

# INTERNATIONAL OPERETTA AND MUSICAL THEATER COMPETITION OF THE CITY OF MARSEILLE

## GENERAL RULES

### General conditions of participation

The city of Marseille is organizing, since 2003, an annual operetta competition in order to promote new talents in the operetta and Musical theatre fields, on the national and international plan.

The competition is open without any distinction of nationality, to all performers (singers, fantasists, composition roles) who are less than forty at the date of the competition. However, applicants who are more than forty, and who, given their qualities, would like to participate in the competition, will have the possibility to apply, with a cover letter, allowing the jury to decide on their participation within 15 days from the reception of the application request.

The competition will take place in Marseille, on the **28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2014**.  
The event is public.

### Terms of the competition

Candidates can apply either in soloist or in duet in one of the three following categories:

- **Singing**
- **Fantasia**
- **Musical comedy (with or without microphone, according to the choice of the candidate)**

Moreover, if they wish, applicants registered for the “duet” category will be able to apply individually, on condition that they provide a second application form.

When they register, they will propose **five pieces or duets of their choice**, two of which will have to belong to the French repertoire:

- one piece or duet for the eliminatory trial
- two pieces or duets for the semi-final
- two pieces or duets for the finale

Pieces or duets will be given either in their original version or in French.  
On the scene, they will have to be performed without any musical score.  
The original tone must be respected.

For the semi-final trial, applicants, according to their number, might be lead to perform only one of the two pieces or duets proposed. In this case, the choice of the piece or duet will exclusively belong to the jury.

The accompaniment of the competition will be provided by pianists designed by the organizers ; however, applicants, if they wish, can be accompanied by a pianist of their choice, at their own expenses. It will be necessary to make it clear in the registering form.  
In the case of duettist contestants, by no means one of them could be considered only playing opposite, and as a result, the duet will be judged in its entirety.

## Enrolment procedure

The deadline for enrolment is **Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup> 2014**.

The enrolment form must include:

- The enrolment form
- A photocopy of the identity card, determining the age of the applicant (or the applicants for duettists).
- A photo of the candidate(s) (readable as it could possibly be used in a program).
- A list of five pieces or duets proposed to the jury.
- The payment of the amount of the enrolment, with bank account details where can be paid the amount of the prize(s) won. In the case of duettists, bank account details of each person are asked because, in order to avoid any subsequent contestation, the prize they may win will be cut in half for each of the candidates.

The final enrolment notice will be done by mail as soon as the complete form is received. Candidates will only be judged according the category in which they enrolled. As a consequence, the jury might reject any piece that would not match the repertoire corresponding to the chosen category; in this case, the candidate will be invited to propose a replacing piece at the time of the application.

Moreover:

- 1) Candidates who have won the first prize in one of the different categories, will not be allowed to participate in the competition, in the same category, during the two following years.
- 2) Candidates that have participated in the Finale of the previous year and who would participate in the same category won't have to take the eliminatoires and will thus be directly admitted in semi-final.
- 3) Candidates who already received a prize in one of the categories, and who would run in another category, won't be dispensed of taking the eliminatoires.

## Enrolment fees

The fees for enrolling the competition of Operettas of Marseille amount to **35€** (thirty five euros), to be paid by check, made out to **Trésor Public**. Duettists will pay the same amount, which will be globally settled by one of the two contestants.

The fees for enrolment won't, in any case, be refunded, from the moment that the candidate will be admitted to compete.

Application forms to the competition, with the check, will be addressed to:

**Théâtre de l'Odéon**

**Concours d'Opérettes**

**162, la canebière**

**13001 Marseille (France)**

For any more information, the email address for the competition is the following:

[concours-operette@mairie-marseille.fr](mailto:concours-operette@mairie-marseille.fr)

## **Procedure for the competition**

The competition takes place in three phases:

- **Eliminatories**, on Friday March 28<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 5 pm
- **Semi-final**, on Saturday March 29<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 3 pm
- **Finale**, on Sunday March 30<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 3 pm

A public random selection will determinate the order of presentation of the candidates, all categories taken together, and won't be modified during the competition.

Contingent on this selection, the candidates will have to estimate their hour of presentation, to go in the posted order. In the contrary case, they take the risk not to be able to rehearse or compete unless they have a valid reason, accepted by the jury.

**This random selection will take place in public**  
**on Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 11 am at the Odéon**  
**162 la Canebière 13001 Marseille**  
**(Presence of the candidates is optional)**

A meeting with the pianists is scheduled:

- For the eliminatories: Friday March 28<sup>th</sup> early afternoon, to make the tempi and conventions clear.
- For the semi-final: Saturday March 29<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 am.
- For the finale: a complete rehearsal will take place on stage, on Sunday morning from 11 am.

