

Europasinfonie Composers' Competition – Winners



Photo: Kacper Podrygajło

Damian Dziweńka

Winner, Orchestral Work · Geometry of Weaving · Poland

Damian Dziweńka, studies composition in the class of Prof. Grażyna Pstrokońska-Nawratil at the Karol Lipiński Academy of Music in Wrocław, where he is now in his second year.

During his time at secondary music school he played the bassoon. In that period he shared first place at the UFM Composition Competition in Warsaw with his piano trio *Meduza*. For two years he attended composition classes with Dr habil. Adam Porębski, during which he won the Sax and Villas 2024 Composition Competition with *In the Name of Land* for saxophone orchestra.

Through that prize his music, performed with the saxophone ensemble DS Trio, has been presented in countries including China, Spain, Italy and Portugal.



Photo: Mateusz Kucharski

Andrzej Ojczenasz

Winner, Orchestral Work · De revolutionibus orbium coelestium · Poland

Andrzej Ojczenasz (born 1992 in Kraków) is a graduate of the Jagiellonian University. He completed his Bachelor's degree in composition with Prof. Marcel Chyrzyński and his Master's degree with Prof. Anna Zawadzka-Gołosz at the Krzysztof Penderecki Academy of Music in Kraków, and studied composition at the University of Louisville as part of a Poland-USA exchange programme. In 2025 he completed a Master's degree in composition with Isabel Mundry at the Zurich University of the Arts, supported by a Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship. He is currently developing his work in multimedia art as a participant in the EMJM Digicrea programme.

His awards include first prize at the 5th Krzysztof Penderecki Composition Competition at the NDI Sopot Classic festival (2019) and second prize at its 6th edition (2021), as well as second prize at the 1st St Christopher Composition Competition in Vilnius (2021). In 2023 he was selected by the Orchestre national d'Île-de-France at the final concert of the Élan Award. He has twice received a scholarship from the Polish Minister of Culture and National Heritage.

His works have been premiered in Poland and abroad at international festivals by the Orchestra of the Polish Chamber Philharmonic in Sopot, Quatuor Diotima, the St Christopher Chamber Orchestra in Vilnius, the Black Pencil Ensemble, the Amorsima Trio in Louisville and the Orchestre national d'Île-de-France. He has taken masterclasses with Tristan Murail, Anna Thorvaldsdóttir, Elena Mendoza and Andrew Norman, among others.



Photo: Private

Francesco Darmanin

Winner, Work for Orchestra and Choir · Time is (not) · Italy

Francesco Darmanin, born in 1995, took his clarinet diploma with top marks and honours at the Luigi Cherubini Conservatory in Florence, and went on to study with Fabrizio Meloni at the Accademia Teatro alla Scala, composition with Francesco Antonioni and conducting with Alessandro Cadario. Formerly a member of the orchestra of the Accademia Teatro alla Scala in Milan, he is currently principal clarinetist of the Orchestra da Camera Fiorentina.

He has won several international composition competitions, among them first prizes at '2 Agosto' in Bologna, the V. Mendelssohn International Composition Competition, the Cammini di Francesco Festival in Sansepolcro and the Dante700 International Competition for Symphonic Composition.

His works have been performed across Europe and beyond, including at the Cantiere Internazionale d'Arte di Montepulciano and the Schlosstheater Rheinsberg, and by the Camerata Strumentale di Prato, the Orchestra del Teatro Comunale di Bologna and I Virtuosi Italiani. His concerto for clarinet and string orchestra *The First Winter Rain* was premiered with Fabrizio Meloni as soloist.

Active in the field of contemporary music, he is a member of the Ensemble degli Intrigati, founded as part of the Cantiere Internazionale d'Arte di Montepulciano, and has worked with composers and conductors including Detlev Glanert, Marco Angius, Carlo Boccadoro and Andrea Molino. As a clarinetist he has won numerous national and international prizes and has appeared with orchestras including the Orchestra Regionale Toscana.