

PRESS RELEASE

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New prize by Wagnergenootschap Nederland

WAGNER PRIZE FOR THE NETHERLANDS for 51th IVC

The Wagnergenootschap Nederland has instituted a new prize for the next International Vocal Competition 's-Hertogenbosch: the Wagner Prize for The Netherlands, which existence is secured for the next decade. The Wagner Prize for The Netherlands (€ 5.000) is focused on development and professionalization, and will be awarded to a candidate in the category 'Opera', who is capable to perform Wagner's work. The Prize will contribute to the cost of study courses with a renowned Wagner specialist. The Wagner Prize for The Netherlands will be awarded during the next International Vocal Competition, which will be held from 8 till 17 September.

Aim

With the Wagner Prize for The Netherlands the Wagnergenootschap Nederland (WGN) aims to promote the work by composer Richard Wagner to the attention of audiences, musicians and young singers. The Prize focuses on education: to encourage young singers to perform the specific Wagner repertoire and to further develop and professionalize in cooperation with a Wagner specialist. The Wagner Prize is intended as an operatic incentive prize: only candidates who enter the Opera category of the IVC will be considered. Candidates must be at least admitted to the Semi-Finals.

Jury

The jury of the Wagner Prize for The Netherlands includes three members of the international IVC jury Evamaria Wieser (Casting/Artistic Consultant Lyric Opera Chicago/Salzburger Festspiele), baritone Sergei Leiferkus and bass Robert Holl, and two members representing the Wagner Society Netherlands, external artistic adviser Hans Middelhuis (Dutch Touring Opera) and Leo Cornelissen (chairman WGN), who also acts as chairman of the jury.

Incentive

The Wagnervereeniging was formed in Amsterdam in 1883, the year of Wagner's death, and was soon to become renowned. This organization ceased its activities some 75 years later in 1959 and was followed by the Wagnergenootschap Nederland (WGN), founded in 1961. 2016 marks the 55th anniversary of the WGN; this Wagner Prize of The Netherlands was instituted in May 2016 to mark this occasion and to commemorate more than 130 years of Wagner tradition in the Netherlands.

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