

STATUTES of the SoundChain International Composition Competition

PREAMBLE

Since 2018, the SONIX concert series, a precursor to the SoundChain competition for electroacoustic compositions, has been a unique project within the Czech Republic, dedicated to experimental electroacoustic music. It has successfully established itself as an experimental music platform with international scope, connecting Brno's tradition of progressive acoustic and electronic music with contemporary developments in this genre. In 2020, the Faculty of Music of the Janáček Academy of Performing Arts accredited a new study specialisation in Electroacoustic Music Composition, provided by Composition and Multimedia Creation Department. This new specialisation highlighted the need to create an international composition competition for electroacoustic music, newly named SoundChain. Unlike the field of vocal-instrumental compositions, which has numerous competitions, there are very few competitions for electronic music. The SoundChain International Composition Competition will be a unique project of significant scope within the Czech Republic, similar to the SONIX concert series, further enhancing cooperation with international composition departments on the Electroacoustic Music Composition specialisation, as well as creating opportunities for collaboration on joint projects.

I. BASIC PROVISIONS

1. The SoundChain International Composition Competition (hereafter MSS SoundChain) is a one-round composition competition specialising in electroacoustic music.
2. The competition is announced and organised by the Faculty of Music of the Janáček Academy of Performing Arts (hereinafter HF JAMU).
3. The aim of the competition is to support the creation of new innovative acousmatic compositions and to inspire domestic and foreign young composers by producing related scholarly publications that reflect newly created works and their technical and aesthetic characteristics, and by continuously exploring this dynamically developing compositional field.
4. The competition is held biennially.

II. ORGANISATIONAL COMMITTEE

1. The competition is headed by an organisational committee (hereinafter the committee) of at least five members, appointed by the competition organiser. The term of office for its members is six years. The organiser may replace departing members on an ongoing

basis, and committee members may be reappointed. The committee decides on the statutes and organisation of the competition.

2. The committee includes the Dean of HF JAMU, the Vice-Dean of HF JAMU for artistic activities, the Secretary of HF JAMU, other representatives of the organiser, and possibly also representatives of partners.
3. The committee is chaired by the Dean of HF JAMU.
4. The committee can make decisions when more than half of its members are present, deciding by a simple majority of votes. In certain cases, decisions may be made per rollam or by another alternative method.

III. JURY

1. The jury typically consists of five members, always with an odd number of votes, and includes teachers from the HF JAMU Composition and Multimedia Creation Department and at least one external expert, who will be a distinguished international artist. The jury is chaired by its chairperson, who has the deciding vote in the event of a tie.
2. The composition of the jury will be announced following the decision on the awarding of prizes.
3. The main criterion for deciding the winners of the competition will be the submitted recordings of electronic compositions, accompanied by a concept describing the compositional process, innovative approach, or use of hardware and software technology, based on which each jury member will propose a ranking of the compositions, subsequently approved by the entire jury.
4. The jury members will listen to and evaluate all submitted compositions and independently make proposals for first, second, and third place. They will also suggest compositions that could be performed during the awards ceremony without any claim to other prizes.
5. The final decision on the winners will be made during a joint online meeting of the jury, during which the proposals of the individual members will be evaluated and a final discussion will take place. The jury reserves the right to split or withhold the prize. The jury's decision is final and cannot be appealed.
6. During the competition, jury members will not provide candidates with information or consultations regarding the competition.

IV. COURSE OF THE COMPETITION

1. Composers of any nationality who are not older than forty years on the closing date of the competition may participate.
2. Each composition must be between 7 and 20 minutes in length. The presentation to the jury is anonymous.

3. Each participant may submit a maximum of two compositions, which must not have been previously published, premiered, or commissioned. However, compositions created as part of studies at conservatories, other secondary music schools, and art higher education institutions may be submitted.
4. The winner of the first place will receive a monetary prize and a partner's gift. Second place will be awarded a tangible or intangible partner's gift. Besides the winning composition, the jury will select up to five additional pieces to be performed during a concert in Brno at the Theatre on Orlí Street, which will take place as part of the awards ceremony.
5. Specific conditions of each edition of the competition will be detailed in a separate document in accordance with these statutes.

V. FINAL PROVISIONS

1. These statutes are written in Czech and English. In case of disputes, the Czech text shall prevail. The MSS SoundChain is announced under and governed by the laws of the Czech Republic.
2. The statutes of the competition were approved by the MSS SoundChain committee on 27 February 2023 and shall enter into force on that date upon signature by the committee chairperson.

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