
**19TH INTERNATIONAL
ROBERT SCHUMANN COMPETITION**
PIANO | SINGING

June 6 to 16, 2024

INVITATION

DEUTSCHLAND / GERMANY



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19TH INTERNATIONAL ROBERT SCHUMANN COMPETITION

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Member
of the World Federation of international Music Competitions (WFIMC)

Zwickau, June 6–16, 2024

Organized by the
City of Zwickau
in collaboration with the
Robert Schumann Society Zwickau e. V.

The International Robert Schumann Competition
is a member of the Schumann Network.



JURY & COMPETITION MANAGEMENT

CHAIR OF THE COMPETITION

Thomas Synofzik

MEMBERS OF THE JURY

SINGING

Bodil Arnesen (Norway)
Olaf Bär (Dresden)
Bernarda Fink (Carinthia)
Gabriele Fontana (Vienna)
Christina Högman (Stockholm)
Gotthold Schwarz (Leipzig)
Mitsuko Shirai (Karlsruhe)
Semion Skigin (Berlin)
Scot Weir (Zurich)

PIANO

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Boris Bloch (Dusseldorf)
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Jean-Jacques Düнки (Basel)
Susanne Grützmann (Berlin)
Yves Henry (Paris)
Heike-Angela Moser (Munich)
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ZWICKAU AND THE INTERNATIONAL ROBERT SCHUMANN COMPETITION

Founded in 1956, the International Robert Schumann Competition moved to Zwickau, the birthplace of Robert Schumann, in 1963. It joined the World Federation of International Music Competitions, Geneva, as a member in 1961. It has two categories: piano and singing. Pianists, male and female singers are judged separately and are each awarded a first to third prize. A special prize for the best song accompanist was first awarded in 1989. Since 1996 the Competition takes place every four years. Due to the pandemics the competition for 2020 had to be postponed to the following year and could then only be held as a video competition. But all the twelve prize winners were invited to present themselves in concerts in Zwickau in autumn 2021.

With approx. 90,000 inhabitants Zwickau is the fourth largest city in Saxony and one of the cultural centres of the Free State. On June 8, 1810 Robert Schumann was born here in a house on the corner of the market square. Since 1956 the international centre for Robert Schumann research has been established on this site in the Robert Schumann House. Under one roof it unites museum, concert hall and a centre for research. The Schumann museum in Zwickau was founded already in 1910. The Schumann collections in Zwickau today are seen as the largest gathering of portraits and original documents on Robert and Clara Schumann.

Even today when walking through Zwickau numerous buildings can be admired, which Robert Schumann visited frequently as a young man. In St. Mary's cathedral he had his first musical appearances, he went to school in the buildings of the Grünhainer Kapelle, his music teacher lived in the Priesterhäuser – now the city museum – and at the age of thirteen he witnessed the opening of the Gewandhaus as opera house with Weber's *Freischütz*.

Already during Robert Schumann's lifetime the first Schumann Festival took place in Zwickau in 1847. Since the 1960ies there are yearly festivities in Zwickau to honour him. Thus the Zwickau Schumann Festival can claim to be the oldest festival worldwide dedicated to a single composer.

Among the prize winners of the Zwickau Competition are names which have won international acclaim, e.g. the pianists Peter Rösel, Nelly Akopian, Dezső Ránki, Balázs Szokolay, Yves Henry, Eric Le Sage, Dana Ciocarlie or Florian Noack and the singers Siegfried Lorenz, Mitsuko Shirai, Edith Wiens, Matthias Görne, Britta Schwarz, Bodil Arnesen, Annette Dasch, Anna Lucia Richter and Mauro Peter.

Some of them moved on to become members of the jury, thereby ensuring the artistic continuity of the Robert Schumann Competition.

TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

1. The 19th International Robert Schumann Competition in Zwickau 2024 (Member of the World Federation of International Music Competitions, Geneva) will be open for the following categories:

PIANO

SINGING (incl. Special Prize for the best song accompanist)

2. The competition is public.
3. The competition will be held in Zwickau, Saxony, Federal Republic of Germany, from June 6 to 16, 2024.
4. Young artists of any nationality may participate in the competition, i. e.
pianists born after the 31st December 1993
singers born after the 31st December 1991.
5. The deadline for sending in registrations is February 15, 2024 (date of postmark/ date of e-mail).

