

**75<sup>e</sup> CONCOURS DE GENÈVE  
INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION**



**CELLO RULES**

**75<sup>th</sup> GENEVA INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION**  
**CELLO**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR 2021 CANDIDATES:**

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 Registration fee is reduced from CHF 250.- to CHF 150.-.

The Preliminary Round programme (video selection) remains unchanged.

Travel and accommodation expenses of candidates invited to perform live in Geneva (Semi-Final & Final rounds) will be covered by the Geneva Competition.

The first two rounds of the Cello Competition 2021 are 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. They will each receive CHF 500.- to cover the video recording expenses of their online recital.

Semi-final and Final rounds will take place as planned in Geneva from 23-28 October 2021. Finalists will get to perform at Victoria Hall with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande.

ORIGINAL COMPETITION FORMAT	NEW COMPETITION FORMAT
Preliminary Round (video selection)	<b>Preliminary Round (video selection)</b>
Recital 1 (live in Geneva)	<b>Online Recital</b>
Recital 2 (live in Geneva)	
Semi-Final Round (live in Geneva)	<b>Semi-Final Round (live in Geneva)</b>
Final Round with orchestra (live in Geneva)	<b>Final Round with orchestra (live in Geneva)</b>

## I. GENERAL CONDITIONS

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### CONDITIONS OF ADMISSION

The 75<sup>th</sup> Geneva Competition is open to all cellists born after 29 October 1991, regardless of gender or nationality.

Please note that candidates who had already registered for the 2020 Cello Competition, which was postponed due to the coronavirus crisis, can report their application to this year's competition even if their age exceeds the limit set in the following rules.

Candidates who have already won a first Prize at one of the earlier Geneva Competitions are not allowed to enter for the same discipline again.

### REGISTRATION

**Application deadline is 30 April 2021.** Candidates must register directly on our website [www.concoursgeneve.ch](http://www.concoursgeneve.ch)

**Registrations will only be considered as final until the following documents have been received (please send attachments in high definition):**

- An official confirmation of the candidate's age (ID or passport).
- A resume (studies, schools, teachers, professional activities, prizes).
- Two **different** and **recent** color photographs in high definition (300dpi).
- **A recent (less than 12 months) video recording** with the programme of the Preliminary Round - **Technical specifications described in the following article.**
- The recording must be accompanied by a **certificate** attesting its authenticity and integrity, signed by a professor or by the technician who made the video recording. This certificate must indicate the **place and the date of the recording of each piece.** (Certificate can be downloaded from our registration platform)
- A detailed programme of works performed during the Competition

For all questions or issues regarding registration, please contact us at the following address:  
[application@concoursgeneve.ch](mailto:application@concoursgeneve.ch)

## TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PRELIMINARY ROUND

### **VIDEO FORMAT:**

Recent (less than 12 months) and high-quality file(s), containing the required programme for the Preliminary Round only (**no YouTube links**).

In case of difficulty sending the files via our online registration platform, it is also possible to send them via another transfer service (e.g. WeTransfer, Google drive, etc.). Please specify it in the application form.

### **RECORDING:**

- a) All recordings must be UNEDITED (no cuts – no sound editing). Microphones should be positioned at a distance allowing to obtain a good sound quality. The video must be filmed from the front, using a fixed and wide camera angle. The performer must always remain visible.  
For the piece with piano, both performers must be visible.
- b) You may provide separate recordings for each piece, recorded in various places and at various times.
- c) In the case of a piece with several movements, you can either record the entire piece in one take or each movement separately. If you record the entire piece in one take, please provide an additional document with the timing of each movement.
- d) Public recordings are accepted if they meet the recording conditions stated above.
- e) It is highly recommended to take into consideration the quality of the sound, to allow the Jury to have the best possible judgement.

## REGISTRATION FEE

### **AMOUNT OF THE FEE:**

The Geneva Competition is aware of the extremely difficult financial situation that most young musicians are now faced with, due to concerts being cancelled and postponed. It has therefore decided to reduce the application fee from CHF 250.- to CHF 150.-.

