

38 CLASSICAL SINGERS FROM 22 NATIONS TO COMPETE IN MONTRÉAL

Canada leads the selection with eight singers

Montréal, Wednesday, February 21, 2018 – 38 promising young singers—20 women and 18 men between the ages of 24 and 35, from a record 22 nations—have been selected to participate in the CMIM (Concours musical international de Montréal) between **May 29 and June 7**. Canada leads the selection with eight singers, followed by South Korea with six singers.

ARMENIA

Anush HOVHANNISYAN (soprano, Aria)

AUSTRALIA

Kang WANG (tenor, Aria)

BULGARIA

Mihail MIHAYLOV (tenor, Aria)

CANADA

Andrew HAJI (tenor, Aria)
Lauren MARGISON (soprano, Aria)
Marie-Andrée MATHIEU (mezzo-soprano, Aria)
Carolyn SPROULE (mezzo-soprano, Aria)

CANADA / CAMEROON

Suzanne TAFFOT (soprano, Art Song)

CANADA / GERMANY

Anna-Sophie NEHER (soprano, Art Song)

CANADA / ITALY

Emily D'ANGELO (mezzo-soprano, Aria)

CANADA / TUNISIA

Rihab CHAIEB (mezzo-soprano, Aria & Art Song)

CHINA

Mengxi YOU (soprano, Art Song)

CZECH REPUBLIC

Petr NEKORANEC (tenor, Aria)

FINLAND

Tomi PUNKERI (baritone, Art Song)

FRANCE

Axelle FANYO (soprano, Art Song)

GERMANY

Samuel HASSELHORN (baritone, Art Song)

INDONESIA

Satriya KRISNA (tenor, Art Song)

ISRAEL / GERMANY

Hagar SHARVIT (mezzo-soprano, Art Song)

NEW ZEALAND / UNITED KINGDOM

Julien VAN MELLAERTS (baritone, Art Song)

RUSSIA

Mikhail GOLOVUSHKIN (bass, Aria)
Dilyara IDRISOVA (soprano, Aria)
Alexandra YANGEL (mezzo-soprano, Aria)

SOUTH AFRICA

Bongani KUBHEKA (baritone, Aria)

SOUTH KOREA

Mario BAHG (tenor, Aria)
Chanhee CHO (bass, Aria)
Kidon CHOI (baritone, Aria)
ByeongMin GIL (bass, Aria)
Irina Jae-Eun PARK (soprano, Art Song)
Jongsoo YANG (bass, Aria)

SWEDEN

Christina NILSSON (soprano, Aria)

UKRAINE

Ruslana KOVAL (soprano, Aria)
Oleksandr KYREIEV (baritone, Aria)
Olga RUDYK (soprano, Aria)

UNITED KINGDOM

Suzanne FISCHER (soprano, Art Song)
Gemma SUMMERFIELD (soprano, Art Song)

UNITED STATES

John BRANCY (baritone, Aria & Art Song)
Clara OSOWSKI (mezzo-soprano, Art Song)
David TAYLOE (tenor, Art Song)

From the 38 singers, 16 will take part in the Art Song division (repertoire for voice & piano) and 24 in the Aria division (repertoire for voice & orchestra). Take note that two singers will be participating in both divisions.

"The CMIM is a prestigious, highly popular, and truly international event. The extraordinary number of nations represented in this edition is a source of great pride for us. It also shows the CMIM's significance as a major stepping stone for these young performers seeking to build their careers on an international level," declared pianist and composer Alain Lefèvre, honorary patron of the CMIM.

The 38 singers were selected from a record-breaking 469 applications submitted by 358 singers representing 52 nations. At the end of the competition, the winners will be offered various engagements, and will share \$265,000 CAN in prizes, awards, and grants, including a First Prize worth \$80,000 within each division.

Presided over by André Bourbeau, the 2018 jury for both Aria and Art Song divisions includes Edith Bers (United States), Ben Heppner (Canada), Soile Isokoski (Finland), Warren Jones (United States), François Le Roux (France), Dame Felicity Lott (United Kingdom), Joseph Rouleau (Canada), and Dame Kiri Te Kanawa (New Zealand).

For more information on the competitors: concoursmontreal.ca/voice

BOX OFFICE

ART SONG & ARIA FIRST ROUND MAY 29-30-31
ART SONG SEMIFINAL JUNE 1
ART SONG FINAL JUNE 3

BOURGIE HALL, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts
514 285-2000, option 4
mbam.qc.ca/en/concerts-other-organizations/cmim

ARIA SEMIFINAL JUNE 4-5
ARIA FINALS/GALA JUNE 7

MAISON SYMPHONIQUE
514 842-2112
placedesarts.com/en/producer/concours-musical-international-de-montréal

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ABOUT THE CMIM

The mission of the CMIM (Concours musical international de Montréal) is to discover and support exceptional young singers, violinists and pianists from around the world while raising awareness for classical music. 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, 3,350 hopefuls have entered the competition and some 450 have performed in Montreal.

More details at: concoursmontreal.ca
Facebook/Twitter/Instagram: @CMIMontreal

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