The following documents have to be included with the registration form:

- a) Birth certificate, identity card or passport (copy);
- b) Curriculum vitae including information about the applicant's artistic career and names of teachers;
- c) Diploma or proof of student registration;
- d) A photo, colour, 300 dpi, tif or jpg by e-mail;
- e) Definite competition programme of the applicant. The programme stated in the application cannot be changed. The order can be decided on during the competition.
- f) Information on prizes and awards won in earlier music competitions. Prize winners (1st to 3rd prize) in competitions belonging to the World Federation of International Music competitions (WFIMC) do not have to send in a video recording [cf. g];
- g) A video recording (not older than 18 months) of two works from the programme submitted for the 1st round (see Site 10/12).
 - The two works must be recorded completely, unprocessed and without cuts.
 - The works must be performed by heart.
 - Hands and head of the participant must be fully visible at all times. The accompanist (category singing) does not have to be identical to the one named in the application.
 - Public recordings can be submitted if they meet the above conditions (no cuts).
 - Video quality: 720p or 1080i or 1080p
 - Audio quality: 256kbps mp3 or 128aac (if possible no built-in smartphone microphones; good microphone positioning)
 - Formats: mp4 or mov
 - File size: max. 900 MB

This video is basis for a preselection.
6. A written confirmation of participation will be sent to the applicants admitted to the competition no later than March 31, 2024. Participants requiring a visa for entering the Federal Republic of Germany have to apply for this as soon as they receive the confirmation.

7. The participation fee is € 90. It has to be paid by April 15, 2024 at the latest into the following account , or by credit card (Note: payments must be free of charge for the payee):

recipient **Stadt Zwickau**
bank code: **870 550 00 (Sparkasse Zwickau)**
account No.: **2 244 003 976**
IBAN: **DE86 8705 5000 2244 0039 76**
BIC: **WELADED1ZWI**
purpose: **47.40404.1**

Surname, First name, registration number

The name of the participant should be stated clearly and legibly on the transfer form, even if he/she does not make the payment personally. The pay-in slip has to be presented to the competition office with the registration on June 5/6, 2024.

For further information please refer to the confirmation of participation.

8. Travel expenses, accommodation and food have to be paid by the participants themselves. Participants reaching the finals will be granted an allowance of € 100.
9. The competition office provides piano accompanists for participants in the category “singing” free of charge. However, those participants who wish to bring along a piano accompanist at their own expense are welcome to do so. If applicable, please state the accompanist’s name, address and nationality in your application. A special prize “Best Song Accompanist” is awarded among these.
10. The organizers are permitted to record all events within the competition acoustically and visually and to use and multiply these recordings on visual/audio media to document and propagate the competition. All rights remain with the organizers. The participant cannot claim any fees for these recordings or broadcasts. The participant agrees to these terms by sending in the application form.
11. Prize-winners are obliged to participate in the final concerts of the competition, including possible radio and TV broadcasts, free of charge.
12. If an applicant withdraws from the competition prematurely, no refund of fees is possible.
13. By returning the registration form, the applicant recognizes the terms of the competition.
14. The online registration form (in German and English) is on
www.schumann-zwickau.de/anmeldung

COMPETITION PROCEDURE

1. The Competition in both categories comprises two qualifications (June 7 to 13, 2024) and one final (June 14 to 15, 2024).
2. All piano and song recitals shall be performed from memory.
3. The personal registration for the Competition will take place on June 5, 2024, from 9:00 h to 20:00 h and on June 6, 2024, from 8:00 h to 14:00 h in the Competition office.
4. The participants perform in alphabetical order. The opening letter will be drawn publicly at the opening ceremony in the Robert Schumann House on June 6, 2024, 16:00 h. The order of performance remains the same throughout the Competition.
5. Rehearsal rooms with piano are available in the Robert Schumann Konservatorium from June 5, 2024, 9:00 h.
6. The competition takes place in the Konzert- und Ballhaus “Neue Welt”, Leipziger Straße 182, 08058 Zwickau, in the concert hall of the Robert Schumann Konservatorium, Stiftstraße 10, 08056 Zwickau, and in the Gewandhaus, Hauptmarkt, 08056 Zwickau.
7. Finalists in the category piano will be accompanied by the Clara-Schumann-Philharmoniker (Theater Plauen-Zwickau).
8. The prize-winners will be announced in the foyer of the Konzert- und Ballhaus “Neue Welt” on the evening of June 15, 2024.
9. The public rehearsal for the final concert of the Competition will take place on June 16, 2024, 10:00 h, in the Konzert- und Ballhaus “Neue Welt”.
10. The prizes and diplomas will be awarded on June 16, 2024, 16:00 h, in the Robert Schumann House.
11. The final concert of the Competition starts at 19:00 h on June 16, 2024 in the Konzert- und Ballhaus “Neue Welt”.

