



**VOICE
and
VILLAS**

THE 1ST INTERNATIONAL VOCAL COMPETITION **VOICE AND VILLAS 2024**

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SZCZECIN / 24TH – 25TH MAY 2024

General Director of the Competition VOICEandVILLAS (Director of the Willa Lentza in Szczecin) - Jagoda Ł. Kimber

Artistic Director of the Competition VOICEandVILLAS - Prof. Katarzyna Dondalska, D.M.A., Habil.



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WILLA LENTZA

I. COMPETITION OBJECTIVES

1. To facilitate the development of young singers' artistic personalities; to help shape their musical and artistic preferences as well as awareness of vocal technique.
2. To promote talents.
3. To present vocal abilities and skills.
4. To propagate musical culture and artistic merit.
5. To further musical self-education; to offer an opportunity for independent presentations of one's own compositions; to test one's abilities.
6. To support and promote talents and create a space for them to present their vocal abilities as well as artistic achievements.

II. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND RULES FOR PARTICIPATION

1. The Competition is open to persons who:
 - are students or graduates of vocal departments at higher education institutions in Poland or abroad,
 - will **not have exceeded the age of 36** by 19th April 2024,
 - have paid a non-returnable entrance fee amounting to 300 PLN / 70 EUR, by bank transfer to the Organiser's account: **in PLN: 04 1240 3813 1111 0011 0389 0550** or **in EUR: PL 42 1240 3813 1978 0011 0389 0651, BIC / Swift code: PKOPPLPW**, not later than by 19th April 2024; put "entrance fee for the Competition + participant's name and surname" in the bank transfer title.
 - will have effectively submitted their Competition entries by dates specified in the Regulations below.
2. The Competition consists of two stages. The first round will take place without the participants' presence, and consist in assessing recording samples submitted by the participants. The second (final) round will take place on site, at the Lentz Villa in Szczecin.
3. A maximum of 25 participants who will achieve the highest scores in the first round will qualify for the finals.
4. Pianists (accompanists) will be made available for the finals at an additional fee payable to the Organisers.
5. Participants may also perform in the finals with their own pianists.

III. THE 1ST ROUND (ONLINE)

1. Participants ought to submit their Competition entries between 1st April 2024 and 19th April 2024 by sending them to the following address: **Willa Lentza, Al. Wojska Polskiego 84, 70-482 Szczecin** or at e-mail address: **voiceandvillas@willa-lentza.pl (Submissions should be sent by the end of the day on April 19, 2024)**. The following must be enclosed with the Competition entry (subject to the provisions contained in the sixth indent below):
 - an entry form signed by the Participant. A model form is given in Annex 1 to the Regulations (available from www.willa-lentza.pl).
 - Submitting an entry is tantamount to accepting the Competition Regulations,
 - the Participant's photograph,
 - a copy of an official document containing the Participant's name, surname, and date of birth. We recommend that other personal data (apart from those necessary to verify the fulfilment of entry conditions, such as age), should be anonymised on the document copy,
 - confirmation of entrance fee payment to the Organiser's bank account,
 - the Participant's brief bio,
 - audio-video recording(s) of the Participant's own performances of any two operatic arias by different composers, selected from the global repertoire. The recording(s) ought to be sent to the following email address: voiceandvillas@willa-lentza.pl between the dates specified in point 1 above. In case the audio-video file(s) are too large to be attached to an email message, the Organisers will accept

a recording sent via the We Transfer service (in which case a We Transfer link to the uploaded files must be sent to voiceandvillas@willa-lentza.pl),

→ in case the Participants plans to perform with her or his own pianist, the pianist's written consent must also be enclosed on a separate form, the model of which is given in Annex 2 to the Regulations (available from www.willa-lentza.pl).

2. Requirements concerning the recording / performance:

→ One or two recordings of any duration, with no cuts within the individual pieces of music, made after 1st April 2023 (i.e. recorded no more than one year before the start of the Competition procedures).

