

CREMONA MUSICA

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS *and festival*



SEPTEMBER, 24th - 26th 2021

PianoLink, in cooperation with Yamaha Music Europe and Cremona Musica
presents the second edition of
PIANOLINK INTERNATIONAL AMATEURS COMPETITION
The international competition exclusively dedicated to amateur pianists



Milan, May 18th 2021 – The second edition of **PianoLink International Amateurs Competition** was presented this morning with an online press conference by **PianoLink** association, in cooperation with **Yamaha Music Europe branch Italy** and **Cremona Musica International Exhibitions and Festival**. The international competition is exclusively dedicated to all piano lovers and amateurs and is artistically directed by **Roberto Prosseda** and **Andrea Vizzini**.

During the presentation, Artistic Directors took the floor, together with **Massimo De Bellis**, General Manager of CremonaFiere; **Giovanni Iannantuoni**, Senior Manager Piano Strategy & Marketing Yamaha Music Europe branch Italy; **Nadezhda Chestnova**, Artistic Director of Piano Bridges Competition in St. Petersburg, twinned with PianoLink.

"We are glad to be partner, for the second year in a row, of this innovative competition - said **Massimo De Bellis** General Manager of CremonaFiere SpA -. Amateurs are very important for the music sector and **CremonaFiere** through its international Exhibition dedicated to music, that is **Cremona Musica**, supports this kind of projects aiming at promoting and spreading music culture. Music is for everybody and who better than amateurs can really express this value?"

"After our debut in 2020 - said **Andrea Vizzini** – President of PianoLink and Artistic Director of the Competition – that saw a really global participation in one of the most difficult periods for culture, PianoLink International Amateurs Competition is ready to bet again on amateur pianists from all over the world. If music is the inspiration source par excellence for professionals of all sectors, it is also true that these professionals, who live music with passion and dedication, are a precious inspiration source for musicians. Thanks to a top level international jury and to a successful team, we present, in 2021 as well, an interesting opportunity, also with some news".

THE COMPETITION will take place online starting from July 1st 2021 (eliminary round), then in Cremona on September 25th 2021 (final round) and in Milan and St. Petersburg (Russia) in 2022 (with concerts performed by the winners). Amateur pianists of all nationalities can take place in the competition and will be divided into two major categories: graduates and non- graduates. The jury involves: **Michele Campanella (IT)**, **President of the Jury**; **Ramin Bahrami (IRN)**, **Sofya Gulyak (RUS)**, **Jin Ju (CHN)**, **Owen Mortimer (UK)**.

Registrations are open from April 19th 2021 to June 14th 2021 through the online form available at the following link www.pianolink.it/amateurs-competition/iscrizione. It is necessary to indicate the chosen repertoire both for the eliminary round and for the final, to upload the video file for the eliminary round and to attach all required documents.

"I am very happy to cooperate with Cremona Musica from 2014 – explained **Roberto Prosseda** -. This project renews our shared desire of spreading music even more, thus reaching a wider audience with the involvement of amateurs".

"The partnership between PianoLink and Piano Bridges is made of affection and friendship – said **Nadezhda Chestnova** – since this important cooperation enables participants to be admitted for free at the partner competition"

"Launching the second edition of PIAC despite the pandemic is a great success – said **Giovanni Iannantuoni** -. Even if music is good and important both for people and for the society, access to music is not so spread. Classical music needs a breath of fresh air to get rid of unnecessary rigidity and amateurs, with their great enthusiasm and freedom are the best ambassadors for this".

The 5 winners of the competition will win:

- Winner Recital in Milan in the framework of MiAmOr Music Festival 2022
- Winner Recital in St. Petersburg (summer 2022)
- Written review signed by the jury

Absolute **First Prize** will be given to the participant regarded as the most deserving by the jury, with no difference of category.

Special Prize Cremona Musica 2021 : the Cremona Musica Award of 1.000€ (gross of withholding tax as set forth by Italian law) will be given to the video with the highest number of likes.

Special Prize Piano Bridges 2021: the Special Prize Piano Bridges 2021 will be given to the participant regarded as particularly deserving among all participants by the Artistic Director of Piano Bridges International Competition for Amateur Pianists of St. Petersburg (Russia). The winner will be admitted for free to the next edition of Piano Bridges International Competition for Amateur Pianists.

INFO www.pianolink.it/amateurs-competition/

PianoLink is a Music Association inspired by passions and sounds, born to look beyond categories, to make high-level musical training accessible to every student or aspiring musician, to open the stages to the passionate music of professionals as well as amateurs or self-taught of any age.

Cremona Musica is the most important international Exhibition for high quality musical instrument, taking place every year in Cremona, hometown to Stradivari and international reference point for musical instruments. Next to prestigious instruments manufactured by Cremonese, Italian and international instrument makers, Cremona Musica also offer a rich high-level events program with concerts, exhibitions, masterclasses, contest and conferences with internationally famous musicians. Cremona Musica combines music business and art, thus becoming a not-to-be-missed event and the ideal place to give birth to new ideas, projects and collaborations. Cremona Musica is where music lives and renews itself.

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