

Jury 2024



Tomislav Nedelkovic-Baynov (Germany)

Prof. Tomislav Nedelkovic-Baynov was born in Sofia, Bulgaria into a family of musicians. Since 1982 he was a teacher in a number of music institutions in Germany and in 1999 was appointed Professor at the National Music Academy in Trossingen, Germany. He has been a jury member of many international competitions in Italy, Canada, Germany, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, USA, etc. In 2002 the University Quing Dao, China awarded him the title of Honorary Professor. Prof. Baynov is the founder and the head of the unique Baynov-Piano-Ensemble, which is performing a wide repertoire of piano ensemble music throughout the world. His successful concert activity (with a repertoire of more than 40 piano concertos) includes performances in many countries in Europe, Asia, North and South America, Australia and Africa, as well as 20 CD recordings.



Tamara Poddubnaya (U.S.A.)

Tamara Poddubnaya holds a PhD in Piano Performance from Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory, St. Petersburg. She is a Professor and a Dean of Music Department at Long Island Conservatory of Music, Albertson, New York. Dr. Poddubnaya has adjudicated as a chairperson numerous international competitions and festivals and held master classes all over the world, in Germany, Netherlands, South Korea, England, Italy, Israel, Russia, France, USA, Belgium, Bulgaria, Turkey, Spain etc.. She has performed in Russia, Georgia, USA, Lithuania, Latvia, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, South Korea etc. Dr. Poddubnaya has received numerous first prizes and Grand Prix'es for solo and chamber music performances and had appeared in TV and radio programs throughout Europe and US. She was a co-founder of "Peter the Great Festival" in Netherlands, Portland(ME) International Piano Festival, "Music without Borders" International Piano Festival at Gould Academy, Bethel, ME. She is a holder of the Golden Muse and St. Sophia Awards in Bulgaria.



Bogomil Bonev (Bulgaria)

The artistic director and co-founder of the International Music Festivals-Competitions «Hopes, Talents, Masters» (1996-2012), «Folklore Without Borders» (2001-2012), Bogomil Bonev studied in Sofia at National Academy of Music «Pancho Vladigerov» both as a pianist and musicologist, also graduated from Leningrad Rimsky-Korsakov State Conservatory. His teaching experience includes St. Petersburg Musical Pedagogical College and Krupskaya Institute of Culture. He is an author of numerous articles about musician's educational and professional problems, published in mass media. He translated works of his teacher — Michael Druskin from Russian into Bulgarian, as well as other important musical literature, published in «Musical Horizons» Bulgarian magazine. He is a member of Union of Concert Workers of Russia (Leningrad district division) and Union of Bulgarian Composers.

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Georgi Spassov (Bulgaria)

Deservedly called the "golden flute" of Bulgaria, leading flutist–soloist of the Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra and professor at the Bulgarian State Conservatoire. Holder of the Golden Muse Award. Since 1994 he has been a member of the Academic Woodwind Quintet, which performs both in Bulgaria and abroad. Georgi Spassov's repertoire ranges over a large variety of musical compositions of all styles and epochs. He had successful tours in many countries such as England, Belgium, Russia, France, USA, Hungary, Italy, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Cuba, Greece, Japan, Yugoslavia, South Korea, Austria and others. He has made numerous recordings for the Bulgarian State Radio and for the Bulgarian National TV, as well as for the French National Radio and Television, for the Yugoslavian TV and for the Balkanton Record Company, for Radio Budapest, etc.



Ting Yuan (China)

Pianist, winner at numerous international competitions in Germany, Bulgaria, Portugal, Belgium, China and Korea, also 1st prize at the competitions "Heirs of Orpheus" in Albena, "The sound of Time" in Veliko Tarnovo, "Tryavna Art Festival" in Bulgaria, "Grand Prix" prize at Reinhold-Gliere-Piano competition in St. Georgen in Germany, 1st prize at Festival-Competition "Stars at Tenerife", Spain, among others. She has performed as a soloist, chamber and piano ensemble musician in Gesellschaft für Musiktheater in Vienna - Austria, Montepulciano in Italy, Albena, Veliko Tarnovo and Tryavna in Bulgaria, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Beijing and others in China, Rhathaus in Stuttgart, Steingraeberhaus in Bayreuth, C. Bechstein Centrum in Tuebingen, Stadthalle Alter Kelter in Besigheim and in Kurhaus in Freudenstadt in Germany, Dvorana Saal in University Bratislava in Slovakia, among others. Since 2022 she is lecturer at Bavarian Music Academy Marktoberdorf and Hammelburg. Since 2023 she joined the jury at "2.young piano Competition Baden-Württemberg", at national academy in Trossingen, Germany.



Tao Ran (China)

President of Shenzhen Wind Instruments Association, President of Clarinet and Saxophone Professional Committee of Shenzhen Wind Instruments Association, Director of Wind Instruments Department, Associate Professor of Clarinet, Member of the Academic Committee, Member of Prof. Dan Zhaoyi's Expert Studio of Shenzhen Art School, Member of the Chinese Musicians Association and Executive Member of the Clarinet Society of the Chinese Musicians Association, Vice President of Guangdong Wind Instruments Association, Council Member of Shenzhen Musicians Association. "Top Ten Young Teacher" in Shenzhen, "Outstanding Musician" in Guangdong Province. "Excellent Instructor Awards" in numerous music competitions, and has jury member for many music competitions at home and abroad. Play solo and chamber music concerts across China.

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Qiu Shuwei (China)

Soprano, Master's Degree Tutor. She has been teaching in the Department of Vocal Music of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music since 2002. In 2008, she was honored by the World Women's Forum as "Outstanding Woman of Asia" and the World Bank's "Artistic Performer Award"; in 2009, she was awarded the "Friendship Contribution Award" by the U.S. Naval Academy; in 2012, she was honored by the City of Northern France as the "Best Singer of the Year". In 2012, she was awarded "Honorary Citizen" by the city of St. Martin Ouray in northern France, and in 2021, she was awarded "Chevalier de l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres" by the French government. Lettres) of the French Republic in 2021. Since 2004, she has collaborated with many world-class musicians in Europe, Asia, and the United States, focusing on the singing of French musical works, organizing dozens of solo concerts of French musical works of different periods, and being invited by domestic and foreign music colleges to the French art song vocal master-classes.