

**PRESS ALERT – for immediate release**

---

**70<sup>th</sup> GENEVA INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION**

***Prizewinner of the Composition Prize announced !***

**Geneva, 8.11.15 – The Winner of the Geneva Competition 2015 Composition Prize is Mr. Shoichi Yabuta (Japan, 32 years old), for his work for string quartet *Billow*.**

The Audience, Young Audience and Students Special Prizes were awarded to 20-year-old South Korean Sunghyun Lee for his string quartet *Moment Etincelant*. Portuguese candidate Adérito Valente (35 years old) received the Heim Foundation Special Prize for his work *Onis ex Tempore*.

The subject of the Composition Prize 2015 was a piece for string quartet. The official Jury was composed of 5 world-renowned composers: Michael Jarrell (Chairman, Switzerland), Pascal Dusapin (France), Luca Francesconi (Italy), Dai Fujikura (Japan) et Wolfgang Rihm (Germany).

Four finalists from Japan, Portugal and South Korea were selected among 109 applications received from around the world (39 countries, 81 men/28 women, aged 16-39 years). Their works were performed as world premiere during tonight's Final Round by the Voce and Galatea Quartets, both former laureates of the Geneva Competition. The prizewinning work will then be taken as compulsory piece for the String Quartet Competition in 2016.

The Final Round was broadcast live on Radio Television Suisse – Espace 2 and video streamed on ARTE CONCERT and RTS.CH. The video will be available until June 2016:

<http://concert.arte.tv/fr/finale-du-concours-de-geneve>

<http://www.rts.ch/dossiers/2012/au-diapason-de-la-musique-classique/>

*New discipline at the Geneva Competition since 2011, composition pursues the tradition of the Prix Reine Marie José, founded in 1958. Its goal is to encourage new compositions and to support creation of quality. The Organisation of the Geneva Music Competition thanks the Reine Marie José Foundation for its generous support of this event.*

**LAUREATES FESTIVAL : 8-15 November**

The composition final concert marks the opening of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Laureates Festival. Within more than 75 years of existence, the Geneva Competition has revealed an impressive amount of musicians, some of whom are now world-renowned artists. From 8-15 November, this year's Festival offers no less than 14 concerts inviting close to thirty former laureates! Complete programme and tickets available on: [www.concoursgeneve.ch](http://www.concoursgeneve.ch)

Prizes & awards: p. 2

Finalists: p. 3

Jury members: p. 4-5

---

**CONTACT PRESSE :**

**Lisa Elias, Presse & Communication**

T (direct): +41 (0)22 328 17 51

P : +41 (0)78 641 59 39

[presse@concoursgeneve.ch](mailto:presse@concoursgeneve.ch)



Partenaire principal

*Concours de Genève  
Prix international  
d'interprétation  
& de composition*



Shoichi Yabuta, Composition Prize 2015 and Michael Jarrell, Chairman of the Jury  
photo © Anne-Laure Lechat

## **PRIZES & AWARDS 2015:**

---

### **OFFICIAL PRIZE**

#### **Laureate**

**Shoichi Yabuta, Japan, 35 y.o.**

**CHF 15'000.-**

### **SPECIAL PRIZES**

#### **Foundation Otto & Régine Heim Prize**

**Adérito Valente, Portugal, 35 y.o.**

**CHF 3'000.-**

#### **Audience Prize**

**Sunghyun Lee, South Korea, 20 y.o**

*Awarded by the public during the final round*

**CHF 1'500.-**

#### **Young Audience Prize**

**Sunghyun Lee, South Korea, 20 y.o**

*Awarded by the students of partner schools, presented by Médecins Sans Frontières*

**CHF 1'000.-**

#### **Students Prize**

**Sunghyun Lee, South Korea, 20 y.o**

*Awarded by students on the faculty of musicology, presented by Mr and Ms. Hervieu-Causse*

