

International Composition Award

Órgãos do Palácio Nacional de Mafra 2021




United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Royal Building of Mafra –
Palace, Basilica, Convent,
Cerro Garden and Hunting Park (Tapada)
inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2019

COMPETITION RULES



REPÚBLICA
PORTUGUESA

CULTURA



COMPETITION RULES

“INTERNATIONAL COMPOSITION AWARD FOR THE SIX HISTORIC ORGANS OF MAFRA”

Foreword

- a) Whereas the fundamental task of the State to “protect and enhance the cultural heritage of the Portuguese people”, under subparagraph e) of paragraph 9 of the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic, being the Ministry for Culture responsible for directing cultural policy of the State;
- b) Whereas the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Mafra to collaborate in supporting programs and projects of municipal interest, in partnership with institutions of the central government, as well as ensuring, including the possibility of building partnerships, the survey, classification, management, maintenance, retrieval and dissemination of the cultural heritage of the municipality, and supporting activities of cultural and educational nature, with interest for the municipality of Mafra under subparagraphs r), t) and u) No. 1 of article 33, of Annex I to Law No. 75/2013 of 12 September, respectively;
- c) Whereas that, of the authorship of the two most important Portuguese organ builders of his time - António Xavier Machado and Cerveira and Joaquim António Peres Fontanes –, the six organs of the Basilica of the National Palace of Mafra (Portugal) form a unique set in the world, not by their remarkable number, but by the fact that they were built at the same time and originally designed to be played together. That an important set of scores of Portuguese musicians, such as João de Souza Carvalho, Marcos Portugal or João José Baldi, which were written specifically for these instruments, are part of the collection of manuscripts from the Library of the monument;
- d) Whereas that, following the overall restoration, initiated in 1998 and completed in 2010, this instrumental ensemble has increasingly captured the interest of national and international public, in such a way that the current aim is to ensure the creation of new repertoire that shall allow not only the continuity of the

current cycle of concerts, which is already a major musical reference, but also to create a dynamism of promotion and appreciation of this unique heritage;

e) Whereas the Cooperation Agreement between His Excellency the Ministry for Culture and the Municipality of Mafra, whereby the signatories establish the “International Composition Award for the Six Historic Organs of Mafra”, which aims to distinguish the merit of composers that have pieces specifically designed for the instrumental ensemble of the Basilica of the National Palace of Mafra, making exclusive use of its characteristics;

f) Whereas that, under Article Three of the Cooperation Agreement referred to in the preceding subparagraph, it is stated that “The conditions of realization the Award, particularly regarding the categories in the competition, the establishment of monetary amounts to be awarded to the winners, appointment and competence of the jury, constitution of the secretariat, forms and deadlines of submission and publication of results, will be defined in the competition rules to be developed and approved jointly by the Signatories”.

THE MINISTRY FOR CULTURE and THE MAFRA MUNICIPALITY approve the following COMPETITION RULES of the “INTERNATIONAL COMPOSITION AWARD FOR THE SIX HISTORIC ORGANS OF MAFRA”:

Article 1

(Scope and Subject of Application)

The present set of Rules define the conditions for the award of “International Composition Award for the six Organs of the National Palace of Mafra,” hereinafter referred to as “Award”, organized by the Ministry for Culture and the Municipality of Mafra, hereinafter called “Organizing Bodies”.

Article 2

(Periodicity)

The award is biennial, beginning in 2015, and publicized by the month of August of the preceding year to its realization, in particular through the national and international media.

Article 3

(Conditions for Submission)

1. Composers of any nationality and age who wish to submit one or more original pieces, specifically designed for the instrumental ensemble of the six organs of the Basilica of Mafra, may compete. These pieces should not have been previously played in public, recorded, published in sheet music or have never won any other award until the end date of the submission of applications to the object of this Competition Rules.
2. Composers that have been awarded in a certain category, in one of the two preceding editions of the Award, may not compete in the same category.

Article 4

(Characteristics of the Compositions)

The works submitted must:

1. Be original and unpublished. These pieces should not have been previously played in public, recorded, published in sheet music or have never won any other award until the end date of the submission of applications to the Award subject of this Competition Rules.
2. Make use of the organs mentioned characteristics - disposition, registration, temperament, etc., according to the technical specifications attached to this Competition Rules, of which is an integral part - not requiring any effects that are not possible to obtain by its characteristics, in which case they will be automatically disqualified.
3. Be written to be played without the need of a conductor, considering that, the placement of the organs in the Basilica of Mafra does not allow the musicians to see each other. The distance between the organs differs from 10 metres to 30 metres (33 feet to 99 feet), thus making any control by direct hearing very difficult. However, a video system (with a TV monitor near the keyboard of each organ, together with a video camera) is permanently installed, allowing one of the organists to act as conductor, if needed. The composer can also use other synchronization devices, like synchronized metronomes, click tracks cues, etc..
4. Be written so there is no need of registration assistants. All changes of registration must provide for the adequate margin of time in order to be operated solely by the organist. The registration action and the distance from the stop knobs to the keyboard do not allow quick registration changes.

Article 5 (Categories)

The Award is divided in two categories:

1. Category A – Composition of an original work for the six organs with duration between eight and fifteen minutes.
2. Category B – Transcription for six organs of an existing work freely chosen by the candidates, with duration between eight and fifteen minutes. In this category, the candidate may choose works from any epoch and style, but they must be in the public domain to avoid the payment of authors' rights.

