

2nd Chopin Competitions Conference  
20–22 September 2016  
Radziejowice, Poland



**Australian International Chopin Piano Competition, Canberra, Australia**

**Ben James**

President - Friends of Chopin Australia, General Manager - AICPC

F R I E N D S   O F   C H O P I N   A U S T R A L I A



# Australian International Chopin Piano Competition Canberra, Australia

**Conceived as an event to celebrate the 2010 Chopin Bicentennial Year and as a permanent legacy for the national capital Canberra and for Australia**

Run as a tripartite partnership between:

***Australian National University, School of Music***

***Friends of Chopin Australia***

***Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Canberra***





# Australian International Chopin Piano Competition Canberra, Australia

## Competition Vision

- Establish the highest standards of competitor and competition practice
- Embrace the 19<sup>th</sup> century tradition of romantic playing reflecting the lyrical and poetic interpretive aesthetics of Chopin's own times
- An academic symposium, exploring Chopin through the disciplines of history, musicology, performance theory and practice
- National composition competition on a theme of Chopin
- Children's Competition and Amateur Competition
- A Chopin Festival on his life and music including historically informed performance on period instruments



The ANU School of Music's  
1847 Pleyel piano



The Friends of Chopin Australia's  
1857 Erard piano



3rd edition, September 2017  
Canberra, Australia

## Jury



**Lucinda Collins**  
Head of Keyboard  
Elder Conservatorium of Music  
Adelaide, South Australia



**Prof Charles Bodman-Rae**  
Elder Professor of Music (Director)  
Elder Conservatorium  
Adelaide, South Australia



**Steven Casamenos**  
Pianist, Composer, Conductor  
Melbourne, Victoria



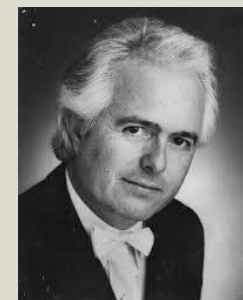
NIFC



**Emeritus Prof Larry Sitsky AM**  
Head of Composition  
Founder, School of Music  
Australian National University  
Canberra, Australia



**Prof Geoffrey Lancaster AM**  
Historically Informed Performance  
Western Australia Academy of Performing Arts  
Perth, Western Australia



**Prof David Bollard**  
Adjunct Professor of Keyboard  
Western Conservatorium of Music  
University of Tasmania  
Tasmania, Australia



3rd edition, September 2017  
Canberra, Australia

## Repertoire

Round 1 and Round 2 (No eliminations).

- Mazurka(s) [Chopin/Szymanowski/Moszkowski/Paderewski]
- Etude(s) [Chopin/Szymanowski/Debussy]
- Chopin: Nocturne, Waltz, Scherzo, Polonaise, Ballade.
- Piece by Moszkowski/Paderewski/Szymanowski/Lutoslawski (a composer other than one already picked in Round 1)

Round 3

- Mandatory: winner of the composition competition
- Busoni: Zehn Variations
- Chopin: Sonata

Round 4

- Chopin: Concerto



3rd edition, September 2017  
Canberra, Australia

## Repertoire (cont)

### Mandatory piece

- The winner of the adjunct composition competition will be included as mandatory repertoire for the semi-finals
- Based on a theme of Chopin's with a duration of 8-12 minutes
- The theme for the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition Composition Competition is:
  - ❖ **Chopin: Fugue in A Minor (Paderewski Edition)**



3rd edition, September 2017  
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## Candidate Selection

### Blind Selection

- The jury will not be involved in candidate selection
- A pool of 6-10 selectors will be developed across the major institutions
- The selectors will not be known to each other or the jury
- Selectors will rank applicants. The votes for each applicant will be aggregated and the competitor pool will be drawn from the highest ranked competitors
- 16 Competitors will be selected



3rd edition, September 2017  
Canberra, Australia

## Prizes

### Major

1<sup>st</sup> - \$25,000 / performance at the Canberra International Music Festival / return engagements in Canberra, Melbourne and Sydney / performance and study options in Poland

2<sup>nd</sup> - \$10,000 / return engagements in Canberra, Melbourne and Sydney

3<sup>rd</sup> - \$5,000 / return engagements in Canberra, Melbourne and Sydney

### Minor

Commissioned work for a laureate by Composition Competition winner  
Various incl. People's Choice, best specific work, encouragement et al





3rd edition, September 2017  
Canberra, Australia

## Adjunct Events

### Academic Symposium

- Convened by Professor Charles Bodman-Rae
- Theme: Chopin's Music in Australia
- Aim: to promote cross-disciplinary Chopin scholarship in Australia

### Composition Competition

- Open to Australian (or resident) composers up to age 35
- Based on a theme of Chopin's
- Winning piece is included as mandatory repertoire for competition
- Winning composer receives a commission to write a piece for a laureate
- Winning composer receives study opportunity in Poland



3rd edition, September 2017  
Canberra, Australia

## Adjunct Events

### Chopin Festival: Chopin in the Antipodes

- To promote the life and music of Chopin to the general public
- To explore Chopin in new and non-traditional forms (eg film, jazz, food/wine)
- To explore what Chopin means to Australians
- A young performers competition, and an amateur competition
- To bring the Polish and Australian communities closer together



## Competition After Care



## Previous edition (2014)

1<sup>st</sup> Prize Winner: Kotaro Nagano

- Return performance at the Canberra International Music Festival
- Two return performances for the Friends of Chopin Australia (Canberra and Melbourne), including one historic instruments performance (Pleyel and Erard)
- Masterclasses for the Australian National University
- Promotion of the Australian National University





## Competition After Care



## Previous edition (cont)

2nd Prize Winner: Daria Kameneva

- Commissioned work (concerto) from the winner of the Composition Competition.

3rd Prize Winner: Elina Akselrud

- Lobbying and introductions in support of her multimedia performance project "Chopin: A Letter through the Parisian Years".





# Australian International Chopin Piano Competition



Over \$40,000 in prize money

Member of the Alink-Argerich Foundation

# 2017 Chopin

3rd Australian International Piano Competition

**LOCATION**  
ANU School of Music  
Canberra, Australia

**PRIZES**  
1st Prize \$25,000  
2nd Prize \$10,000  
3rd Prize \$5,000

[www.aicpc.org.au](http://www.aicpc.org.au)  
[info@aicpc.org.au](mailto:info@aicpc.org.au)

We welcome you to the  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Australian International Chopin Piano Competition,**  
**8-17 September 2017**

@

**Australian National University  
School of Music**

[music.anu.edu.au](http://music.anu.edu.au)  
[friendsofchopin.org.au](http://friendsofchopin.org.au)



Australian National University



Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Canberra



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