→ The recording(s) should be made in a relatively low-echo space. Recording sound and elocution (stage delivery) should be clear, with no background noise. The performer's full-body image should be filmed from one angle in good lighting.

→ **Only the performer, or the performer with the accompanist, may be visible in the recording.**

→ Recording format: MP4, Minimum resolution: HD 1280 x 720 pixels.

3. The recording(s) specified in point 2 above will be made accessible by the Organiser on the Lentz Villa's public YouTube channel.

4. The Competition Organiser reserves the right to reject entries that do not fulfil any of the requirements for participation.

5. The list of persons who have qualified for the second (final) round will be published on **26th April 2024** on the Competition's website: www.willa-lentza.pl.

IV. THE 2ND ROUND (THE COMPETITION FINALS)

1. In the Competition finals, Participants are obliged to perform **2 operatic arias** by different composers, selected from the global repertoire.

2. **One of the arias** sung in the first round of the Competition may be performed again in the finals.

3. The total time of a Participant's presentation in the finals **may not exceed 15 minutes**.

4. Persons who have qualified for the finals and have declared that they will perform with the Competition Organiser's pianist (i.e. not with the singer's own accompanist) are obliged to pay an additional fee of **100 PLN or 24 EUR** by bank transfer to the Organiser's account: **in PLN: 04 1240 3813 1111 0011 0389 0550** or **in EUR: PL 42 1240 3813 1978 0011 0389 0651**, **BIC / Swift code: PKOPPLPW**. Put "pianist fee + participant's name and surname" in the bank transfer title.

5. Confirmation of pianist fee payment and clearly legible piano reductions (transcriptions) of the arias in PDF format ought to be sent to the Organiser's email address voiceandvillas@willa-lentza.pl not later than **by 5 May 2024**.

6. Rehearsals with the Competition Organiser's pianists will be held on 24th May 2024 in accordance with a detailed schedule.

7. The Competition finals will be held on **25th May 2024** at the Lentz Villa in accordance with a detailed schedule. The finals will be recorded and broadcast / streamed live on the Lentz Villa's public YouTube channel, and this recording will remain publicly accessible after the Competition.

8. All the remaining costs of participating in the finals, including, in particular, the costs of transport, accommodation, meals, costumes, and other personal expenditure, as well as the accompanist's costs (in case of performing with one's own pianist) must be covered individually by each Participant.



V. THE JURY OF THE COMPETITION VOICEANDVILLAS

General Director of the Competition VOICEandVILLAS (Director of the Willa Lentza in Szczecin) - Jagoda Ł. Kimber

Artistic Director of the Competition VOICEandVILLAS - Prof. Katarzyna Dondalska, D.M.A., Habil.

1. Participants of the Competition's first round will be assessed by a Jury appointed by the Organiser:
Dr Aura Twarowska – Romanian mezzo-soprano, soloist at the Vienna State Opera.
Dr Janusz Lewandowski – singer-soloist of the Opera at the Castle in Szczecin, soloist of the Opera Nova in Bydgoszcz
Joanna Tylkowska-Drożdż, D.M.A., Habil. – soloist of the Opera at the Castle in Szczecin, associate professor at the Academy of Art in Szczecin,
Prof. Katarzyna Dondalska, D.M.A., Habil. – one of the most outstanding coloratura sopranos of our time,
Prof. Paweł Skatuba – Polish opera singer, soloist of the National Opera in Warsaw and the Grand Theatre in Łódź
2. Participants of the Competition finals will be assessed by an international Jury made up of eminent representatives of the vocal scene and directors of cultural institutions:

Chairman of the Jury: Wiesław Ochman – chairman of the Jury, eminent and world-famous Polish opera singer who has appeared as a soloist on the world's main stages incl. New York's Metropolitan Opera and Milan's Teatro alla Scala.

