8' + 4' + lute
- 1 positive organ 8' + 4' (if needed)
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Stage in front of the jury:

- 1 double-manual French harpsichord (2 x 8' + 4' + lute)
- 1 positive organ 8' + 4'

Instruments will be tuned and available for the candidates during the opening hours of the competition.

Tuning will be specified later on

FURTHER INFORMATIONS

INSURANCE

Stradivaria will not be held accountable nor financially compensate the competitors for any physical, material or mental damage that might have occurred during the period of the Competition or any activating pertaining to the Competition. Each competitor must sign up for a necessary insurance.

COPYRIGHT AND PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

For any performance that takes place during the competition, the organiser has the right to:

- broadcast it via television, radio or internet;
- record it, whether the recording will be broadcasted or not;
- take recordings, photos or videos.

An authorization for image rights will be sent to each participant.

In accordance with French law, CIMA undertakes to use the personal data provided by candidates only for the purposes of the competition.

LEGAL GUIDELINES

According to the French taxation law, prize money is not subject to taxes.

Stradivaria will, if needed, amend any of the rules stated.

ORGANIZATION

STRADIVARIA - ORCHESTRE BAROQUE DE NANTES

Daniel CULLER, Founder of Stradivaria

Guillaume CULLER, Artistic Director

Arnaud AURAY, Administrator

Laetitia SAUER, Production and Distribution Manager

Clotilde BUFFENOIR, Production CIMA

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