

A PRESS FOLDER

THE 25th EDITION OF THE "A. POSTACCHINI" INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION

THE VIOLIN KERMESSE CELEBRATES THE SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

From 19 to 26 May at the "Teatro dell'Aquila" in Fermo. 139 participants from 37 nations, among these 12 are non-European. The American violinist M^o Renée Jolles the leader of the jury. A prize money of more than 30,000€. To the winner of all the competition a violin made by the luthier Alberto Dolce from his "Sorgentone & Mecatti" workshop in Florence and a bow made by the bow maker Walter Barbiero. On 10 May a preview concert for the 190th anniversary of Schubert's death opens the competition and then the award ceremony and the winners' concert on 26 May follow. The tonight's gala with the FORM on 16 December concludes this year of the Postacchini competition.

Fermo - The "Andrea Postacchini" International Violin Competition celebrates its silver wedding anniversary with violin and classical music. 25 years of history behind it and a path that bends in the future starting from this edition that, with notes, will inebriate the Teatro dell'Aquila in Fermo from 19 to 26 May.

Since its birth in 1994 the prestigious competition has been organized by the cultural association "Antiqua Marca Firmana" and every year it gathers in Fermo the most talented young violinist from all over the world. They gather in the luthier's name, who has lived in Fermo and who has been nicknamed the Stradivari of the Marche Region. Also this year the municipality of Fermo, the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio, the Marche Region and the Chamber of Commerce of FermoAW as well as more other public and private authorities support the association Antiqua Marca Firmana.

This year the musicians will be 139 and they come from 37 countries, among which 12 are no-European. They will compete for the prestigious title and prize money of more than 30,000 €. The prize money is divided into awards, special awards, grants and the final award for the winner of all the competition. Like every year the jury is really prestigious too. On this edition the American M^o Renée Jolles will preside over the 7-member jury. Violinist with a versatile career, she was applauded by the New York Times as a star for her first performance at the Alice Tully Hall in New York. She is violin teacher at the Eastman School of Music. Moreover, she has given masterclass at the most important conservatories and festivals worldwide and now she is arriving at the Postacchini competition after she has been a judge at the International Competition in Washington, the Walgreens National Concerto Competition and the Juanita Miller Competition in Texas

This edition will bring a lot of news. First of all, the preview concert will be on Thursday 10 May at 9pm at the Auditorium Isaia Billè. The Postacchini Competition and the Conservatory of Music "G.B. Pergolesi" in Fermo, are giving a very deep concert to honour one of the greatest romantic composers, Franz Schubert, because it will be the 190th anniversary of his death.

Talking about the competition, the news of this edition are the participation of Bolivia and numerous violinists, who came to Fermo from Mongolia. This is the case of the youngest participant, Trisha Righu, who is born in 2009.

Ufficio Stampa

During this 8-days-long endurance race, the musicians of the competition will perform on the stage of the Teatro dell'Aquila from 9am to evening, but a range of other events will not lack. There will be meetings with the schools of Fermo and Porto San Giorgio during which the young violinists can tell the students something special about their art and the luthier's exhibition, set by Alberto Dolce in the foyer of the Teatro dell'Aquila, with the exposition of his violin (award for the winner of all the competition) and historical violins from the Marche Region. The violins of the exhibition come from his "Sorgentone & Mecatti" workshop in Florence. Moreover, there are the Walter Barbiero's bow and, by private donation, "Preciousness of the Andrea Postacchini's period".

The event "Quattro corde per tre paesi ben accordati" will be an apical moment of solidarity and strong bond between Cremona, San Ginesio and Fermo. It takes place on Saturday 19 May.

During the inauguration of the luthier's exhibition, the "Accademia Cremonensis" will give back to the municipality of San Ginesio the instruments that have been restored by the Gentili Museum of that small town after the damages due to the earthquake. Moreover, the museum will give to San Ginesio a quartet of instruments, copies of the existing ones.

On Sunday 26 at the Teatro dell'Aquila all the winners of the four categories of the competition alternate on the stage for a wonderful night of music hosted by Matteo Caccia (author and host of Radio2 Rai). For the first time the event will be broadcast worldwide thanks to the collaboration with the web radio Stazione 41. The XXV edition concludes on 16 December at 5pm at the Teatro dell'Aquila with the tonight's gala and the winner of category D's concert, the category of the oldest violinists. The winner will be accompanied by the Orchestra Filarmonica Marchigiana.

Also this year the event boasts important rewards: the medal of the President of the Italian Republic and important patronages such as that of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and others.

The categories and the participants

The Postacchini Competition, the only competition in the world of such prominence to allow a competition divided into categories, confirms also for the 25th edition this peculiarity. The competition includes four categories, divided according to the participants' age. The category A is made up of children from 8 to 11 years old, and this year it includes 10 participants. The category B goes from 12 to 16 years old and contains 29 members. The categories C (from 17 to 21 years old) and D (from 22 to 35 years old) have both 50 musicians.