**CHF 1'000.-**

***The laureate receives a Breguet watch***

---

## **CONTACT PRESSE :**

**Lisa Elias, Presse & Communication**

T (direct): +41 (0)22 328 17 51

P : +41 (0)78 641 59 39

presse@concoursgeneve.ch



Partenaire principal

*Concours de Genève*  
*Prix international*  
*d'interprétation*  
*& de composition*

**FINALISTS OF THE COMPOSITION PRIZE 2015**

**Sunghyun Lee, South Korea, 20 y.o. | Work for string quartet: « Moment étincelant »**



Sunghyun Lee is currently studying composition at the Seoul National University with Ujong Choe. He has already won a number of distinctions, including 1st Prize at the Korea Journal of Music Competition, 2nd Prize at the Estonian National Academy of Music Competition and 1st Prize at the Music Association of Korea Competition. His works were performed by the Friction Quartet in 2013, by the Tongyeong International Music Festival Ensemble in 2014 and by the Daegu International Contemporary Music Festival Ensemble in 2015. Sunghyun Lee participated in masterclasses with South Korean composer Unsuk Chin between 2009 and 2014. He also benefited from her teaching during the Tongyeong International Music Festival Academy in 2011.

**Adérito Valente, Portugal, 35 y.o. | Work for string quartet: « Onis ex tempore »**



Born in Serpa, Portugal, Adérito Valente began his musical studies with the clarinet, before taking up the flute with Vasco Gouveia at the Evora Professional School of Music. In 2015, he entered the Escola Superior de Musica of Porto where he studied composition with a number of professors including Klas de Vries, Magnus Lindberg and Jonathan Harvey. He also followed seminars with Emanuel Nunes and Kaiji Saariaho. Valente then began his career as professor, choir director and composer. His compositions include works for different formations, ranging from solo instrument to orchestra and choir, as well as works with electronics. In 2009, he won 1st Prize at the Competition for Young Composers of the City of Portimão for a piece for string quartet. He currently teaches acoustics, analysis and composition at the Chaves Academy of Arts.

**Shoichi Yabuta, Japan, 32 y.o. | Work for string quartet: « Billow »**



Schoichi Yabuta studied composition at the Tokyo College of Music (Tokyo ondai) with Akira Nishimura, Tomiko Kojiba, Arima Reiko, Fujiwara Yutaka, Izuka Kunihiko and Bruce Stark. He also studied traditional Asian art (music, calligraphy, religion, aesthetics, cosmology, etc.), which has deeply influenced his work as a composer. He has already distinguished himself by winning several prizes : having obtained 2nd Prize at the Japan Music Competition three years in a row (2009-10-11) he is also winner of the Olivier Messiaen Prize (2012) and the Wiener Konzerthaus Prize (2013). He was awarded 1st Prize of the Sorodha Competition in 2013 and 2nd Prize of the New Note competition in Croatia in 2014. His catalogue counts a great number of

works for different formations ranging from solo instrument to orchestra.

**Hankyeol Yoon, Corée du Sud, 21 ans | Work for string quartet: « Klangfoto »**



Born in Daegu, Yoon Hankyeol studied at the Yewon School of Arts, then at the Seoul Art High School. His composition professors were Hong Sin Ju, Park Jun Yeong and Chin Kyu Yung. In 2011, he entered the Hochschule für Musik of Munich, in Germany, where he is currently pursuing his studies with Isabel Mundry. In addition to composition, he also studies the piano with Yuka Imamine and orchestra conducting with Bruno Weil. Hankyeol Yoon has won a number of composition awards, including 1st Prize at the Eumyoun Competition and 3rd Prize in Guenter-Bialas Composition Competition in Munich. His works were performed in Seoul at the 28th Eumyoun Young Music Festival in 2011, in Munich at the SIMEN'S Junge Solisten Stiftung in 2013 and at the Daegu

International Contemporary Music Festival in 2014.

---

**CONTACT PRESSE :**

**Lisa Elias, Presse & Communication**

T (direct): +41 (0)22 328 17 51

P : +41 (0)78 641 59 39

presse@concoursgeneve.ch



Partenaire principal