**The registration fee for the 2021 Competition is CHF 150 (one hundred and fifty Swiss francs) payable in a single instalment.**

### **CONDITIONS OF PAYMENT:**

- By credit card (Visa or Eurocard / Mastercard) directly on our website.
- Or by bank transfer (in this case, candidates must send us a copy of payment with their application form).

Details of the bank:

**Banque Cantonale de Genève**

Quai de l'Île 17 - Case postale 2251

CH - 1211 Genève 2

<b>Swift N°</b>	<b>BCGECHGG</b>
<b>IBAN N°</b>	<b>CH 33 0078 8000 S 077 6119 5</b>
<b>Account N°</b>	<b>S 776.11.95</b>
<b>Clearing N°</b>	<b>788</b>
<b>Account holder</b>	<b>Concours de Genève</b>

**Cheques are not accepted.**  
**The registration fee is refundable under no circumstances.**

## **THE COMPETITION**

The Competition consists of the following stages:

- Preliminary Round (video selection)
- Online Recital (pre-recorded online session, broadcast in September)
- Semi-Final Round (live performance in Geneva, live stream)
- Final Round with orchestra (live performance in Geneva, live stream)

Results are announced after each round. Decisions of the Jury are final.

### **PRELIMINARY ROUND:**

The purpose of the Preliminary round based on video recordings is to select candidates who are up to the standards required to take part in the public rounds of the Competition.

This Preliminary phase takes place in camera in the presence of a Preliminary Jury, whose five members include at least two members of the official Jury of the 2021 cello competition. It is held in a studio guaranteeing the best possible technical conditions.

The names of the selected candidates will be published on our website on 4 June 2021. Selected candidates will be notified personally and will receive further information regarding the next stages of the competition, as well as technical specifications for the recording of their Online Recital.

### **ONLINE RECITAL:**

The first stage of the 2021 Competition will be held online and consists in a 45-minute online pre-recorded recital, which will be broadcast from 13-19 September 2021.

The running order of the candidates will be determined by random draw. The running order will remain the same for all the following stages of the competition.

Candidates will have until 15 August 2021 to submit their video for this first stage of the competition. They will each receive CHF 500.- to cover the expenses of the recording, which will have to respect a set of very strict technical specifications.

Technical specifications for the Online Recital will be published shortly.

### **SEMI-FINAL & FINAL ROUNDS:**

The Semi-Final and Final rounds of the competition will be held as planned in Geneva and live streamed on the Geneva Competition's website & social media.

### **WELCOME CEREMONY:**

Candidates who reach the Semi-Final Round will be officially invited to the Welcome Ceremony, which will take place in Geneva on 20 October 2021.

Official registrations will take place during this ceremony. Candidates will have to present their official invitation, as well as their **passport**.

Presence at this event is mandatory in order to participate in the following stages of the competition (derogations may exceptionally be granted for justified reasons).



## **ACCOMMODATION, MEALS, TRAVEL EXPENSES & INSURANCE**

### **ACCOMMODATION:**

Candidates selected for the Semi-Final Round will benefit from free accommodation during their stay in Geneva.

### **MEALS:**

Candidates selected for the Semi-Final Round will receive a daily allowance to cover their meal expenses.

### **TRANSPORT:**

During the Welcome Ceremony in Geneva, candidates receive a pass that they must keep with them throughout the Competition. This document constitutes their "Competition ID" in sorts and provides access to public competition rounds as well as a free ticket for the Final. Furthermore, **this pass provides free use of the Geneva public transport system throughout the competition.**

### **TRAVEL EXPENSES:**

The Geneva Competition will cover travel expenses of candidates invited to participate in the Semi-final Round in Geneva. The Competition will cover the cost of a round-trip economy class plane ticket, 2nd class train ticket or the equivalent of the latter for a car journey.

### **INSURANCE:**

The Geneva Competition is not accountable for the costs of candidates' illness and/or accident during their stay in Geneva.

