

Press Release
17 July 2019

International Cochran Piano Competition 2019 RESULTS

The Georgian pianist Gvantsa Zangaladze has won the 2019 edition of the International Cochran Piano Competition – the first online piano competition for adults which focuses on innovation, technology, and comprehensive long-term artistic development, created in 2014. She has also received the Special Prize for the best interpretation of Julian Cochran's works.

The Jury praised the pianist greatly for both her technique and her imagination.

“Wonderful interpretation and way of speaking music which is from understanding of texture and her precise intention” **Yejin Gil**

“A professional pianist, with a deep awareness of music and piano expression” **Roberto Prosseda**

“A wonderful pianist & musician who has a clear concept of the music she plays, plus a fine imagination [...] In all the Cochran pieces, she made perfect sense of everything, with wonderful colours, and superb tone control” **Gil Sullivan**

“Great confidence and a true professional outlook” **Jacob Shaw**

“Clearly a brilliant artist” **Stuart Isacoff**

The remaining Laureates of the Competition (in alphabetical order) are: **Jaeden Izik-Dzurko** (Canada/USA), **Sophia Pileggi** (USA), **Viacheslav Shelepov** (Russia/Germany).

Gvantsa Zangaladze (b. 1986)

The Georgian-born pianist, Gvantsa Zangaladze, graduated from Tbilisi State Conservatory where she studied under Svetlana Korsantia. She was one of the few Georgian students to win the Presidential Master's Program that supported her studies at Mannes College of Music in New York City, where she received her master's degree in the studio of Eteri Andjaparidze. She is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in piano performance at Stony Brook University.

Her main achievements include 3rd prize at the Heida Hermanns International Piano Competition in 2016 and the final round of the Washington International Piano Competition in 2014. She performs both as a solo pianist and a chamber musician. Her recent performances took place at such renowned locations as the Kennedy Center of Performing Arts, Tishman Auditorium at the New School, or Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall.

INTERNATIONAL COCHRAN PIANO COMPETITION AWARDS

The Winner of the 4th edition of the International Cochran Piano Competition receives The Yamaha Grand Piano GB1; a Monaco Masterclass Trip which consists of individual masterclasses with Julian Cochran in Monaco, with costs of travel, accommodation, meals, local transportation, visa and insurance covered by the International Cochran Piano Competition; professional studio recording sessions along with the publication of the recorded audio material; and ten online sessions (one hour each) with a practitioner specialized in musicians' physical and mental preparation.

The Laureates (including the Winner) receive the Julian Cochran Residency Award – a fully funded Residency in Warsaw taking place between 18-25 October 2019 which will include concert opportunities, mentoring sessions, workshops, photo and recording sessions as well as a closing award ceremony in Warsaw.

The recipient of the Special Prize for the best interpretation of Julian Cochran's works receives a piano bench funded by Hidrau Model.

INTERNATIONAL COCHRAN PIANO COMPETITION FORMULA

The International Cochran Piano Competition is the first online piano competition. The Participants select the works they would like to perform and then submit the video recordings of their performances to the Accepted platform. About half of the chosen repertoire has to consist of works of Julian Cochran. In the next stage, the performances are then evaluated by the Jury. There is no president in the Jury panel. To provide maximum transparency, each of the Jury Members works independently and there is no communication between them. The choice of the Winner is based solely on the number of total points earned. After the results are announced, each pianist receives feedback on their performance from all Jury Members (sent as PDF files). Each pianist has the opportunity to speak via Skype with the jury member of their choice about their performance. The International Cochran Piano Competition has no upper age limit and is open to pianists from all countries. For instance, Winners of the previous editions were: Svetlana Gololobova (Ukraine), Piotr Grelowski (Poland), and Yukiko Hinami (Japan).

JULIAN COCHRAN

Julian Cochran (1974) is an Australian pianist, composer, and mathematician. Cochran's compositions interlace the aesthetics of Romanticism and early 20th century styles to arrive at an original musical language which draws from the pianistic heritage of Liszt, Chopin, Balakirev, Prokofiev, and Ravel. His music retains traditional structure, tonality and form. Its highly suggestive melodic and clear structure have contributed to Cochran's growing popularity across the globe.