Participants:

Prof. Errico Fresis – conductor and pianist, General Music Director of the Freiburger Theater, musical head of the faculty of operatic education (Opernausbildung) at the Universität der Künste Berlin.

Ewa Strusińska – Polish conductor, General Music Director of the Gerhart Hauptmann-Theater in Görlitz-Zittau

Prof. Katarzyna Dondalska, D.M.A., Habil. – Artistic Director of the Competition, one of the most outstanding coloratura sopranos of our time,

Prof. Marcin Nałęcz-Niesiołowski, D.M.A., Habil. – Polish conductor, Director of the Grand Theatre in Łódź

Prof. Piotr Kusiewicz, D.M.A., Habil. – Polish tenor and pianist, casting manager at the Baltic Opera, professor of vocal studies at the Academy of Music in Gdańsk

3. The Jury will give each Participant a score of 1 to 25 points.
4. The Jury's proceedings are secret, and its decisions are final.

VI. COMPETITION PRIZES

1. The following prizes have been specified by the Organiser:

- 1st prize – EUR 600
- 2nd prize – EUR 500
- 3rd prize – EUR 300

and, in addition:

- three honourable mentions with prizes of EUR 200 each, in this one Jacek Nieżyrowski Award
- four in-kind prizes



2. The Jury reserves the right to divide the prize money in a way different from the one specified above.
3. The organiser informs that other prizes not listed in the Regulations are also to be awarded.
4. All the Competition prize-winners, recipients of honourable mentions and prizes not listed in the Regulations, are obliged to perform, free of charge, at the Final Gala Concert, to be held on 25th May 2024 at the Lentz Villa in Szczecin. Non-appearance at the above-mentioned concert will be considered tantamount to forfeiting the prize.
5. The prizes, including those for the honourable mentions, will be paid in non-cash form by bank transfer to the prize-winner's account. Public imposts will be deducted from the prize pursuant to regulations currently in force.
6. The Final Gala Concert will be recorded and broadcast / streamed live on the Lentz Villa's public YouTube channel, and this recording will remain publicly accessible after the Competition.

VII. COMPETITION SCHEDULE

1ST APRIL 2024 – starting date for Competition entry submissions and acceptance

19TH APRIL 2024 – deadline for Competition entry submissions

19TH – 26TH APRIL 2024 – Recordings are assessed (the first round of the Competition)

26TH APRIL 2024 – List of persons who have qualified for the finals is published

24TH MAY 2024 – Rehearsals with the Competition Organiser's pianists are held for the finalists

25TH MAY 2024 – The final round auditions

25TH MAY 2024 – the Final Gala Concert

VIII. GRATUITOUS PERFORMANCE OF OBLIGATIONS AND TRANSFER OF RIGHTS

1. By submitting their entries for the Competition, Participants undertake to perform all their obligations related to the Competition free of charge.
2. As of the moment of submitting their recordings to the Organiser in the 1st round, Participants grant to the Organiser, without the right to remuneration, **a non-exclusive license**, unlimited in territory, to the works (recorded pieces of music) submitted for the 1st round, for five years from the date of their submission to the Organiser and in all the fields of exploitation listed in point 3 below. Participants also transfer to the Organiser, without the right to remuneration, **all the related rights**, unlimited in time and territory, to use and dispose, in whole or in part, of the **artistic performances** contained in the said recordings, in the fields of exploitation listed in point 3 below.
3. As of the moment of the artistic performance, respectively during the Competition finals and the Final Gala Concert, the Participant and the pianist he or she appoints (in case their own accompanist has been chosen) transfer to the Organiser, without the right to remuneration, and the Organiser thus obtains, all the related rights, unlimited in time and territory, in Poland and abroad, to use and dispose, in whole or in part, of the artistic performances of the Participant and the pianist, during the Competition finals and the Final Gala Concert as it respectively applies, in the following fields of exploitation (to which both the Participant and the pianist shall agree):
 - a) public performance,
 - b) recording and broadcasting / live streaming of the artistic performance on the Lentz Villa's public YouTube channel, and subsequent public access to the recording (rebroadcast) on the same channel, as well as in computer networks, via applications or any telecommunications services, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, in whole or in any selected parts,



