



Media Release

Singapore launches new international violin competition to discover major global talent

In a landmark cultural initiative for Singapore and South-East Asia, a new international level violin competition to discover major global talent is being launched in Singapore – **The Singapore International Violin Competition**.

This triennial competition will serve as a showcase for aspiring professional violinists from around the world against the backdrop of Singapore's world-class performance venues, its national orchestra and its internationally renowned music conservatory.

The finals are scheduled to take place from **10–21 January 2015**. With a first prize of USD\$50,000, significant international professional engagements and exposure for the finalists to several of the world's most established artist agencies, the competition promises to be one of the most globally distinctive of its kind.

The competition is being hosted by the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music at the National University of Singapore, and is supported by Far East Organisation, Hong Leong Foundation, Lee Foundation, Mr & Mrs Rin Kei Mei and the National Arts Council Singapore.

"I am delighted with this initiative to create a platform for musical talents in our region to compete, and further their development and careers. I am especially thankful for the generosity of the private and corporate sponsors that have stepped forward to render their support to the host of the competition" says Ms Kathy Lai, Chief Executive Officer, National Arts Council Singapore.

A Truly Global Competition

The competition will lead off with a global call for submissions of recorded applications from artists aged 17-30. From this, a selection jury will select performers to be flown to Singapore for the four live rounds.

The first live round will take place from 10–12 January before an international jury of nine members. The chosen 12 would then perform a full recital for the semi-final (14–16 January), with six chosen for the initial round of the final (a performance of a Mozart concerto) with the Conservatory Orchestra at Singapore's Victoria Concert Hall (18–19 January).

The Grand Final will take place on Wednesday 21 January 2015 where the final three artists would play in a major Romantic / 20th century concerto accompanied by the Singapore Symphony Orchestra at the Esplanade Concert Hall.

A Festival of Music

The competition will act as the centre-point for a “Festival of Strings” with outreach events across Singapore. One of the world’s foremost collections of string instruments, the Rin Collection, will be on display at the Conservatory for the duration of the event.

Important Dates:

Applications Open:	1 July 2014
Applications Close:	30 September 2014
Announcement of shortlisted Competitors:	10 October 2014
First round:	10-12 January 2015
Semi-Finals:	14-16 January 2015
Finals:	18-19 January 2015
Grand Finals & Closing Ceremony:	21 January 2015

The Jury:

QIAN ZHOU Singapore (Chair)

PIERRE AMOYAL France

SHMUEL ASHKENASI U.S.A.

NAM YUN KIM South Korea

TAKASHI SHIMIZU Japan

VILMOS SZABADI Hungary

DIMA TKACHENKO Ukraine

TONG WEI DONG China

KRZYSZTOF WEGRZYN Germany

For registration enquiries, please contact admin@singaporeviolincompetition.com or visit the website at www.singaporeviolincompetition.com

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