## II. PRIZES AND AWARDS

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### OFFICIAL PRIZES

The Geneva Competition offers the following official prizes:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize CHF 20,000.- (= approx. € 18,900.-)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize CHF 12,000.- (=approx. € 11,350.-)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize CHF 8,000.- (=approx. € 7,570.-)

### SPECIAL PRIZES

- Audience Prize: CHF 1,500.-
- Young Audience Prize: CHF 1,000.-
- Students Prize: CHF 1,000.-
- Hélène Gallay Prize: CHF 5,000.-
- Concert de Jussy Prize : CHF 3,000.-
- Breguet Prize: CD recording
- Rose-Marie Huguenin Prize: international concerts tour

The Audience Prize is awarded by the audience at the Final performance.

The Young Audience Prize is awarded by young students of partner schools.

The Students Prize is awarded by students in musicology and of partner Universities of Music.

The Hélène Gallay Prize is awarded to the best performance during the Semi-Final Round

The Concert de Jussy Prize is awarded to the First Prizewinner and consists in a concert.

The Breguet Prize is awarded to one of the Prizewinners and consists of a CD recording with orchestra.

The Rose-Marie Huguenin Special Prize is awarded to every official Prizewinner and consists in an international concerts tour.

### CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Geneva Competition offers an ambitious career development programme, providing precious support and advice to help boost laureates' careers.

#### I. CONCERTS

In addition to the official prizes, laureates benefit from two years of management from the concert agency Pro-Musica Genève. The key to a series of performances, allowing them to take their first steps in Swiss and international concert venues.

#### II. RECORDINGS

Each year, one winner is given the opportunity to record a CD with orchestra. Distributed by the label La Dolce Volta, these recordings are an excellent means of promotion for young artists at the beginning of their career.

#### III. CONCERT TOURS

During the two years following their prize, laureates are offered an international concert tour. A great way to promote the Geneva Competition abroad and a unique opportunity for prize-winners to establish an international reputation.

#### IV. WORKSHOPS



Each year, the Geneva Competition offers a Prizewinners Workshop. During one week, participants can take part in a series of workshops comprising different subjects, such as performance, health, career management, image and social media.

## **PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY**

The prizes, awards and diplomas signed by the President of the Jury as well as the President and the Secretary-General of the Geneva Music Competition, will be presented to Laureates during the prize-giving ceremony, which takes place at the end of the Final.

## **RECORDINGS**

The final rounds (Semi-Final and Final rounds) will be filmed, recorded and broadcast live (radio and video streaming). The Geneva Competition reserves the right to select excerpts from the recordings of prizewinners' performances for the production of a CD at the end of the year. Candidates selected for the final rounds – Semi-Final and Finals – will receive a recording of their performance. This recording must under no circumstances be distributed in any form without prior agreement of the Competition. Candidates shall answer to other parties involved for any abusive use of these recordings.

Selected candidates waive all and any rights to audio/video recordings as well as radio/television/internet broadcasts – including the Online Recital and public sessions of the Geneva Competition.

### III. JURY

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#### **MEMBERS OF 2021 CELLO JURY:**

- Ivan Monighetti, Russia, President
- Thomas Demenga, Switzerland
- Michaela Fukačová, Czech Republic
- Ophélie Gaillard, France
- Qin Li-Wei, China/Australia
- Shauna Rolston, Canada
- NN

The appointment of the 7 Jury members is the sovereign responsibility of the Artistic Committee of the Competition. Members are chosen for their international recognition in the music world, regardless of any racial, ideological, political or linguistic considerations.

#### **EXCERPT OF JURY RULES:**

The Geneva Music Competition has a strict set of rules by which juries must abide. These include both general rules and voting procedures that change in accordance with the various stages of the competition. Here are a few defining features:

- The Preliminary Round consists in the viewing of video recordings sent by candidates. At least two members of the final Jury take part in the Preliminary Jury.
- The Jury abstains from voting for candidates that have been their students on a regular basis during the two years preceding the competition, or that will become their students within the six months following the competition. This rule is no longer applicable during the Final Round.
- Members of the Jury are forbidden to communicate with participants or those close to them during the entire competition. They are required to respect the principle of confidentiality.
- The President of the Jury votes in the same way as the other members. In the event of a tie, his vote counts for two.
- Official prizes are attributed in two phases: first, the Jury establishes a ranking of finalists, then decides whether or not the best amongst them deserves a First Prize.
- All prizes are not necessarily awarded.

