

PRESS RELEASE

74° CONCOURS DE GENÈVE – INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION PERCUSSION & COMPOSITION: 8-21 NOV. 2019

South Korean percussionist Hyeji Bak wins 74th Geneva Competition!

Geneva, 29.11.2019 – 28-year-old South Korean Hyeji Bak won First Prize of the Geneva Percussion Competition last Friday! Ms. Marianna Bednarska (25 years old, Poland) won Second Prize and Mr. Till Lingenberg (22 years old, Switzerland, Germany) was awarded Third Prize. The 74th Geneva International Music Competition, section Percussion, took place from 11-21 November 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland. The Final Round was held last Friday with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, conducted by Julien Leroy and was broadcast live on RTS-Espace 2 and live streamed on YouTube.

Ms. Hyeji Bak was widely acclaimed by the audience during the Final Round, and was awarded not only Audience Prize, but also Young Audience Prize and Students' Prize. Ms. Bak also won "Bergerault" Special Prize (consisting in a marimba worth 15'000 Euros) and "Concerts de Jussy" Prize (3'000 CHF and a concert). Hyeji Bak and Marianna Bednarska were jointly awarded "Yamaha Young Artists Scholarship" Special Prize, which gives them the opportunity to perform two chamber music concerts with the Percussion Section of the NDR Elbphilharmonie (Hamburg, Germany).

Philippe Spiesser, Jury Chair, noted the very high level of this year's candidates: "It was for me an immense privilege to be able to listen to all these extraordinary musicians throughout the competition. This Final Round in itself reflects the diversity and excellence of today's young percussionists".

During the final round of the 74th Geneva International Music Competition, which was held on Thursday 21 November in Geneva, Switzerland, the three candidates had to present a program in two parts: a first part consisting in a solo programme at free choice, with the possible use of electronics and/or video. During the second part, finalists had to perform a compulsory concerto for percussion and orchestra Speaking Drums by Peter Eötvös with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, conducted by Julien Leroy.

Members of the Official Jury were: Philippe Spiesser (Chair, France) Daniel Druckman (United States), Fritz Hauser (Switzerland), Aiyun Huang (Taiwan-Canada), Marta Klimasara (Poland/Germany), Isao Nakamura (Japan/Germany) et Hèctor Parra (Spain).

PRIZEWINNERS CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

In addition to its official prizes, Geneva offers a career development programme, providing precious support and advice to help boost laureates' careers. The programme includes two years of concert management, as well as CD recordings, international tours and professional workshop.

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PRIZES

OFFICIAL PRIZES

FIRST PRIZE Ms. Hyeji Bak (28 years old, South Korea)	CHF 20'000.-
SECOND PRIZE Ms. Marianna Bednarska (25 years old, Poland)	CHF 12'000.-
THIRD PRIZE M. Till Lingenberg (22 years old, Germany/Switzerland)	CHF 8'000.-

PRIX SPÉCIAUX

AUDIENCE PRIZE Ms. Hyeji Bak (28 years old, South Korea) <i>Awarded by the audience of the final round.</i>	CHF 1'500.-
YOUNG AUDIENCE PRIZE Ms. Hyeji Bak (28 years old, South Korea)	CHF 1'000.-
STUDENTS PRIZE Ms. Hyeji Bak (28 years old, South Korea) <i>Awarded by students in Musicology of the University of Geneva.</i>	CHF 1'000.-
CONCERTS DE JUSSY PRIZE Ms. Hyeji Bak (28 years old, South Korea)	CHF 3'000.- & a concert
BERGERAULT PRIZE Ms Hyeji Bak (28 years old, South Korea)	A 5-octave Marimba worth 16'000 Euros
YAMAHA YOUNG ARTISTS SCHOLARSHIP PRIZE Ms. Marianna Bednarska Ms. Hyeji Bak	2 chamber music concerts with the percussion section of the NDR Elbphilharmonie

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PERCUSSION PRIZEWINNERS 2019

HYEJI BAK, 28 YEARS OLD, SOUTH KOREA

FIRST PRIZE, Audience Prize, Young Audience Prize, Students Prize,
Bergerault Prize, Yamaha Young Artists Scholarship Prize, Concerts de Jussy Prize



Hyeji Bak started her musical studies with the piano before switching to percussion when she was 14 years old. She was quickly distinguished with a Prize from the Kyeongnuk University of Arts in Korea. From 2006 to 2010, she performed worldwide as a member of the Prodigy Youth Orchestra. In 2008, she appeared as soloist with the Daegu Philharmonic Orchestra and won 3rd Prize at the Daegu Music Society Competition.

Ms. Bak was a student at the Korea National University of Arts, before continuing her studies in Stuttgart with Marta Klimasara. She won 1st Prize at the 2017 Universal Marimba Competition in Belgium, as well as at the Sparda Classic Awards. She was invited to perform as soloist at the Croatia International Percussion Festival in 2016 and at the Pau Festival in 2018. In Spring 2019, she gave a solo performance for the 50th Anniversary of the Kolberg Festival.

