

**15 ANS DÉJÀ CMIM GALA CONCERT A GREAT SUCCESS**  
*Special awards winners unveiled just before the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary concert*

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**Montreal, Friday, May 12, 2017** – The First Prize winner of the CMIM (*Concours musical international de Montréal*) 2017 piano edition, Hungarian Zoltán Fejérvári, and three past First Prize winners of the CMIM—soprano Measha Bruegggosman (2002), pianist Serhiy Salov (2004) and violinist Benjamin Beilman (2010)—performed for a full house at the Maison symphonique. They were accompanied by the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal (OSM) led by conductor Claus Peter Flor. The gala highlighted the competition's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Montreal's 375<sup>th</sup>. For this occasion, several key Montréal figures were in attendance, including CMIM spokesperson Robert Charlebois, actress Anne Dorval, and musician and host Grégory Charles.

Just before the concert, CMIM officials awarded all the prizes and officially unveiled the identities of the special awards winners. The CMIM co-founder Joseph Rouleau awarded Zoltán Fejérvári the \$50,000 Joseph Rouleau Career Development Grant that accompanies the \$30,000 First prize. Except for the Best Canadian Artist Award, handed out to Teo Gheorghiu, all the other special prizes, including the People's Choice Award, were awarded to Italian Giuseppe Guarrera, also the recipient of the Pierre Péladeau Second Prize.

**MAIN PRIZES**

**First Prize: \$30,000**

Offered by the Ville de Montréal  
And

**Joseph Rouleau Career Development Grant: \$50,000**

Funded by the Azrieli Foundation  
**Zoltán FEJÉRVÁRI** (Hungary)

**Pierre Péladeau Second Prize: \$15,000**

Offered by Québecor in tribute to its founder  
**Giuseppe GUARRERA** (Italy)

**Third Prize: \$10,000**

Offered by Stingray Classica  
**Stefano ANDREATTA** (Italy)

**SPECIAL AWARDS**

**Radio-Canada People's Choice Award: \$5,000**

Offered by Radio-Canada  
**Giuseppe GUARRERA** (Italy)

**André-Bachand Award for the best performance of the compulsory Canadian work in the semifinals: \$4,000**

Offered by Jean-Claude and Raymond Bachand  
**Giuseppe GUARRERA** (Italy)

**Award for the best semifinal recital: \$2,000**

Offered by Tourisme Montréal

**Giuseppe GUARRERA** (Italy)

**Bach Award for the most outstanding performance of a work for solo keyboard by J.S.**

**Bach: \$1,000**

Offered by the Montreal Bach Festival

**Giuseppe GUARRERA** (Italy)

**Chopin Award for the most outstanding performance of a work for solo keyboard by**

**Frédéric Chopin: \$1,000**

Offered by Liliana Komorowska

**Giuseppe GUARRERA** (Italy)

**CMIM grants awarded to the three unranked finalists: \$2,000**

Offered by Maurice Deschamps, Joseph Rouleau, and Peter Symcox

**Albert CANO SMIT** (Spain - Netherlands)

**Yejin NOH** (South Korea)

**Jinhyung PARK** (South Korea)

The gala concert was webcast live and made available on demand at [concoursmontreal.ca/live](http://concoursmontreal.ca/live) as well as on [medici.tv](http://medici.tv), global leader in classical music content.

Over 300 pianists applied for this edition of the *Concours musical international de Montréal* (CMIM). This is a record number since the competition's founding in 2002, and a 120% increase compared to the number of applications for the last piano edition held in 2014. 304 candidates from 41 countries were admitted, of whom 99 were women and 205 men, averaging 25 years of age.

The next CMIM will be dedicated to voice and will take place from May 27 to June 7, 2018. Online application at [concoursmontreal.ca/en/the-competitions/voice](http://concoursmontreal.ca/en/the-competitions/voice) is open from March 15 to December 15, 2017. The admission criteria and repertoire are available at <https://concoursmontreal.ca/en/the-competitions/voice>.

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**ABOUT 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, 3,000 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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