#### **FEEDBACK**

Participants eliminated after the Online Recital will receive written feedback from Jury members. After the Semi-Final Round, Jury members will remain available to candidates who have not passed to the Final Round of the competition, in order to provide feedback on their performance.

The juries' deliberations are governed by internal regulations. Their decisions are final and there is no right of appeal.

## IV. MISCELLANEOUS

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### PROGRAMME

Selected candidates are required to send their programme prior to the final deadline of 30 June 2021.

**Past this deadline, no changes may be made to the programme**, unless these were to be specifically required by the Artistic Committee of the Competition.

### MUSICAL SCORES

Candidates who reach the Semi-Final Round must present themselves at the Welcome Ceremony with their own original musical scores.

Additionally, they must provide one copy of each of their pieces at free choice.

During the Competition, candidates are expected to use their own original musical scores of the works they perform. The Geneva Competition cannot be deemed responsible for any fraud that might be committed by a candidate in this field (such as the public use of illegal copies).

### ACCOMPANISTS

The Geneva Competition provides candidates with official accompanists. Exceptional circumstances surrounding the 2021 Edition will allow candidates selected for the Semi-Final Round to benefit from substantial time to rehearse with their accompanists.

If they wish, candidates can bring their own accompanists to Geneva, at their own expense (including travel and accommodation).

## V. CALENDAR & COMPETITION PROGRAMME

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### CALENDAR 2021:

30 April	Application deadline
25-26-27 May	Preliminary Round (video selection)
04 June	Announcement of selected candidates
15 August	Online Recital pre-recorded video deadline
13-19 September	Online Recital broadcast
20 September	Announcement of selected candidates for the Semi-Final Round
20 October	Welcome Ceremony in Geneva
23-24 October	Semi-Final Round (Geneva)
28 October	Final Round with orchestra (Geneva)

### PROGRAMME:

All pieces must be performed by heart, except for the sonatas for cello and piano and the contemporary piece (Semi-Final Round). Exceptions may be accepted upon request. Candidates may choose the order in which they wish to perform their programme during each round.

#### A. Preliminary Round – video recording (approx. 30 min.)

- J. S. **Bach**: Prelude, Sarabande, Galanteries (Minuets I & II or Bourrées I & II) from one of the following Suites for Violoncello solo :
  - Suite N° 2 in D min. BWV 1008
  - Suite N° 3 in C Maj. BWV 1009
  - Suite N° 4 in E flat Maj. BWV 1010
- A. **Piatti** ou N. **Paganini**: ONE Caprice at choice from:
  - Piatti: Caprices Op. 25, N° 3, 6, 7, 12
  - Paganini : Caprices Op. 1 N° 5, 9, 13, 24
- Third piece at **free choice**, with piano accompaniment

The works chosen for the Preliminary Round may be performed again during the competition. The piece at free choice is meant to show candidates musical personality. Recording all the movements is not mandatory.

#### B. Online Recital (max. 30 candidates - max. duration 45 min.)

- J. S. **Bach**: One of the following Suites for Violoncello solo:
  - Suite N° 2 in D min. BWV 1008
  - Suite N° 3 in C Maj. BWV 1009
  - Suite N° 4 in E flat Maj. BWV 1010

Candidates may perform the entire suite or select movements they wish to perform (minimum 3). They are given the option to play the repeats or not. Please keep in mind given timing for the Online Recital.