COMPETITION PROGRAMME

RECITAL 1

- B. Mantovani: Moi, jeu...
- I. Xenakis: Rebonds A and B

RECITAL 2

- M. Jarrell: Entlehnungen (compulsory work for marimba solo)
- N. Fukushi: Ground
- J. Druckman: Reflections on the nature of water 3rd and 6th mvt

SEMI-FINAL ROUND

- P. Jodlowski: I.T. (compulsory work for percussion, bass-clarinet and soundtrack)
- S. Sciarrino: Il legno e la parola
- J. Alvarez: Temazcal
- P. Hurel: Loops II

FINAL ROUND

- C. Hatzis: Fertility Rites
- M. Borboudakis: Evlogitária
- P. Eötvös: Speaking Drums

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PERCUSSION PRIZEWINNERS 2019

MARIANNA BEDNARSKA, 25 YEARS OLD, POLAND

SECOND PRIZE, Yamaha Young Artists Scholarship Prize



Polish percussionist Marianna Bednarska leads a remarkable career as soloist, chamber and orchestra musician. She has appeared at many festivals and performed with renowned musicians. Ms. Bednarska started her musical studies with the piano when she was seven years old in Warsaw, then took up percussion as a pupil of Henryk Mikołajczyk. She pursued her studies in Stuttgart with Marta Klimasara before entering the class of Philippe Spiesser at the Music University of Geneva, where she is currently finishing a master's degree in solo music performance. Marianna has won many important prizes, including the "Prix Crédit Suisse Jeune Soliste" in 2019, "Grand Prize" at the ENKOR 2018 International Music Competition, 2nd Prize at the Universal Marimba Competition of the

Belgian Queen in 2017 and 1st Prize at the Northwestern International Percussion Competition (Chicago) in 2016. She has performed as soloist in many countries in Europe (Germany, Austria, Denmark, Netherlands, France, Belgium, etc.) and in the United States with prestigious orchestras. She has been awarded scholarships in Poland, Germany, Switzerland and Denmark ('Polish-Danish Friendship Prize', culminating in the CD recording of Anders Koppel's four Marimba Concertos in 2014).

COMPETITION PROGRAMME

RECITAL 1

- B. Mantovani: Moi, jeu...
- I. Xenakis: Rebonds A and B

RECITAL 2

- M. Jarrell: Entlehnungen (compulsory work for marimba solo)
- F. Durieux: Incidences
- G. Aperghis: Le Corps à corps

DEMI-FINALE

- P. Jodlowski: I.T. (compulsory work for percussion, bass-clarinet and soundtrack)
- H. Parra: Mineral Life
- L. Naón: Caprice 5 and 6

FINALE

- V. Globokar: ?Corporel
- D. Scarlatti: Sonata in D minor K.141 — I. Xenakis: Psappha
- P. Eötvös: Speaking Drums

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PERCUSSION PRIZEWINNERS 2019

TILL LINGENBERG, 22 YEARS OLD, GERMANY/SWITZERLAND

THIRD PRIZE



Till Lingenberg began studying percussion with Didier Métrailler at the Sion Conservatory at the age of five. He has won many prizes as soloist or in duet at local and national competitions. In September 2011, he participated in the Keiko Abe Lausanne International Marimba Academy (KALIMA). He also took part in summer academies with Philippe Macé, Jean Geoffrey, Michel Gastaud and Franck Tartiller. In 2012, he began studying at the Geneva University of Music in the class of Yves Brustaux, Claude Gastaldin, Christophe Delannoy, François Desforges and Philippe Spiesser, where he obtained his master's in solo music performance. He regularly performs with orchestras such as the Verbier Festival Orchestra, the Verbier Festival Chamber Orchestra, the Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra and the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande. He has

performed with percussion ensembles such as Eklekto in Geneva, Decibells in Basel and co-founded Percussion CYTi Duo. Besides percussion, Till is passionate about electronic music and jazz. In 2017, he won the Study Prize of the Pour-cent culturel Migros.

COMPETITION PROGRAMME

RECITAL 1

- B. Mantovani: Moi, jeu...
- K. Volans: She who sleeps with a small blanket

RECITAL 2

- M. Jarrell: Entlehnungen (compulsory work for marimba solo)
- M. Jarrell: Assonance VII
- V. Globokar: ?Corporel

DEMI-FINALE

- P. Jodlowski: I.T. (compulsory work for percussion, bass-clarinet and soundtrack)
- P. Jodlowski: Time & Money, 1st mvt
- T. Lingenberg: Corpus
- M. Ishii: Thirteen Drums

FINALE

- P. Jodlowski: 24 Loops
- Pateras: Mutant Theatre
- P. Eötvös: Speaking Drums

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CONCOURS DE GENEVE – INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION

Founded in 1939, the Geneva Competition 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.

Within the world of international music competitions, a multi-disciplinary approach is rare and represents one of the Geneva's most distinctive assets. Since its creation in 1939, 26 disciplines have been presented: instrumental, vocal, ensemble music or conducting.

Today, the Geneva Competition alternates between eight main disciplines: piano, flute, clarinet, cello, viola, string quartet, voice, percussion and composition.

Next year, Geneva will be organizing a Cello Competition (23 October - 5 November 2020). It is open to all cellists born after 5 November 1990. Application deadline: 30 April 2020.

PRESS MATERIAL

PHOTOS OF THE PRIZEWINNERS (please cite photographer's copyright):

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/osyod2yw6ahnlwh/AAAYn9dfUYyde5_lbw6oiFsa?dl=0

VIDEOS OF THE FINAL ROUND

Hyeji Bak, 1st Prize

- Final Round – Part 1 (solo): <https://youtu.be/i8lCAeGifgl>
- Final Round – Part 2 (concerto) : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pH-rEQpZiek&t=971s>

Marianna Bednarska, 2nd Prize

- Final Round – Part 1 (solo): https://youtu.be/0a_MHnvsSBU
- Final Round – Part 2 (concerto) : <https://youtu.be/BQAz1eKki4w>

Till Lingenberg, 3rd Prize

- Final Round – Part 1 (solo): <https://youtu.be/ZU3MQVW6EUU>
- Final Round – Part 2 (concerto) : https://youtu.be/s_cdSsCO_LE

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