

VOICE 2018

ARIA + ART SONG

General Information for Applicants

ELIGIBILITY

The Voice 2018 edition of the CMIM is an elite-level international competition open to women and men of all nationalities, born January 1, 1983 or later, who are intending to pursue a professional singing career.

All eligible singers may choose to apply to one or both of Voice 2018's two divisions: singers applying to compete in the **Aria** division will perform music from the repertoire for voice and orchestra (opera, oratorio, cantata, mass, concert arias, orchestral songs, etc.); singers applying to compete in the **Art Song** division will perform music from the repertoire for voice and piano (French mélodie, German lied, English art song, etc.).

First Prize laureates from previous CMIM voice editions are not eligible to apply.

PRIZES, AWARDS AND GRANTS

A total of \$260,000 in prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

Aria

- 'Jon Vickers' First Prize (\$30,000) + 'Joseph Rouleau' Career Development Grant (\$50,000 offered by the Azrieli Foundation)
- 'Raoul Jobin' Second Prize (\$15,000)
- 'Teresa Stratas' Third Prize (\$10,000)
- Opera Aria Award (\$5,000)
- Oratorio Award (\$5,000)
- People's Choice Award (\$3,000)
- Best Canadian Artist Award (\$3,000)
- Three (3) CMIM Grants for unranked finalists (\$2,000 each)

Art Song

- 'Léopold Simoneau' First Prize (\$30,000 offered by the John R. Stratton Trust) + 'James Norcop' Career Development Grant (\$50,000)
- 'Maureen Forrester' Second Prize (\$15,000 offered by Colleen Sexsmith)
- 'Lois Marshall' Third Prize (\$10,000 offered in memory of Dr. Clive Mortimer)
- French Mélodie Award (\$5,000 offered by Diane Loeb)
- German Lied Award (\$5,000 offered by Arija and Clarence Stiver)
- People's Choice Award (\$3,000)
- Best Canadian Artist Award (\$3,000)
- CMIM Grant for the unranked finalist (\$2,000)

Piano

- 'John Newmark' Best Collaborative Pianist Award (\$10,000)

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec. 15, 2017: application deadline
Mar. 1, 2018: preliminary selection announced
May 27, 2018: Voice 2018 official opening
May 28-30, 2018: Aria + Art Song First Round

Jun. 1, 2018: Art Song Semifinal
Jun. 3, 2018: Art Song Final
Jun. 4-5, 2018: Aria Semifinal
Jun. 7, 2018: Aria Final

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications must be submitted online via concoursmontreal.ca/voice between March 15 and December 15, 2017. Only one application is required per candidate, even if applying to both divisions of the competition.

An application comprises the following:

- a) a completed online application form (including proposed repertoire for all competition rounds)
- b) a non-refundable application fee of \$150 CAD
- c) two (2) high-resolution colour photographs (including one headshot) suitable for publication and promotional purposes
- d) contact information for two (2) references willing to submit a letter of recommendation in support of the applicant
- e) three (3) audition videos per division entered (one video per song/aria):
 - Aria applicants: three (3) different arias performed with piano accompaniment, from the standard repertoire for solo voice and orchestra, in at least two (2) different languages.
 - Art Song applicants: three (3) different songs from the standard art song repertoire in their original versions, in at least two (2) different languages, with at least one song by Franz Schubert.

All audition videos must be high-quality with excellent audio, shot from one angle with a single fixed camera (no zooming, tilting, or panning), with the singer's face fully visible at all times. Videos must not be edited, enhanced or modified in any way. All recordings must be made after July 1, 2016.

SELECTION PROCESS

CMIM officials will review all of the applications to ensure they are complete and meet the required technical standards. The CMIM reserves the right to disqualify any candidate who has failed to fulfill all of the application requirements.

A preliminary selection committee appointed by the CMIM will review and evaluate the video auditions. A maximum of 40 singers (24 for Aria and 16 for Art Song) will be selected to compete in Voice 2018. Singers who apply for both divisions should be prepared to compete in both divisions if selected.

Singers will be notified of the preliminary selection results by March 1, 2018.

All competitors are required to be in Montreal from May 27 through June 7, 2018 (travel and accommodation provided, see below).

COMPETITION ROUNDS AND REPERTOIRE

Aria

- First Round: No more than 24 competitors will each perform a 15-minute programme with piano accompaniment which must include at least three (3) arias from the standard repertoire in at least two (2) different languages. The 12 singers who receive the highest scores from the international jury will move on to the semifinal round.

- Semifinal: 12 semifinalists will each perform a 14- to 18-minute programme with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal which must include three (3) arias in at least two different languages. The six (6) singers who receive the highest scores from the international jury will move on to the final round.
- Final: Six (6) finalists will each perform a 14- to 18-minute programme with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal which must include three (3) arias in at least two (2) different languages.

Art Song

- First Round: No more than 16 competitors will each perform a 15-minute programme of works for voice and piano which must include repertoire in French, English, and German, with at least one song by Franz Schubert. The eight (8) singers who receive the highest scores from the international jury will move on to the semifinal round.
- Semifinal: Eight (8) semifinalists will each perform a 20- to 25-minute programme of works for voice and piano which must include repertoire in French, German, and at least one (1) other language. The four (4) singers who receive the highest scores from the international jury will move on to the final round.
- Final: Four (4) finalists will each perform a half-recital of 30 to 35 minutes of works for voice and piano which must include repertoire in at least three (3) different languages.

Repertoire selected for performance during the competition rounds may include any of the works recorded for the audition videos. Competitors in the Aria category may repeat one (1) aria from their first round programme on their final programme. No other duplication of repertoire is permitted in the competition rounds.

Singers applying in the Aria category must select their semifinal and final repertoire from the CMIM's official list.

Singers in the Aria category who opt to include at least one aria from an oratorio, cantata, mass or passion in their semifinal or final programme are eligible for the Oratorio Award.

Singers are encouraged to bring their own collaborative pianists to Montreal for the competition (at their own expense). Pianists of all nationalities, born January 1, 1983 or later, who perform in competition at Voice 2018 will be eligible for the 'John Newmark' Award (\$10,000). Singers without accompanists will be assigned to an official CMIM pianist for all competition rounds requiring piano.

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

CMIM will provide one (1) return economy-class flight from the singer's home base to Montreal. Candidates who wish to make alternate travel arrangements may do so at their own expense. Travel is not provided for pianists.

CMIM will also arrange for free accommodation for the singer (and their accompanist, if applicable) with volunteer host families in the Montreal area. Candidates who wish to make other arrangements may do so at their own expense.

CMIM officials reserve the right to make changes, if necessary, to any of the information contained in this document.

For further information please contact:

Scott Tresham, Director of Artistic Operations and Strategy

Concours musical international de Montréal

stresham@concoursmontreal.ca

+1 514.845.4108 (ext. 235)