JURY

1. The decision on the results of the Competition in each category will be taken by an international jury.
2. The jury will take their decisions according to internal jury regulations. The chair of the Competition is responsible for ensuring that the regulations are complied with.
3. The decisions taken by the jury are irrevocable. The right to take legal proceedings is excluded.

PRIZES

PIANO

1st prize	€ 10,000 and gold medal
2nd prize	€ 7,500 and silver medal
3rd prize	€ 5,000 and bronze medal
4th to 6th places	Diploma

SINGING

Female singers

1st prize	€ 10,000 and gold medal
2nd prize	€ 7,500 and silver medal
3rd prize	€ 5,000 and bronze medal
4th to 6th places	Diploma

Male singers

1st prize	€ 10,000 and gold medal
2nd prize	€ 7,500 and silver medal
3rd prize	€ 5,000 and bronze medal
4th to 6th places	Diploma

SPECIAL PRIZE

for Best Song Accompanist	€ 3,000
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Participants of the second qualification will be given a Certificate of Participation.

The gold medallists in each category will be suggested for concert performances, e.g. in the member cities of the Schumann-Netzwerk and in the category piano at the Chopin Festival in Nohant, France.

Subject to change. In case of doubt the German text is applicable.

COMPETITION REPERTOIRE – PIANO

VIDEO PRESELECTION

The following combination is possible:

1.a (Fugue) and 1.c (Schumann)

or

1.b (Etude) and 1.c (Schumann)

(the combination of 1.a (fugue) and 1.b (etude) is not possible)

1ST QUALIFICATION (total duration of performance 20–25 minutes)

a) One of the following works:

Robert Schumann

2 fugues from Four Fugues op. 72

or Robert Schumann

3 fuguetas from Seven Piano Pieces in Fughetta Form op. 126

or Clara Schumann

1 prelude with fugue from op. 16 or F sharp minor, WoO (1845)

or Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

1 prelude with fugue from op. 35

or Friedrich Eduard Wilsing

2 fugues from: 3 Fugen für Pianoforte

b) 1 étude

by Robert Schumann, from Paganini Etudes op. 3 (except No. 3)

or by Robert Schumann, from Paganini Studies op. 10

or by Frédéric Chopin, from Etudes op. 10 (except No. 3, 6, 9 and 11)

or by Frédéric Chopin, from Etudes op. 25 (except No. 1, 2, 7 and 9)

c) One of the following works by Robert Schumann:

Papillons op. 2

or Intermezzi op. 4 (selection, approx. 15 minutes)

or Impromptus op. 5*

or Toccata op. 7 and Allegro op. 8

or Novelletten op. 21 (selection, approx. 15 minutes)

or Sonata in g minor op. 22

or Nachtstücke op. 23

or Romances op. 28

or Four Piano Pieces op. 32

or Four Marches op. 76

or Waldszenen op. 82 (selection, approx. 15 minutes)

or Fantasiestücke op. 111

or Gesänge der Frühe op. 133

2ND QUALIFICATION (total duration of performance 35–45 minutes)

a) One of the following works by Robert Schumann:

- Davidsbündlertänze op. 6
- or Carnaval op. 9
- or Sonata in f sharp minor op. 11
- or Fantasy Pieces op. 12
- or Études symphoniques op. 13*
- or Sonata in f minor op. 14*
- or Kreisleriana op. 16
- or Fantasia in C major op. 17
- or Humoresque op. 20
- or Carnival Jest from Vienna op. 26

* There is the choice between one of the two versions published by Schuman in the 1830s and the 1850s (to be named in the application). Posthumously edited fragments are not part of the competition repertoire.

b) One of the following works:

- Clara Schumann
- Scherzo op. 10 and Deuxième Scherzo op. 14
- or Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy
- Scherzo à Capriccio f sharp major BWV U113
- or Frédéric Chopin
- Ballade g minor op. 23
- or Franz Liszt
- Réminiscences de Lucia di Lammermoor S397
- or Adolph Henselt
- Poème d'amour op. 3
- or Carl Reinecke
- Ballade A flat major op. 20
- or Johannes Brahms
- Scherzo e flat major op. 4

FINAL

- Robert Schumann
- Piano concerto a minor op. 54
- or Clara Schumann
- Piano concerto a minor op. 7
- or Robert Schumann
- Introduction and Allegro appassionato – Concerto piece G major op. 92
- and
- Concert-Allegro with Introduction d Minor op. 134

COMPETITION REPERTOIRE – SINGING

VIDEO PRESELECTION

Two songs from the repertoire submitted for the 1st round

1ST QUALIFICATION (total duration of performance 7 to 9 minutes)

3 songs* by Robert and/or Clara Schumann

* Groups of songs as Robert Schumann's op. 25/5+6, op. 25/17+18, op. 79/7a+b, op. 53/3a–c, op. 64/3a–b can be counted as one song.