The 139 participants come from Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Canada, China, South Korea, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, Hong Kong, England, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mongolia, Norway, Holland, Poland, Czech Republic, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, Ukraine, Hungary and the USA. Twelve of these countries are non European and this year there is a news too: the presence of Bolivia for the first time in the story of the competition.

More and more violinists come from Mongolia and the youngest participant of this edition, Trisha Righu, comes exactly from Ulaanbaatar, the capitol of Mongolia.

The jury

The American Renée Jolles presides the jury of this edition. Violinist with a versatile career, she was applauded as a star by the New York Times for her first performance at the Alice Tully Hall in New York. She is violin teacher at the Eastman School of Music. Moreover, she has given masterclass at the most important conservatories and festivals worldwide and now she is arriving to the Postacchini competition after she has been a judge at the International Competition in Washington, the Walgreens National Concerto Competition and the Juanita Miller Competition in Texas. Under the Italian flag two Masters of unquestioned value. The M° Felice Cusano, concert performer in orchestras of great importance such as the Orchestra of the Teatro alla Scala in Milan, the Orchestra of Rai and the Haydn Orchestra in Bolzano, is now teacher at the Music School in Fiesole. He has taught at the "Giuseppe Verdi" Conservatory in Milan for more than twenty years.

The M° Marco Fiorini is one of the most important concertmasters of his generation. He has been concertmaster of the Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Roma for years and he gives specialization courses and violin, chamber music and orchestra masterclasses both in Italy and abroad. Moreover, he is teaching at the Music School in Fiesole for the specialization courses.

The M° Sergei Kravchenko comes from Russia and he has been the student of the great violinist Leonid Kogan. Award winner in 1969 at the Paganini Competition in Genova, concert performer and masterclass teacher since 1972, he has been a jury member at numerous international competitions such as the Tchaikovsky in Moscow.

The M° Krzysztof Wegrzyn is the founder and the artistic director of the International Violin Competition "Joseph Joachim" in Hannover. He has dual nationality, he is both German and Polish. Concert performer known all around the world, he has been the concertmaster in the Orchestra dell'Opera di Stato della Filarmonica in Hannover for many years and nowadays he gives specialization courses in Europe, the United States and Asia.

Beside the president, the other woman of the jury is M° Nan Xie from China. Applauded both in her native land and abroad, she is violin teacher and President of the Violin Department of the prestigious Central Conservatory of Music. Moreover, she is vice president of the Violin Academy of the Chinese Musicians' Association, member of the Chinese Woman Composers' Association's Council and judge at the piano and violin competition of the China Central Television.

The jury is completed by M° Pierre Henri Xuereb. He is viola teacher at the CNSM in Paris and at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Liegi and he gives numerous masterclasses. Moreover, he performs as solo artist with the Orchestra in Tel Aviv, the Israel Sinfonietta, the Instrumental Ensemble of French and others.

The awards

With a prize money of more than 30,000 €, divided into category awards, special awards, grants and the final award for the winner of all the competition, also this edition is rich of recognitions and concert awards.

The "Andrea Postacchini Award" will be given to the winner of all the competition. That means to whom the jury has given the highest mark among the participants of all the four categories. It is an Alberto Dolce's violin from the workshop "Sorgentone & Mecatti" in Florence and a bow maker Walter Barbiero's bow.

The opening concert

Nine days before the official beginning of the competition, for its 25th edition the Postacchini Competition organizes an opening concert curated by the Conservatory of Music "G.B. Pergolesi" in Fermo. On Thursday 10 May at 9pm at the Isaia Billè Auditorium, there is a very important concert to celebrate the 190th anniversary of the romantic composer Franz Schubert's death. During the event, the quintet for piano and strings made up of the pianist Alessandra Gentile, the violinist Luca Marziali, the viola player Federico Stassi, the cellist Danilo Squitieri and the double bass player Silvio Bruni, will play the "Trout Quintet" Op. 114, D. 667 of 1819. Then it follow the string quartet made up of the violinists Marco Rogliano and Renato Marchese, the viola player Federico Stassi and the cellist Donato Reggi, which will play the "Death and the Maiden", D. 819 of 1824.

The exhibitions

The Postacchini Competition continues its journey through the making of stringed instruments. This year, in the foyer of the Teatro dell'Aquila it is hosting an important exhibition. It includes the Alberto Dolce's violin and prestigious violins of the historical art of making of stringed instruments in the Marche Region and the bow maker Walter Barbiero's bow. It opens on Sunday 19 at 8:45pm. The violin given to the winner of all the competition will arise from the art of making high standard violins.

