

Europasinfonie Composition Competition – Jury

Andrea Molino

Musical Director, Europasinfonie · Co-Head of the Jury



Photo: Fabrica

Andrea Molino, composer and conductor, was born in Turin and lives in Paris. His compositions centre on innovative, multimedia music theatre – from his years with the Pocket Opera Company in Nuremberg and as Artistic Director of Fabrica Musica (2000–2006) to works such as *CREDO*, *Three Mile Island* (Music Theatre Now Award 2013), *The Garden of Forking Paths* (2021) and *La vérité, pas toute* (2023). As a conductor he has led the premieres of Mikael Karlsson's *Melancholia* at the Royal Swedish Opera, Cathy Marston's *The Cellist* at the Royal Opera House in London and Maderna's *Requiem* at Teatro La Fenice, whose recording won the Abbiati Award, as well as *Wozzeck* and *The Nose* at the Sydney Opera House. He has conducted orchestras such as the Brussels Philharmonic and the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, and records for Stradivarius, ECM, Naïve and ABC Classics.

Markus Rindt

Artistic Director, Dresdner Sinfoniker, Germany · Co-Head of the Jury



Photo: David Sünderhauf

Markus Rindt is Artistic Director of the Dresdner Sinfoniker. Born into a musical family, he studied horn in Dresden and Cologne and was principal horn at the Landesbühnen Sachsen. In 1996 he founded the Dresdner Sinfoniker with Sven Helbig and has since been the driving force behind projects that have attracted worldwide attention, among them the *Hochhaussinfonie*, the world's first remote conducting, *aghet – ağit* on the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide and *TEAR DOWN THIS WALL!* on the border between Mexico and the USA. His desire to overcome borders, both physical and ideological, has its roots in his own history: in October 1989 he fled the GDR via the German Embassy in Prague. His awards include 'Cultural Manager of the Year' (2008) and the Erich Kästner Prize (2018) for his commitment against nationalism, fanaticism and isolation.

Máté Balogh

Composer and representative of Pannon Philharmonic, Hungary



Photo: László Emmer

Máté Balogh was born in 1990 in Győr, Hungary. He studied composition with Zoltán Jeney at the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest, with Fabio Nieder in Trieste and under the mentorship of Péter Eötvös, and received his DLA doctorate summa cum laude in 2019. He is Associate Professor at the Liszt Academy and at the University of Szeged, and has given guest lectures in Europe, the USA and China. He was Editor-in-Chief of Editio Musica Budapest (2017–2018), working primarily on the works of György Kurtág, and is resident composer of the Hungarian Pavilion at the 61st Venice Biennale. He composed the music for Zsófia Szilágyi's film *One Day*, awarded the FIPRESCI Prize in Cannes. His music has been performed in Europe, Asia and North America and at festivals such as Manifeste (Paris), Milano Musica and Ostrava Days, and is published by Universal Edition Vienna and Editio Musica Budapest, among others.

Sylvie Bodorová

Composer and representative of Czech Philharmonic Choir Brno, Czech Republic



Photo: Pavel Horník

Sylvie Bodorová (born 1954 in České Budějovice) is one of the best-known Czech composers. Since the late 1970s she has written a large body of solo and orchestral works, commissioned by cities, festivals and organisations worldwide and performed on every continent, including Antarctica. Following her *Terezín Ghetto Requiem*, she wrote the oratorios *Juda Maccabeus* for the Prague Spring festival and *Moses* (2008), the song cycle *Lingua angelorum* for Thomas Hampson, and the operas *Legend about Catherine from Redern* (2014) and *Quo vadis* (2022). Recent highlights include a Trumpet Concerto for the Prague Spring festival and the violin concerto *Danubiano* (both 2024), and her oratorio *Paulus Speratus* at the Mahler Jihlava festival in June 2026. She is a co-founder of the Antonín Dvořák Vocal Competition in Karlovy Vary and is involved in the restoration of Gustav Mahler's birthplace in Kaliště.

Titos Gouvelis

Pianist and Artistic Director Advisor, Athens State Orchestra, Greece



Photo: private

Titos Gouvelis is one of the leading Greek pianists. He has appeared as a soloist with orchestras including the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the Royal Bangkok Symphony Orchestra, the Athens State Orchestra and the Greek Radio Symphony Orchestra, and has performed at venues such as the Musikverein in Vienna, the Odeon of Herodes Atticus in Athens and St Martin-in-the-Fields in London. He has won numerous competitions, including first prize at the International Chamber Music Competition in Chieri, Italy, and was awarded the 'Mykoniou' Prize of the Academy of Athens. His repertoire ranges from the Baroque to the 21st century, and he has performed works by more than 60 Greek composers, including many world premieres. He has recorded for MDG, Genuin and Subways classical. He is Professor of Piano and Head of the Keyboard Faculty at the Athens Conservatoire and Professor at the University of Athens.

Heike Henning

Director of the Center for Choral Education Research and Practice, Mozarteum University Salzburg, Austria



Photo: Magdalena Zorn

Dr Heike Henning has been Professor of Instrumental and Vocal Pedagogy at the Mozarteum University Salzburg (Innsbruck campus) since 2015. From 2008 to 2019 she also taught vocal pedagogy and children's choir conducting at the Nuremberg University of Music, and she has held teaching assignments at several universities and conservatories in Germany. A sought-after expert in voice training and choir conducting, including for children, she gives lectures and workshops in Germany and abroad, serves as a jury member at international choir competitions and festivals, and conducts several choirs in Germany and Austria. She studied church music and music education, followed by postgraduate studies in media education and a doctorate in music education. Her focus includes vocal music-making, concert pedagogy and music education: she has developed numerous concert outreach formats, including for the Nuremberg State Theatre, and her research centres on the practical aspects of choral pedagogy.

