



International cello making and sound competition

VioloncellenSeine 2016

***Co-organised by the French Cello Society and the Paris
« Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional »***

1-4 December 2016

***Director of the competition : Raphaël PIDOUX
Coordinator : Fabienne RINGENBACH***

PRINCIPLE

This competition aims at pointing out several instruments worthy of interest, in terms of both the instrument making and the sound.

AWARDS

Each member of the jury (consisting of violin makers and cellists) selects three instruments he wishes to stand up for at the public final, during which the chosen cellos will be played.

All the finalists receive at least a certificate.

At the end of the final, each member of the jury awards his « Coup de cœur » (his "Favourite") to a cello, thus giving the latter his name.

So will the audience and the members of the AFV.

Considering that there is no notation system, the subjective nature of these rewards is not denied. Nevertheless, the quality of the members of the juries is not questionable because of their career path and their fame.

There will thus be awarded several «Coups de Cœur luthier», several «Coups de Cœur musicien», one «Coup de cœur du Public» and one «Coup de Cœur AFV 2016». Therefore, there may be as many awarded instruments as there will be members of the jury. A same instrument may also be awarded several « Coups de Cœur ».

CONDITIONS

This year's competition is dedicated to « modern » cellos. Copies of old instruments or cellos inspired of old instruments, new creations or innovative instruments are accepted. All types of varnishes are accepted too.

Each competitor may present several instruments provided that he informs the coordinator in advance and that the total number of cellos that entered the competition does not exceed sixty.

RECEPTION OF THE INSTRUMENTS

It is preferable that the cellos are given personally to the coordinator on Wednesday, **30th November 2016**, at the « Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional », 14 rue de Madrid, 75 008 Paris, between 2 and 8 p.m. The instruments may exceptionally be sent by post or left directly at Jean BÉJUY's workshop (69 rue de Rome, 75 008 Paris), between 21st and 30th November 2016. When received, a certificate of deposit will be signed. Each instrument must be accompanied by a set of replacement strings.

Neither bow nor other object must be left in the cases or covers.

Any instrument received outside these dates will be refused.

ANONYMITY

The makers are allowed to sign their instruments, but the signature (handwritten, label, ...) will have to be concealed in order that no visible sign, inside or outside the cello might damage the rules of anonymity. Otherwise, the instruments will not be accepted or disqualified.

When received, each instrument will be given a number it will keep until the end of the competition. Each maker and his number associated will be registered and kept secret during the competition. They will not be communicated until the end of the competition, where they will be awarded « Coups de cœur ».

REGISTRATION FEES

When registering, application fees of 80 euros should be paid by each candidate for each instrument he presents. Candidates will be given a receipt. No registering will be accepted after 30 November 2016.

Letters must be sent to the following address :

Association Française du Violoncelle
chez Michel ORIANO
2 rue Jacques Cœur
75004 Paris

Cheques will be payable to AFV.

If you prefer to pay by bank transfer, here are the particulars of the AFV's bank account :

Banque : *BNP Paribas*
Agence Paris Charonne
173 boulevard Voltaire
75011 PARIS

n° de compte : *30004 - 00365 - 00010030111 - 48*
Code IBAN : *FR 76 3000 4003 6500 0100 3011 48*
Code BIC : *BNPAFRPPBY*

THE JURY

The jury of the competition consists of four cellists and three violin makers : Simeone MORASSI, Isabelle WILBAUX et Guy COQUOZ. The names of the cellists will be communicated to the candidates in due time, the jury being currently in the process of setting-up. The decisions of the jury will be irrevocable.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMPETITION

- First stage, 1st December 2016 : Elimination of the instruments considered to be far from the level expected by the jury of violin makers. No contesting is possible.
- Second stage : after being minutely observed by each violin maker, and after being played by each cellist of the jury, each member of the jury will select three instruments he considers worthy to be highlighted. Each of the instruments selected during this stage will be delivered a certificate.
- Final stage, 3rd December 2016 : the selected cellos will be played in front of an audience by professional musicians who do not belong to the jury. Both the audience and the members of the AFV will vote for their favourite instruments. In the meantime, the jury will deliberate and each member will choose his « coup de coeur ». The names of the competitors will be revealed after the deliberations.

If the number of registrations happens to be inadequate, the organisers may modify the modalities of the competition. In this case, the candidates will be informed in due time.

AWARDING THE « COUPS DE CŒUR »

The awards ceremony will take place in the afternoon of Saturday 3rd December at the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional, 14 rue de Madrid, 75008 Paris. Each awarded instrument will be played during a concert on Sunday morning, 4th December, in the same place.

EXHIBITION OF THE INSTRUMENTS

All the cellos that have been presented to the competition will be exhibited on Sunday afternoon, 4th December at the Conservatoire. The visitors will be allowed to try and play the instruments under the supervision of the present candidates or, if necessary, of the organisers. At this occasion, the presence of both the members of the jury and the candidates is highly wished.

After the final, the awarded cellos are marked temporarily in order to identify them easily.

RETURN OF THE INSTRUMENTS

Since one of the aims of this competition is to allow musicians to watch and test the cellos, the competitors commit themselves to leaving their cellos until Sunday, 4th December 2016, 6 pm, at the end of the public exhibition. They may then get their instruments back, from 6 to 8 pm.

If an instrument has to be posted back, the pre-filled return form as well as the payment of the return fares must be left with the instruments. Otherwise, the cellos will be kept by the Association Française du Violoncelle for one year. In case an instrument has not been got back during this time, it will be offered to an association implied in music.

INSURANCE

Each instrument must be insured by its owner during the time of the competition, during which it will be stored in a secured room until the opening of the public exhibition, entrance and exit of which are kept watch on.

If necessary, and in order not to be disqualified, the candidates accept that the organisation ask a qualified violin-maker to carry out restickings and minor repairings.

Some points are still to be made clear. All the candidates will be informed in due time of the evolution of the organisation.

For more information, you may visit our web site : violoncellenseine.fr

You can also contact Fabienne Ringenbach, the organiser of the competition :
lutherie@violoncellenseine.fr