By kind permission of the Municipal Library in Fermo there will be the "Preziosità dell'epoca di Andrea Postacchini" exhibition. It is a fascinating journey through the luthier's world, who lived in Fermo between the 18th and the 19th century. All the handmade articles will be kept in the display cabinets of "Daca Vettrine D'autore".

Cremona for San Ginesio in Fermo: "quattro corde per tre Paesi ben accordati"

The 25th edition of the International violin Competition will be a union place between two violin and classical music lover realities. As a token of brotherhood, solidarity and friendship there will be a ceremony to give back the instruments of the Gentili Museum of San Ginesio. They have been damaged by the earthquake and then restored by the Accademia Cremonensis, which gives them back to San Ginesio with a quartet of instruments that are copies of the originals. This event takes place on Sunday 19 May in Fermo, after the opening of the exhibition, at the Sala Rollina of the Teatro dell'Aquila,

The meeting with the schools

As every year, apart from being a firm and authoritative classical music competition, the Postacchini Competition is an important meeting between the young from different and often far countries. It is a unique occasion for dialogue between generations through the universal language of music. It is going to renew also this year the usual double meeting with the students of the school in and around Fermo. The M° Paolo Strappa coordinates the events. On Tuesday 22 May at 9:30am there are the students of the school

of Fermo at the Auditorium Isaia Billè, while on Thursday 24 the violinists of the competition play at the Nardi school in Porto San Giorgio.

In December the tonight's gala of the XXV edition

On Sunday 16 December at 5pm at the Teatro dell'Aquila there is the tonight's gala of the 25th edition of the Andrea Postacchini international violin competition. It is a very important event because the winner of category D will perform with the FORM (Orchestra Filarmonica Marchigiana) during the concert/symphonic season of the city of Fermo.

The patronages

The event can count the following patronages: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism, the Marche Region, the City of Fermo, the city of Ansbach (Germany – twin city of Fermo), the Province of Fermo, the Chamber of Commerce of Fermo, the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio of Fermo, the Conservatory of Music “G.B. Pergolesi” in Fermo, the Liceo Artistico Statale “Preziotti -Licini” in Fermo.

The organizers and the partners

The “Andrea Postacchini” international violin competition is the top-of-the-range event among those the Antiqua Marca Firmana organizes. It is a no profit association for social development.

What has been driving for 25 years the organizers of the event is the promotion of cultural activities in order to achieve a better and better understanding of the human, artistic and scientific problems. You must add to this the promotion of both international and local talented people.

Thanks to the job that the Antiqua Marca Firmana has done for more than twenty years, the competition has become a fundamental instrument of local promotion, and it is capable of bringing Fermo and its incredible cultural treasures all around the world. The accuracy of the administration about every aspect of the competition, starting from the presence of a high standard jury that is appointed every year, has allowed the Postacchini Competition to become synonymous of quality in the musical field. As a matter of fact, throughout the years the competition has awarded young beginners, who later have become famous and appreciated concert performers.

Apart from the Municipality of Fermo and other public offices, the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Fermo e Carifermo SpA, Solgas Srl, Poltrona Frau SpA, Rotary International Club of Fermo, Steat SpA, Tre Elle Srl, Steca Energia Srl, Macap Srl, Santori Pellami SpA, Budmor Snc, Ramini Daniela SAS, the Bar Associaton and private citizens support the competition. The media partners are: QN Il Resto del Carlino, Il Corriere Adriatico. The expert partners are: Alberto Dolce from the “Sorgentone & Mecatti” workshop in Florence, Walter Barbiero and Roberto Valli Pianoforti. The school is the Liceo Artistico Statale “Preziotti-Licini” in Fermo.

"Gli Amici del Postacchini" - Postacchini Friends

In view of the 156th anniversary of the Andrea Postacchini's death, the Antiqua Marca Firmana has created the project "Amici del Postacchini" that boosts the free donation as active support for the competition realization and for its future.

A need that nowadays is stronger and stronger, especially when it regards the development of important cultural projects that need a wider support than the public and private one. Its clear will is to create a net capable of connecting citizens, public and private offices, entrepreneurs, Italian and foreign private subjects with culture and the young best performers in the global music.

This is a donation to support a competition that since 1994 has been working seriously and passionately for the promotion of young violinists who come in Fermo from all over the world. They would like to add to their career the participation at one of the most prestigious competitions in the world. Through a free donation you can be a Postacchini's friend and your name, unless you prefer to be anonymous, will be on the giver list that will be published on its website www.concorsopostacchini.it

Moreover, you can support the competition through the 5x1000 (CF 90013210449) and/or with a free donation via credit card, PayPal or bank transfer.

Information and contacts - The websites www.concorsopostacchini.com www.ccamf.org
www.concorsopostacchini.it www.stringscompetition.com

You can follow all the events on the official Facebook, Twitter and Instagram page or looking at the hashtag #concorsopostacchini #postacchini2018