Jerzy Kornowicz

Composer and Director of the Warsaw Autumn Festival, Sinfonia Varsovia, Poland



Photo: Mariusz Wideryński

Composer, improvising pianist, teacher and music activist Jerzy Kornowicz was born in Lublin in 1959. He studied composition in Warsaw with Tadeusz Baird and Marian Borkowski and in The Hague with Louis Andriessen. An interdisciplinary artist, he has had his works performed in dozens of countries by leading orchestras, ensembles and soloists. His honours include awards at the International Rostrum of Composers and the Fryderyk Award for the best contemporary music album of 2025. He co-founded the KODY (CODES) Festival in Lublin and was its artistic curator until 2024, served as President of the Polish Composers' Union from 2003 to 2015, and co-initiated the European Alliance of Composers and Authors in Brussels and the Creative Poland Association. Since 2017 he has been Director of the International Festival of Contemporary Music 'Warsaw Autumn'.

Ülo Krigul

Composer and representative of the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra, Estonia



Photo: Jaan Krivel

Ülo Krigul (born 1978 in Tallinn) studied composition at music academies in Vienna and Tallinn. His work ranges from commissions for large symphony orchestras to electroacoustic installations, theatre and film music, and he is also active as a musician and arranger in blues, jazz and experimental music. His music has been performed by, among others, the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra, the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir and the Pärnu Festival Orchestra with Paavo Järvi, and premiered at venues including the Konzerthaus Berlin, the Musikverein in Vienna and Finlandia Hall in Helsinki. His orchestral work *JenZeits* won the European Composer Prize at young.euro.classic (2005) and first prize in the under-30 category at the International Rostrum of Composers (2007); *Swan Bone City* received the Prince Pierre of Monaco Music Composition Prize (2014). In 2016 he received the Estonian Music Council Music Prize. He has also written the scores for Veiko Õunpuu's award-winning films.

Premil Petrović

Founder, Artistic Director and Chief Conductor, No Borders Orchestra, Serbia



Photo: Nebojša Babić

Premil Petrović is founder, chief conductor and artistic director of the No Borders Orchestra. He studied conducting at the Hanns Eisler Academy of Music in Berlin and received the first Hanns Eisler Award for the interpretation of contemporary music. In 1996 he founded the music theatre at the REX Cultural Centre, one of Belgrade's most important politically active venues of the 1990s. Based in Berlin, he conducts worldwide, with a repertoire ranging from early music to opera, symphonic works and numerous world premieres, including operas by Isidora Žebeljan at the Bregenz Festival and elsewhere. He worked with director Brett Bailey on Verdi/Cassol's *Macbeth*, acclaimed at major festivals across Europe, and has conducted Vancouver Opera, Teatro Colón, Opera Philadelphia and the Kyiv Symphony Orchestra, among others. His first recording with the No Borders Orchestra was released by Universal Music/Deutsche Grammophon.

Tom Pipeleers

Artistic Administrator, Brussels Philharmonic, Belgium



Photo: Bert Daenen

Tom Pipeleers is a Belgian artistic programmer, arts manager, educator and percussionist whose work bridges artistic creation, performance and cultural leadership. In his artistic role at Brussels Philharmonic and as executive director of the Intra Muros Festival, he develops artistic programmes, international partnerships and interdisciplinary projects that connect artists, audiences and cultural institutions. He regularly commissions new works, guides creative processes and contributes to programming that places contemporary creation in dialogue with historical repertoire. Trained as a percussionist and chamber musician at LUCA School of Arts (Lemmens Institute), he has taught there since 2015, reflecting a longstanding commitment to the next generation of music professionals. Combining perspectives from performance, education, programming and commissioning, he brings a broad understanding of contemporary musical creation and its place in today's cultural landscape.

Jona Schibilsky

Violinist, Concertmaster, Orquesta Sinfónica de Madrid, Spain



Photo: Clara Evens

Jona Schibilsky comes from a family of musicians in Berlin and performs throughout Europe as a concertmaster, chamber musician and soloist. In September 2025 she was appointed first concertmaster at the Teatro Real in Madrid (Orquesta Sinfónica de Madrid), having gained orchestral experience in the Karajan Academy of the Berliner Philharmoniker from 2022 to 2024. She has won numerous prizes, most recently at the Mendelssohn Competition as first violinist of the Sapphō Quartet, which she founded with her sister, and is a member of Duo Zweigeist. She has shared the stage with artists including Ilya Gringolts. After studies in Berlin and London, she is now studying for her Master's degree with Tobias Feldmann at the HMT Leipzig. She is a scholarship holder of the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes and plays a privately donated violin made by Jean-Baptiste Vuillaume in 1830.

Elisabetta Villa

Artistic Planning Manager, Fondazione Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano, Italy



Photo: Angelica Concarì

Elisabetta Villa (Milan, 1985) graduated with highest honours in Foreign Languages and Literature and in Musicology at the Università degli Studi di Milano. She continued her management training at the Accademia Teatro alla Scala (AMA Programme, 2012) and on Opera Europa's Opera Management Course.

She has worked with leading Italian performing arts institutions, including Teatro alla Scala, the MITO Settembre Musica festival and Teatro Regio di Parma. For six years she was Artistic Administrator of Teatro Sociale di Como, overseeing its opera, symphonic and chamber music seasons as well as the AsLiCo International Competition for Young Opera Singers.

Since 2024 she has been Artistic Administrator of Fondazione Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano and a member of its Director's Committee, focusing on artistic programming, project development and international collaborations.