

# ORPHEUS

## ORPHEUS Swiss Chamber Music Competition: Rules for 2020

Ensembles will be selected at the auditions **on 5 and 6 december 2020** at the Haute École de Musique de Genève – **Site de Neuchâtel**. All prize-winners shall perform at the **Swiss Chamber Music Festival Adelboden**. Selected ensembles will also perform at the **Festival Musikdorf Ernen**. The ensembles ranking in the top three positions will receive **cash prizes** and the chance to **commission a composition piece**.

### Categories – Instrumental ensembles

#### A. Mixed ensembles of 3 to 9 members

#### B. Duets on request

- Two identical instruments are forbidden (e.g. two violins, two flutes).

#### C. Special category on request

- Ensembles consisting of at least four of the same instruments (e.g. four horns or four trombones).

In principle, only original works are authorised. Arrangements can be authorised by the chairman of the jury in justified cases.

Enquiries must be **e-mailed** to the administrative office ([office@orpheus-competition.ch](mailto:office@orpheus-competition.ch)) no later than **20 october 2020**.

## 1. Programme content

### 1.1 ORPHEUS Competition (here below: the Competition)

- Ensembles prepare three works (or unique movements) from three different periods. Each shall last about 10 minutes.
- One of them must date from after 1960.
- The jury will select the works to be performed in the Competition. Each ensemble will have a 20-minute slot for its performance.

## 1.2 Swiss Chamber Music Festival Adelboden

- The programme must include a copyrighted work by a Swiss composer.
- One of them must date from after 1960.
- Paragraph 1 and paragraph 2 can be combined, i.e. the programme may include a work composed after 1960 by a Swiss composer.

## 1.3 Festival Musikdorf Ernen

- The selected ensembles must develop the programmes with the chairman of the jury during the week following the Competition.

## 2. Prizes

### 2.1 1st – 3rd prize

- **Concerts:** The prize-winners will give a concert at the Swiss Chamber Music Festival Adelboden from 17 to 26 september 2021. Selected ensembles will give concerts at the Festival Musikdorf Ernen in the period from 11 to 12 September 2021.

- **Cash prizes:** The top three prize-winners will receive cash prizes as follows:

1st prize CHF 5000

2nd prize CHF 3000

3rd prize CHF 2000

Prizes will be presented at the Swiss Chamber Music Festival 2021 in Adelboden.

- **Commissions:** For each of the top three prize-winners, a new composition piece shall be commissioned from a Swiss composer of the new generation. The prizes will be funded by the Swiss cultural foundation Pro Helvetia as part of its programme to support young talents.

The jury will decide on the awarding of commissions immediately after the Competition. The works will be performed for the first time at the Swiss Chamber Music Festival Adelboden 2021.

### 2.2 Other prize-winners

The other prize-winners will give concerts at the Swiss Chamber Music Festival Adelboden which will take place from 17 to 26 sept. 2021. Selected ensembles will give concerts at the Festival Musikdorf Ernen in the period from 11 to 12 september 2021.

### **3. Competition announcement**

**3.1** The Competition will be announced in the Schweizer Musikzeitung and on the ORPHEUS website and Facebook page. All Swiss music academies will be notified by e-mail and sent leaflets for their notice boards.

**3.2** The closing date for applications is **3 november 2020**.

### **4. Entry conditions**

**4.1** Application is open to ensembles whose members have recently completed a Master's degree or are about to do so and who are aged 28 or under. In exceptional cases, individual age deviations of members may be approved by the jury president.

**4.2** The Competition is open to ensembles whose members mostly live in Switzerland and have studied in Switzerland for at least one full year. Ensembles that are enrolled at a Swiss conservatory but do not reside in Switzerland can be examined and exceptionally approved by the jury president.

**4.3** Subject to the conditions of section 4.4, ensembles can enter the Competition twice.

**4.4.** Ensembles which have won first prize in a past ORPHEUS Competition are not permitted to enter again.

### **5. Entries**

**5.1.** Entry forms, which can be downloaded from **[www.orpheus-competition.ch](http://www.orpheus-competition.ch)**, must be e-mailed to [office@orpheus-competition.ch](mailto:office@orpheus-competition.ch).

**5.2 They must be accompanied by the following documents:**

- A list of the **works** to be prepared for the **Competition** (see section 1.1).
- A detailed **proposal for a concert** to be given at the Swiss Chamber Music Festival Adelboden and Festival Musikdorf Ernen (see section 1.2).
- The **names of three Swiss composers** for the awarding of commissions as set out in section 2.1. They must have completed their musical studies and be aged 35 or under.

**5.3** An **entry fee of CHF 150** (per ensemble) is charged. This fee is not refundable, even if the entry is withdrawn.

## **6. Participation in the Swiss Chamber Music Festival Adelboden and the Festival Musikdorf Ernen**

By entering the ORPHEUS Swiss Chamber Music Competition, ensembles irrevocably declare that, if selected by the jury, they will perform at the Swiss Chamber Music Festival Adelboden 2021 and the Festival Musikdorf Ernen 2021 and that they will take part in the supporting programmes for these events.

## **7. Fees and expenses**

**7.1** No expenses will be reimbursed for taking part in the Competition.

**7.2** A fee of CHF 800 will be paid to each ensemble member for taking part in the Swiss Chamber Music Festival Adelboden and the Festival Musikdorf Ernen. In addition, travel expenses within Switzerland will be reimbursed (second-class rail fares). The organisers will provide overnight accommodation and breakfast.

## **8. Exceptions**

**8.1** In justified cases, the chairman of the Competition jury and the Musical Director of the Swiss Chamber Music Festival Adelboden may grant exemptions from the aforementioned conditions. Their decisions are final.

**8.2** Requests for exemptions must be e-mailed to [office@orpheus-competition.ch](mailto:office@orpheus-competition.ch) on or before 20 October 2020.

## **9. Decisions**

**9.1** The decision of the chairman of the Competition jury on admission to the Competition is final.

**9.2** The jury decides on the awarding of prizes as set out in section 2. These decisions are final.

## **10. Jury**

The jury consists of five members, namely: Thomas Demenga (president), Olivier Darbellay, Stefan Muhmenthaler, Donna Molinari, Hiroko Sakagami