

PRESS RELEASE

First part of the 75th Geneva Competition to be held online

Geneva, 23 March 2021 – Due to the uncertainty surrounding the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic, the Geneva International Music Competition has decided to hold the first part of its 75th edition online. The first two rounds of the Cello & Oboe Competition 2021 will be merged into a 45-minute online recital, which will be broadcast during the month of September. Selected candidates will have until August 15th to submit their video recordings for this first stage of the competition. Semi-final and final rounds will take place as planned in Geneva from 23-29 October 2021. Finalists will get to perform at Victoria Hall with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande.

Candidates have until April 30th to apply for the 75th Geneva International Music Competition, which offers cello & oboe. In order to ensure the best possible conditions for this year's competition, Geneva has decided to take the following measures:

- Registration fee of CHF 250.- is exceptionally reduced to CHF 150.-
- The first two rounds of each competition are merged into one single Online Recital.
- Selected candidates will each receive CHF 500.- for the video recording of the Online Recital, which will have to respect a set of very strict specifications.
- Selected candidates will have until 15 August to submit their video recordings.
- Online Recitals will be broadcast mid-September.
- 8 candidates per discipline (instead of 6) will be invited to take part in the Semi-Finals in Geneva. Their travel & accommodation fees will be entirely assumed by the organization.

Indeed, despite the ongoing progress of vaccination, the perspective of organizing the competition in its usual form – an event that brings together more than 100 candidates and jury members from around the world – appears highly unlikely. It is impossible to predict how travel restrictions will evolve within the next six months. Shifting the first part of the competition online would reduce the number of candidates to compete in Geneva by more than 80%, thereby greatly facilitating potential sanitary measures to be taken at the moment of the competition.

CELLO & OBOE COMPETITION 2021

The 75th Geneva Competition, which presents Cello & Oboe, is open to all candidates born after 29 October 1991. Application deadline is 30 April 2021. At the end of the Preliminary Round, which will be held at the end of May and beginning of June, 30 candidates per discipline will be selected upon video recording to participate in the Competition. Selected candidates will then have until August 15th to submit their video recordings of the Online Recital, which will be broadcast mid-September. The 16 young musicians (8 cellists & 8 oboists) qualified for the Semi-Finals will be invited to pursue the competition from October 23rd in Geneva, Switzerland. The Final rounds will be held on 28 and 29 October at Victoria Hall with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande.

Programme, rules, registration: www.concoursgeneve.ch

** Cellists who had already registered for the Cello Competition 2020, which was postponed due to the coronavirus crisis, can report their application to next year even if their age exceeds the limit set in the initial rules.*

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