- c) recording (storage) and reproduction of the artistic performance, in whole or in any selected parts, on any type of carrier and by means of all the recording (storage) techniques available,
 - d) uploading on the internet, intranets, into the computer memory and multimedia networks, by means of any technology, including volatile memory forms such as RAM; temporary and permanent storage, copying and archiving such stored records, in whole or in any selected parts,
 - e) distribution in any form (including sales), free lending or paid hire of carriers that contain the artistic performance, in whole or in any selected parts,
 - f) making the artistic performance or its parts publicly available so that everyone can access it at a place and time of their own choice, by means of any technology, including on computer networks, in particular on the Internet and other information networks, via applications or any telecommunications services, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and the Organiser's website, in whole or in any selected parts,
 - g) dissemination in the form of an audio-visual work created in a virtual reality environment, in whole or in any selected parts.
4. It is to be assumed in case of doubt that the transfer of rights to the artistic performance as specified in point 3 above includes at least all those fields of exploitation that have been listed in Article 86 of the Act of 4th February 1994 on Copyright and Related Rights.
 5. By submitting an entry to the Competition, the Participant agrees for his or her personal image and artistic performances to be photographed and filmed, and for all such recorded performances to be made accessible via the channels listed in point 6 below.
 6. By submitting an entry to the Competition, the Participant agrees for his or her personal image, name and surname, recordings and photographs contain the artistic performance, to be used in the course of all of the Organiser's activities related to informing, advertising, promoting, and archiving the Competition and the artistic performances thereof, as well as the Organiser's overall promotional and artistic work, including in particular on the radio and television, the internet, all kinds of printed materials, large-format outdoor advertising, in the form of photographs, posters, inserts in publications, magazines, newspapers, as well as audio and audiovisual releases of concert recordings or their fragments, including screening and public dissemination. In particular, promotion is understood to involve creating the so-called 'making of' documentaries that present the Competition procedures, trailers for Competition concerts, and photographing concerts held as part of the Competition (which may also include photographing the artistic performance).
 7. The form, principles, and conditions of Competition promotion in all media and on all types of carriers will be resolved upon by the Organiser.
 8. Each Competition Participant undertakes to sign with the Organiser, upon the Organiser's each and every request, an agreement covering the elements listed in points 1 - 7 above.
 9. In case the Participant chooses to perform with their own pianist, points 5 - 8 respectively apply to that pianist as well.

IX. SAFETY MEASURES RELATED TO COVID-19 AND OTHER CONTAGIOUS DISEASES

The concerts will be organised in accordance with the regulations, principles, and recommendations concerning preventing and countering COVID-19, other contagious diseases, and crisis situations to which they may lead, in force as of the date of the performances in Poland. The materials and documents attached to the entry form will not be returned to the sender.



X. FINAL PROVISIONS

1. These Competition Regulations come into force as of the date of their being published on the Organiser's website: www.willa-lentza.pl.
2. The Organiser reserves the right to change the dates listed in the Regulations. Any such changes will be announced via the Organiser's website: www.willa-lentza.pl.
3. In case of the occurrence of obstacles whose causes are beyond the Organiser's control, the Organiser reserves the right to change the provisions of these Competition Regulations, including the performance dates and venues. The Organiser simultaneously undertakes to inform Participants in good time of all such changes, by announcing them on the Organiser's website: www.willa-lentza.pl or in any other manner available.

In case you have any further questions, please contact us at: sekretariat@willa-lentza.pl, phone no. (+48) 91 822 84 84

The Competition shall be governed and interpreted in accordance with the Polish law. All and any disputes related to the Competition shall be settled by a common court relevant to the seat of the Organiser – the LENTZ VILLA in SZCZECIN.

