

## Introduction of the International Vocal Competition (IVC)

The International Vocal Competition (IVC) in 's-Hertogenbosch was founded in 1954 and is the sole classical vocal competition in the Netherlands that involves oratorio and art song as well as opera, with much attention also being paid to 20th century and to contemporary music. Singers and pianists from over 50 countries are presenting themselves to an international jury and the public.

The prizes amount to € 45.000 plus engagements.

Over the past 60 years the IVC has become a permanent fixture amongst international classical vocal competitions; as such it is one of the Netherlands' most important cultural events from an international viewpoint. The IVC is a member of the World Federation of International Music Competitions (WFIMC) and fervently supports the discovery and development of young vocal talent.

The IVC's purpose is described best through its own '**Triple D**' status: **Discovery, Development and Delivery**. Discovery through the Competition itself; Development through master classes given by renowned singers who are able to transmit their knowledge and technical skills; training weeks, summer schools and the provision of professional advice; Delivery of the singers to impresarios as well as to concert, opera and festival managements in the IVC's professional network.

The IVC promotes the careers of talented singers with recommendations and introductions to juries, concert managements, casting directors, impresarios, the media and concert and theatrical audiences.

The juries for the Preliminary Rounds and the Competition proper are made up of a combination of famous singers and highly-placed people in the opera and concert world.

The IVC has acted as a springboard for many singers that today enjoy international renown; they still feel a connection with us and as a result often perform as ambassadors for the IVC as well as taking part in IVC activities..

For further information see: <http://www.ivc.nu/en/home/>

Prize winners from the last 60 years include

**Elly Ameling, Jules Bastin, Measha Brueggergosman, Cora Burggraaf, John Bröcheler, Viorica Cortez, Ileana Cotrubas, Thomas Hampson, Howard Haskin, Robert Holl, Petra Lang, Yvonne Minton, Nelly Miricioiu, Jard van Nes, Jevgeni Nesterenko, Vladimir Pankratov, Margriet van Reisen, Lenneke Ruiten, Wolfgang Schöne, Henk Smit, Elzbieta Szmytka, Pretty Yende, Ruth Ziesak.**

Wagnersingers Laureates IVC:

**Helga Dernesch, Henk Smit, Yvonne Minton, Siegmund Nimsgern, John Brocheler, Wolfgang Schone, Robert Holl, Annett Andriessen, Linda Finnie, Jard van Nes, Adrienne Pieczonka, Werner van Mechelen, Ralf Lukas, Petra Lang, Ewa Wolak, Sarah Connolly, Sophie Koch, Cecile van de Sant, Maria Fiselier, Florieke Beelen, Deirdre Angenent, Charlotte Janssen, Eunkyong Lim.**