In order to share out fairly the work of the accompanists, it is made clear that the candidates can be accompanied by different pianists during the several phases of the competition.

Thus, the candidates are strongly advised to address their music scores to the Theater, before the competition, in order that the pianists can check them over if necessary. These musical scores will obviously be given back to their owners.

## **Sequence of events**

Simple but correct clothes are accepted to participate in the events (eliminatories and semi-final). For the finale, a formal dress is required, except if the scenic performance demands a particular dress.

### **Eliminatories**

Candidates will perform their piece (or duet), which maximum length shouldn't exceed six minutes, otherwise the president of the jury will have the possibility to interrupt the candidate's performance.

### **Semi-final**

Candidates will perform their two pieces (or duets) on the bounce.

The jury has got the right, according to the number of candidates, to only keep one of the two pieces (or duets) proposed. In this case, the candidate will have to perform the piece (or duet) selected by the jury. This choice will be specified at the same time as the results of the eliminatories.

## **Finale**

The event will take place in two parts, each candidate performing during each one of them, the first part in the order of the random selection, the other one in reverse order.

The candidates will perform the two pieces or duets they have chosen (one piece per part).

Moreover, during the event, the candidates (even the non French-speaking) will have to propose a short spoken monologue (or scene for the duettists), **not read**, of their choice, **in French**, that will allow judging their interpretation and their elocution. This text will be presented either in first or second part.

The results will be given after the jury's deliberation, at the end of the Finale.

## **Composition of the jury**

The jury placed under the honorary presidency of the mayor of Marseille or of his representative, will be exclusively composed of professionals: directors of theaters who program several operettas in their season, operetta artists, artistic agents or journalists specialized in musical theater. The deliberations of the jury are final.

## **Prices and rewards**

Likely to be awarded (regardless of any possible commitment to the Théâtre de l'Odéon)

The operetta competition of Marseille will present the following prices:

### **SINGING category:**

**1<sup>st</sup> prize women: 2000€** (two thousand euros)

**2<sup>nd</sup> prize women: 1300€** (one thousand and three hundred euros)

**1<sup>st</sup> prize men: 2000€** (two thousand euros)

**2<sup>nd</sup> prize men: 1300€** (one thousand and three hundred euros)

### **FANTASIA category:**

**1<sup>st</sup> prize: 2000€** (two thousand euros)

**2<sup>nd</sup> prize: 1300€** (one thousand and three hundred euros)

### **MUSICAL COMEDY category:**

**1<sup>st</sup> prize: 2000€** (two thousand euros)

**2<sup>nd</sup> prize: 1300€** (one thousand and three hundred euros)

### **DUETS category:**

**1<sup>st</sup> prize: 2000€** (two thousand euros)

**2<sup>nd</sup> prize: 1300€** (one thousand and three hundred euros)

**In each of the four categories above, in case the first prize is not attributed, a 3<sup>rd</sup> prize can be created, the amount of which is set to 1000€** (one thousand euros).

## **Prize of the Public**

Amount of the prize: **800€** (eight hundred euros)

Resulting of a vote organized among the audience during the deliberation of the jury.

### **Special mention of the jury**

Amount of the prize: **500€** (five hundred euros)

Can be attributed to a candidate that will have distinguished him/herself in any way in one category without being able to aspire to a first or second prize.

The reasons for this attribution will be clearly set out during the reading of the honors.

### **Indemnification of the finalists**

All the candidates admitted to participate in the Finale will receive a compensation of **150€** (hundred and fifty euros) as a participation to their living expenses.

### **Comments:**

If one of the prizes above was given to ex-aequo candidates, the amount of this prize would be shared between the latter.

Allocations or rewards attributed by partners of the competition can be added to those prizes. If necessary, they will be the subject of particular announcements.

One winner (soloist or duettist) can combine several prizes.

Moreover, the fact to combine a first prize in one of the categories as well as the public prize will allow the achievement of the “**Honor Prize of the City of Marseille**”.

The payment of the prizes will be carried out by administrative money order payable to the candidates, within the deadlines authorized to the Public Accountant by the Law.

### **Litigation**

The jury is the only one authorized to take the decisions to solve any problems linked to the organization of the events that wouldn't find an answer clearly explicit in the present rules; in this case, the decisions will be final.

The participation to the competition implies the acceptance without reserve of the present rules.

In case of litigation, only the drafting in French will be valid.