2ND QUALIFICATION (total duration of performance 25 to 30 minutes)

a) 5 songs by Robert Schumann

b) 5 songs (1 song each by Franz Schubert, Clara Schumann, Johannes Brahms, Hugo Wolf and Gustav Mahler)

except for songs already performed in the 1st qualification

FINAL

One of the following works by Robert Schumann:

Twelve Poems by Justinus Kerner op. 35

or Poet's Love (Heine) op. 48

or Several of the following works by Robert Schumann
(total time approx. 35 minutes):

Song Cycle by Heine op. 24 (complete)

Myrtles op. 25 (selection)

Three Poems (Geibel) op. 30 (complete)

Three Poems (Chamisso) op. 31 (complete)

Six Poems from a Painter's Songbook (Reinick) op. 36 (complete)

Song Cycle (Eichendorff) op. 39 (complete)

Five Songs (Andersen/Chamisso) op. 40 (complete)

Frauenliebe und Leben (Chamisso) op. 42 (complete)

Belsatzar op. 57

Three Songs op. 83 (complete)

Der Handschuh op. 87

Six Songs (von der Neun) op. 89 (complete)

Six Poems by Lenau and Requiem op. 90 (complete)

Three Songs from Lord Byron's "Hebrew Songs" op. 95 (complete)

Seven Songs (Kulmann) op. 104 (complete)

Six Songs op. 107 (complete)

Four Hussar Songs op. 117 (complete)

Three Poems from the "Songs of the Forest" by Pfarrius op. 119 (complete)

Five Cheerful Songs op. 125 (complete)

Poems of Mary, Queen of Scots op. 135 (complete)

except for songs already performed in the 1st and 2nd qualifications

WETTBEWERBSPROGRAMM GESANG

VIDEO-VORAUSWAHL

Zwei Lieder aus dem Programm der 1. Auswahlrunde.

1. AUSWAHLRUNDE (Vortragsdauer 7–9 Minuten)

3 Lieder* von Robert und/oder Clara Schumann

* Liedgruppen (Robert Schumanns op. 25/5+6, op. 25/17+18, op. 79/7a+b, op. 53/3a–c, op. 64/3a–b) können als ein Lied gezählt werden

2. AUSWAHLRUNDE (Vortragsdauer insgesamt 25–30 Minuten)

a) 5 Lieder von Robert Schumann

b) 5 Lieder (je 1 Lied von Franz Schubert, Clara Schumann, Johannes Brahms, Hugo Wolf und Gustav Mahler)

ausgenommen Lieder, die in der 1. Auswahlrunde vorgetragen wurden

FINALE

Eine der folgenden Kompositionen von Robert Schumann:

- Zwölf Gedichte von Justinus Kerner op. 35
 - oder Dichterliebe (Heine) op. 48
 - oder mehrere der folgenden Kompositionen von Robert Schumann (Vortragsdauer zusammen ca. 35 Minuten):
 - Liederkreis von Heine op. 24 (komplett)
 - Myrthen op. 25 (Auswahl)
 - Drei Gedichte (Geibel) op. 30 (komplett)
 - Drei Gesänge (Chamisso) op. 31 (komplett)
 - Sechs Gedichte aus dem Liederbuch eines Malers (Reinick) op. 36 (komplett)
 - Liederkreis (Eichendorff) op. 39 (komplett)
 - Fünf Lieder (Andersen/Chamisso) op. 40 (komplett)
 - Frauenliebe und Leben (Chamisso) op. 42 (komplett)
 - Belsazar op. 57
 - Drei Gesänge op. 83 (komplett)
 - Der Handschuh op. 87
 - Sechs Gesänge (v. d. Neun) op. 89 (komplett)
 - Sechs Gedichte von Lenau und Requiem op. 90 (komplett)
 - Drei Gesänge aus Lord Byrons Hebräischen Gesängen op. 95 (komplett)
 - Sieben Lieder (Kulmann) op. 104 (komplett)
 - Sechs Gesänge op. 107 (komplett)
 - Vier Husarenlieder op. 117 (komplett)
 - Drei Gedichte aus den Waldliedern von Pfarrius op. 119 (komplett)
 - Fünf heitere Gesänge op. 125 (komplett)
 - Gedichte der Königin Maria Stuart op. 135 (komplett)
- ausgenommen Lieder, die in der 1. und 2. Auswahlrunde vorgetragen wurden