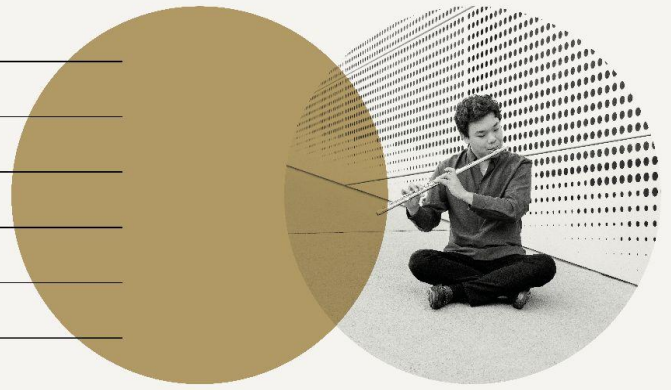


77^e CONCOURS DE GENÈVE
INTERNATIONAL
MUSIC COMPETITION
23 OCT-4 NOV 2023
Flute & String Quartet



The Novo Quartet wins First Prize at the 77th Concours de Genève

Press release: 29 October 2023

- The First Prize of the 77th Concours de Genève, which took place tonight (29 October) at Victoria Hall, Geneva has been awarded to the Novo Quartet.
- Founded in Copenhagen in 2018, Novo Quartet is one of the most promising young ensembles in Denmark. Currently based in Vienna and Copenhagen, the quartet consists of violinists Kaya Kato Møller and Nikolai Vasili Nedergaard, violist Daniel Śledziński and cellist Signe Ebstrup Bitsch.
- The Second Prize has been awarded jointly to Quartett Hana and Quatuor Elmire.
- Jury Chair and first violin of the Belcea Quartet, Corina Belcea, says: *"The atmosphere of Competition felt more like a festival, and I know that all of the Quartets will have a fantastic career ahead of them, and we'll be delighted to hear them many times in the future. There was no Third Prize awarded this year, as we felt the standard was just so high. We are thrilled to award the First Prize to the Novo Quartet."*
- The Final Round took place tonight (29 October) at Victoria Hall, Geneva, with First Prizewinners, the Novo Quartet, performing Mendelssohn's String Quartet No. 2 in A minor, Op. 13. Quartett Hana performed Mendelssohn's String Quartet No. 3 in D Major, Op. 44/1, with Quatuor Elmire performing Beethoven's String Quartet No. 8 in E minor, Op. 59/2, "Razumovsky".
- The String Quartet Final was live streamed on Concours de Genève's website & social media channels, as well as on amadeus.tv, thestrad.com and The Violin Channel. Plus a live broadcast on the Radio Télévision Suisse (RTS-Espace 2) and medici.tv.
- The Prizewinners concert will take place tomorrow (30th October) at Temple de Jussy, Geneva.
- The complete list of Prizes can be found below with biographies of the Laureates on page 2.

Video and photo links

Video of the Final: [Concours de Genève String Quartet Final](#)

Photos in HD © Anne-Laure Lechat: [Concours de Genève String Quartet Photos](#)

Official Prizes

FIRST PRIZE (CHF 20,000.-) - Novo Quartet

SECOND PRIZE (CHF 12,000.-) - Quartett Hana and Quatuor Elmire

Special Prizes

AUDIENCE PRIZE: CHF 1,500.- Novo Quartet

The Audience Prize is awarded by the spectators of the Final Rounds. The finalist who receives the most ballots is the winner of this prize.

YOUNG AUDIENCE PRIZE: CHF 1,000.- Novo Quartet

The Young Audience Prize is awarded by a group of students from public and private schools in Geneva, having formerly received a specific training. Their evaluation assesses the two Final Rounds.

STUDENTS' PRIZE: CHF 1,000.- Novo Quartet

The Students' Prize is awarded by a group of students from the Faculty of Music and the Department of Musicology of the University of Geneva, who evaluate both Finals. It is integrated in their official curriculum. The Students' Prize is offered by Ms. & Mr. Hervieu-Causse.

CONCERTS DE JUSSY PRIZE: CHF 4,000.- Novo Quartet

The "Concerts de Jussy" Special Prize is awarded to the winner of the String Quartet Competition and consists in a concert on October 30th at the Temple de Jussy.

FONDATION ETRILLARD PRIZE CHF 5000.- Quatuor El mire

The "Fondation Etrillard" Prize is awarded by the Jury to the quartet finalist who has presented the most remarkable personal artistic project during the semi-final round.

Laureates also received special gifts from the Concours de Genève's partner Pirastro Strings.

Biographies of the winners

Novo Quartet

Founded in 2018 in Copenhagen, the Novo Quartet is continuing its studies at the Vienna University of the Arts in the ECMASter programme with Johannes Meissl. Prior to this, the Novo Quartet studied with Tim Frederiksen at the Royal Danish Academy of Music and received guidance from members of the Alban Berg Quartet, the Artemis Quartet, the Jerusalem Quartet, the Modigliani Quartet and the Danish String Quartet. In spring 2023, the Novo Quartet won 2nd Prize at the Nielsen Competition in Copenhagen, after winning 1st Prize at the Steels-Wilsing Competition in Heidelberg and 2nd Prize at the Trondheim Competition in 2021.

