

Montréal, March 18th 2021 - Canadian composer John Burge will be on the program at the 19th edition of the Concours musical international de Montréal

John Burge - Compulsory Canadian Work

All competitors taking part in the 2021 Piano edition must prepare to perform three of the Canadian composer's Twenty-four Preludes as part of the final round.

These three pieces have been selected from John Burge's work entitled Twenty-four Preludes, inspired by Chopin's Opus 28, as well as Debussy's two books of Preludes. The first piece, "Allegro energico" produces an effect of continuous movement with its incessant 16th-note passages. The second prelude selected from the work ("Spring Thaw"), a tribute to Canadian poet Margaret Avison, gives rise to contrasting melodies and colours. In the final prelude ("Off-beat Waltz"), John Burge overlays several rhythmic and lyrical layers to create a waltz, as its name implies, that calls to mind the musical motifs of the preceding preludes.

John Burge

Juno Award winning Canadian composer John Burge has earned an enviable reputation for the originality and versatility of his musical language. John Burge is also a pianist, regularly appearing as a soloist or with various ensembles. Since 1987, he has also been a professor of composition and musical theory at Queen's University.

The \$2,000 André Bachand Award will be presented to the competitor giving the best performance of the compulsory Canadian work. The CMIM thanks Ms. Claudette Hould for her generosity, allowing the CMIM to offer the award.

The great Johann Sebastian Bach

Johann Sebastian Bach will also be heard at the 2021 Piano edition. All competitors must include a work by Bach on the program of their choice (semi-final or final rounds).

The \$1,500 Montreal Bach Festival Award will go to the competitor giving the best performance of a work by J.S. Bach. The CMIM thanks the Montreal Bach Festival for this partnership, which contributes to the awarding of this prize.

Strategy for a winning program

The outcome of an event like the CMIM is also bound to the tactical aspect of the competition. The selection of works and their order of performance can have a decisive impact on the results of the competition. The 27 competitors have therefore carefully prepared the programs for their two virtual rounds.

Public Vote

Our audience is invited to be the 10th judge in the CMIM's international jury by voting for their favourite artist. Public voting will be open online on the CMIM's website from April 26 to May 13 at 11:59 pm.

The \$5,000 Ici Musique People's Choice Award will go to the competitor with the greatest number of votes.

- April 26 to May 14, 2021 -

The Piano 2021 edition will be available for free online, on the CMIM's website and on several other platforms.

ABOUT THE CMIM - Founded in 2002, the CMIM (Concours musical international de Montréal) aims to further the development of the world's most promising young singers, violinists, and pianists, while making classical music more accessible to the greatest possible number of people. The CMIM is held annually and features three disciplines (piano, voice, and violin) in a three-year rotation. Since its first edition dedicated to Voice in 2002, 3,700 hopefuls have entered the Competition, and close to 500 have been welcomed to perform in Montreal.

Complete details at: www.concoursmontreal.ca/en/piano-2021

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