- **One piece from 20th Century for solo cello from the following list:**
  - G. Crumb : Sonata for cello solo 11'
  - P. Hindemith: Sonata for cello solo 11'
  - Z. Kodaly: Sonata Op. 8 (1<sup>st</sup> movement) 9'
  - G. Ligeti : Sonata for cello solo 8'
  - H. Dutilleux : 3 Strophes sur le nom de Sacher 10'
  - K. Penderecki : Per Slava 6'
  - A. Ginastera : Puñena 2 10'
  - B. Britten : Suite N° 2 (declamato, scherzo, ciaccona) 12'

- **L. v. Beethoven : Sonata for violoncello and piano in C Maj. Op. 102 N°1**

- **One piece at free choice (optional)**

*Candidates may add a free choice piece to their Online Recital, provided that it does not exceed the 45-minute limit.*

### c. **Semi-Final Round (8 candidates, max. duration 60 minutes)**

- **One baroque sonata from the Appendix I**
- **One contemporary work from the Appendix II**
- **Rest of the programme at free choice.**

Works already performed in the Online Recital may not be repeated. Determining factors include originality, choice of repertoire and variety.

### D. **Final Round with orchestra (3 finalists)**

- **One concerto from the following list:**
  - R. Schumann: Concerto in A min. op. 129
  - E. Elgar : Concerto
  - *W. Lutosławski : Concerto*
  - *D. Chostakovich: Concerto N° 2 op. 126*
  - *H. Dutilleux : Tout un monde lointain*

**Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, conducted by Georg Fritzs**

**APPENDIX I:**

**List of baroque sonatas at free choice for Semi-Final Round**

J.S. Bach	<i>Sonata for Viola da Gamba in G Maj BWV 1027 (with harpsichord)</i>
J.S. Bach	<i>Sonata for Viola da Gamba in D Maj BWV 1028 (with harpsichord)</i>
J.S. Bach	<i>Sonata for Viola da Gamba in G min BWV 1029 (with harpsichord)</i>
L. Boccherini	<i>Cello sonata in C min G. 2 (with pianoforte)</i>
L. Boccherini	<i>Cello sonata in A Maj G. 4 (with pianoforte)</i>
L. Boccherini	<i>Cello sonata in G Maj G. 5 (with pianoforte)</i>
L. Boccherini	<i>Cello sonata in C Maj G. 6 (with pianoforte)</i>
L. Boccherini	<i>Cello sonata in A Maj G. 13 (with pianoforte)</i>
L. Boccherini	<i>Cello sonata in C Maj G. 17 (with pianoforte)</i>

Pitch will be A=440 and the tuning system will be equal-temperament.  
For the Boccherini sonatas, please use the Ricordi (rev. Pater Noster) edition.

**APPENDIX II:**

**List of contemporary works at free choice for Semi-Final Round**

<b>Jonathan Harvey</b>	<i>ricercare una melodia, (avec électronique)</i> <i>Violoncello and electronics (1984)</i>	7'
<b>Kaija Saariaho</b>	<i>Petals,</i> <i>Violoncello and electronics (1988)</i>	9'
<b>Bernd Alois Zimmermann</b>	<i>Sonata for violoncello solo (1960)</i>	15'
<b>Krzysztof Penderecki</b>	<i>Capriccio per Siegfried Palm (1968)</i>	8'
<b>Isang Yun</b>	<i>glissées (1970)</i>	14'
<b>Helmut Lachenmann</b>	<i>pression (1969)</i>	9'
<b>Michaël Jarrell</b>	<i>....some leaves.... (1999)</i>	10'
<b>Iannis Xenakis</b>	<i>Kottos (1977)</i>	9'
<b>Tristan Murail</b>	<i>attracteurs étranges (1992)</i>	8'
<b>Pascal Dusapin</b>	<i>incisa (1982)</i>	8'
<b>Heinz Holliger</b>	<i>Trema (1981-83)</i>	13'
<b>Elliott Carter</b>	<i>Figment (1994)</i>	5'
<b>Isabel Mundry</b>	<i>Cellosolo (1997)</i>	9'
<b>Youghi Pagh-Pahn</b>	<i>AA-GA I (1984)</i>	13'