Article 6 (Awards)

1. By category, the following awards will be given to the respective winner:
 - a) A monetary award of 10,000 Euros for category A and of 5,000 Euros for category B;
 - b) Publication of the winning work;
 - c) The première of the winning work;
 - d) A certified diploma signed by all the members of the jury.
2. The awards, in both categories, are indivisible, therefore ex aequo winners are not possible.
3. Publication of the winning scores will be carried out in partnership between the Organizing Bodies and a publisher, under conditions agreed with the winners.

Article 7 (Terms of Submission)

The candidates may submit more than one piece for the competition, assured that each is in a different postal package, individually identified, following the rules below:

- a) The score must be prepared using Finale or Sibelius – manuscripts or scores prepared with other computer programs will not be accepted – and submitted in four paper copies, together with four CD containing a PDF file of the score;
- b) Each one of the paper scores and the CD covers must bear a label, as the only sign of identification, with nothing but the title of the work, the category, and a motto, a rule that also applies to the PDF files mentioned before;

- c) The motto must be a combined cipher of eight (8) numbers and letters in any order (ex: 2079VG36, 3K356J21, etc.);
- d) Should the candidate wish to submit several works, the chosen motto must be different for each work;
- e) In the case of Category B, the name of the author of the original work must be included with the motto of a competitor;
- f) The four copies of the score and the four CD should be placed in a single postal envelope, along with a sealed, glued and/or sealed envelope containing: identification (name, date of birth, nationality, photocopy of Identity / Citizen Card or Passport); the author's contacts (phone, postal address and e-mail, if any); a statement signed by the composer, confirming that the part complies with all requirements of these Competition Rules; a statement to transfer the copyright of the awarded work, as for its debut, as well as for any promotional actions made during the term of the Award; CD (also identified only by the chosen motto on the cover), which should contain an updated digital format concise biography, program notes about the work and a recent photograph of good quality. None of these items can be part of the score presented;
- g) Nowhere on the package or visible documentation, both for the jury and for the Secretariat, may there be any sign leading to the identification of the candidate, except for the chosen motto. Both the sealed envelope and the general package, on the place reserved for the sender's name, must not contain anything but the chosen motto. All the remaining postal documents (delivery registrations, etc.) must also be identified solely by the same motto. Any submission not complying with this rule will be immediately excluded. The secretariat will only give the jury the scores and the CD with the PDF, keeping the identification envelopes, from which only those corresponding to the awarded works will be opened;
- h) The printed scores should be large enough to be easily read.

Article 8

(Submission Deadline)

Applications must be submitted up to nine months after the announcement of the Award by sending by registered post, to the following address: Secretariat of the "International Composition Award for the Six Historic Organs of Mafra", Praça do Município, 2644-001 Mafra; geral@cm-mafra.pt

Article 9

(Composition of the Jury and Selection)

1. In order to award the Award, a jury will be composed of four persons of recognized international merit, one of which will be designated President that, in addition to conducting the works, will have a casting vote in the event of a tie.
2. The members referred to in the preceding paragraph are designated by both Organizing Bodies.
3. Any person directly or indirectly involved in the works submitted to the competition is not allowed to be part of the jury.
4. The jury's deliberations may be taken by unanimity or majority.
5. Once the decision has been made, the jury will draw up a final Minute with the classification.
6. The jury reserves the right to:
 - a) If the quality of work in competition justifies it, award any number of Mentions of Honour, regardless of the number of Awards;
 - b) If the quality of art work is considered insufficient, not to award any of the awards.
7. The decisions of the jury are final.

Article 10

(Secretariat)

For administrative assistance, a Secretariat will be constituted provided by the Municipality of Mafra.

Article 11

(Results)

1. The results of the competition will be made up to 60 days after the deadline for the submission of the applications.
2. The Organizing Bodies will contact directly only the winners and those awarded with mentions of honour. The winners and those awarded with honourable mentions, in order to play their works at the award presentation ceremony, shall, within thirty days, provide separate parts for the six organs. In addition to the rules of registration indicating that the parts should be performed by organists without assistants, the parts should contain as much information as possible to

facilitate the performance - rehearsal marks, notes and bars during the break, etc. - and allow the turning of pages by the interpreter. Winners must accept any suggestions given by the organization of the competition, with regard to the preparation of the parts.

3. If click-track cues are found necessary (either by decision of the composer or because the jury so considers), they must be provided by the composer, along with the separate parts for the six organs.

Article 12

(The Awarding)

1. The Award will be given, whenever possible, in a formal session, followed by a concert, in which will be premiered the works distinguished with awards and honourable mentions, promoted by the Organizing Bodies on the occasion of the Municipality Holiday, on Ascension Thursday of that year.

2. The Organizing Bodies reserve the right to authorize the eventual recording of the concert and, or the direct or deferred transmission on national or international television channels, as well the promotion of other concerts without the laureate composers being entitled to any financial compensation for this purpose.

3. Future performances and commercial recordings, both awarded works and the works honoured with honourable mentions should include in the notes of the concert program and booklets and CD, or DVD, the words "International Composition Award for the Organs of the National Palace of Mafra" or "Honourable Mention from the International Composition Award for the Organs of the National Palace of Mafra", then the respective year and the reference "Award funded by the Ministry of Culture and the Municipality of Mafra".

Article 13

(Omissions)

Omissions and questions of interpretation are resolved by the Organizing Bodies.

Article 14

(Entry into Effect)

The present Competition Rules shall enter into effect on the day following its publication.



REPÚBLICA
PORTUGUESA

CULTURA