Kaya Kato Møller plays a violin by Josef Guaragnini from 1800, Nikolai Nedergaard a violin by David Tecchler from 1706 and Daniel Śledziński a viola by Noémie Viaud from 2021, thanks to a generous loan from the Augustinus Foundation. Signe Ebstrup Bitsch plays a modern cello by Wojciech Topa, which he owns.

Quartett Hana

The Quartett Hana was founded in April 2019 at the Munich University of Music and Performing Arts, where the four musicians studied with Raphaël Merlin, the Ebène Quartet, and Hariolf Schlichtig of the Cherubini Quartett. They have also received advice from Eberhard Feltz and Dirk Mommertz (Fauré Quartett) and taken part in numerous masterclasses with members of the Artemis, Berg, Kuss and Voce quartets. Winner of an Encouragement Prize at the ARD Competition in Munich in 2022, the Quartett Hana won 3rd Prize at the Nielsen Competition in

Copenhagen in spring 2023. Since 2021 they have been supported by the Yehudi Menuhin Live Music Now Fund in Munich.

The two violinists alternate the roles of first and second violin.

Quatuor Elmiré

The Quatuor Elmiré, founded in 2017, has already made its mark on the French and international scene. The four Paris-based musicians have taken advice from the greatest quartets, including members of the Hagen, Ysaÿe, Berg, Modigliani, Belcea and Ebène quartets. In 2019, the Quatuor Elmiré won 3rd prize and a special prize at the Nielsen Competition in Copenhagen, and has performed at numerous festivals in France, with more soon in Germany. The Quatuor Elmiré is an artist resident at the Fondation Singer-Polignac, resident artist at the Chapelle Musicale Reine Elisabeth, "grand résident" at the ProQuartet association, Spedidam Generation Artist, as well as Laureate of the Fondation Banque Populaire.

David Petrlik plays a Jean Baptiste Vuillaume violin from 1842, Yoan Brakha plays a Nicolas Desrousseaux violin from 1747, Hortense Fourrier a Joël Klépal viola from 2017 and Rémi Carlon a Gioffredo Cappa cello from 1714.

Official Jury

Corina Belcea, Chair

First violin, Belcea Quartet

William Coleman

Viola, Kuss Quartet

Lesley Robertson

Viola and founder, St. Lawrence String Quartet

Gabriel Le Magadure

Second violin, Quatuor Ebène

Christian Poltéra

Cello, soloist, member of several ensembles

Vineta Sareika

First violin, Artemis Quartet,

Concertmeister Berliner Philharmoniker

Lydia Shelley

Cello, Quatuor Voce

General information

- The 77th Concours de Genève is devoted to Flute and String Quartet. Following the preselection round, which was held this Spring in Geneva, 40 flautists and 14 string quartets were selected to compete in the 2023 edition.
- For the first round of the competition, candidates had to independently produce a video recital, which was broadcast online from 11-20 September. The Semi-Final and Final Rounds of the Competition will be held from 24 October - 4 November in Geneva, Switzerland. Tickets can be purchased on www.concoursgeneve.ch
- Of the 229 artists who applied for the 2023 Competition, 100 musicians were selected to compete in the 77th Concours de Genève, comprising 40 flautists and 14 string quartets.
- The Competition also offers an ambitious career development programme. Comprising different modules, it seeks to help the laureates explore and define their artistic identity, whilst providing the necessary tools to launch an international career.
- In addition to the official prizes, laureates benefit from two years of services from the concert agency Sartory Artists, partner agency of the Concours de Genève. This includes career

management, personal coaching and multiple concerts, enabling them to take their first steps on the Swiss and international music scenes.

- Since 2017, the Concours de Genève has offered its prizewinners a professional workshop where they not only acquire knowledge, but above all, get to exchange with their peers, and professionals of the music industry. This year, the workshop will be introducing concert agencies, communication, new concert formats, video, and social media. Participants will also have to present a personal artistic project. All of this will culminate in a public session on Sunday 5 November at the Fondation Louis-Jeantet, in the presence of guests and artistic personalities.
- Past String Quartet Laureates include Quatuor Voce (2006), Quatuor Hermès (2011), Armida Quartett (2001), Vision String Quartet (2016), Quatuor Hanson (2016), amongst many others.
- Founded in 1939, Concours de Genève is one of the world's leading international music competitions. It aims at discovering, promoting, and supporting young talented artists, giving them the necessary tools to launch an international career. Several main disciplines rotate annually, including piano, flute, oboe, clarinet, cello, viola, string quartet, voice, percussion, and composition, which is held every second year.



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