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**24 OF THE WORLD'S MOST PROMISING PIANISTS TO COMPETE IN MONTREAL**

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**Montreal, Tuesday, March 7, 2017** – 24 young pianists, 6 women and 18 men from 15 countries with an average age of 26, have been selected to participate in the CMIM (Concours musical international de Montréal) next May 2 to 12. The highest number of candidates are from South Korea (7), followed by France (3) and Italy (3). The remaining countries are represented by one participant each: Canada, China, Germany, Hungary, Japan, the Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Spain, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and Uzbekistan. The 24 competitors were selected out of a record-breaking 304 pianists, representing the highest number of applicants in the history of the Competition and an increase of 120% from the previous piano edition in 2014. [Here is the list of competitors:](#)

Stefano Andreatta, Italy  
Albert Cano Smit, Spain / Netherlands  
Zoltán Fejérvári, Hungary  
Teo Gheorghiu, Canada  
Maddalena Giacomuzzi, Italy  
Nathanael Gouin, France  
Caterina Grewe, Germany  
Giuseppe Guarrera, Italy  
Helene Heejun Han, South Korea  
David Jae-Weon Huh, South Korea  
Atsushi Imada, Japan  
Eddie Myunghyun Kim, South Korea

Julia Kociuban, Poland  
Vladislav Kosminov, Uzbekistan  
Ho Yel Lee, South Korea  
Ying Li, China  
Ismaël Margain, France  
Sélim Mazari, France  
Yejin Noh, South Korea  
Jinhyung Park, South Korea  
ChangYong Shin, South Korea  
Alexey Sychev, Russia  
Alexander Ullman, United Kingdom  
Artem Yasynskyy, Ukraine

**JURY**

The international jury, presided over by André Bourbeau, co-founder and president of the CMIM, includes Idil Biret (Turkey), Dang Thai Son (Vietnam), Alain Lefèvre (Canada), Hélène Mercier (Canada), Pedja Muzijevic (Bosnia), David Owen Norris (United Kingdom), Cristina Ortiz (Brazil), R. Douglas Sheldon (United States), and Gabriel Tacchino (France).

**PRIZES AND AWARDS**

The pianists will compete for over \$125,000 in prizes, awards and grants. Over the course of the next few seasons, musical organisations will offer an engagement to a laureate or finalist of their choice.

**Main prizes**

- First Prize offered by the Ville de Montréal, \$30,000 + Joseph Rouleau Career Development Grant funded by the Azrieli Foundation, \$50,000
- Second Prize, \$15,000
- Third Prize offered by Stingray Classica, \$10,000

## Special awards

- Radio-Canada People's Choice Award, \$5,000.
- Best Canadian Artist Award offered by the Bourbeau Foundation, \$5,000
- André Bachand Award for the best performance of the compulsory Canadian work in the semifinal round offered by Jean-Claude and Raymond Bachand, \$4,000
- Award for the best semifinal recital offered by Tourisme Montréal, \$2,000
- Bach Award for the best performance of a work by Johann Sebastian Bach in the first or semifinal round offered by the Montreal Bach Festival, \$1,000
- Chopin Award for the best performance of a work by Fryderyk Chopin in the first or semifinal round offered by Liliana Komorowska, \$1,000

The three unranked finalists will each receive a \$2,000 grant.

## INFORMATION AND BOX OFFICE

The first and semi-final rounds (May 2 to 7) will be held at Bourgie Hall of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. Both the finals (May 9 and 10) and gala concert (May 12) will take place at Maison symphonique with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal led by Maestro Claus Peter Flor.

- Finals and gala concert - The Place des Arts box office: [placedesarts.com](http://placedesarts.com) | 514 842-2112 | 1 866 842-2112.
- First and semi-final rounds - Bourgie Concert Hall, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts: [mbam.qc.ca/en/concerts](http://mbam.qc.ca/en/concerts) | 514 285-2000, option 4.

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## ABOUT CMIM

The mission of the CMIM (Concours musical international de Montréal) is to raise awareness for classical music in a competition setting, as well as discover and support exceptional young singers, violinists and pianists from around the world. The CMIM is the only international competition in North America to be held annually, presenting three disciplines in a three-year rotation. Since its first edition dedicated to voice in 2002, 3,000 hopefuls have entered the competition and some 450 have performed in Montreal.

More details at: [concoursmontreal.ca](http://concoursmontreal.ca)

Facebook/Twitter/Instagram: @CMIMontreal

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