The Valentino Bucchi Foundation

In collaboration with

Accademia Filarmonica Romana

Announce the
41st annual
Valentino Bucchi Prize

The international competition for the interpretation of Contemporary Music dedicated to works for solo instrument and/or solo instrument with recorded media.

Introduction

The distinctive feature of the Valentino Bucchi Prize is its emphasis on the interpretation of pieces of music dating from the 20th Century to the present time. The specific nature of the competition represents an element of distinction and real specialization for candidates who will be expected to give a professional, world-class performance in a particular repertoire that, in some respects, has not yet been thoroughly explored due to the complexity of compositional languages that succeed and overlap in the indicated historical period. The competition for individual performers aims to enhance the solo repertoire of acoustic instruments with the possibility of presenting, at the competitor's free choice, compositions for solo instrument or for solo instrument and recorded media. It is a significant repertoire, rich and particularly complex which confronting musical languages characterized by research and experimentation, gets new interest in expressive choices and instrumental virtuosity. Furthermore, it should be emphasized, the concomitant valorization of the necessary commitment that the individual interpreter should take up for the correct semiographic interpretation and realization of each musical piece in a purely acoustic dimension or, eventually, by merging it with an electronic media. Interpretation is to be understood as the final point in a process of profound analysis of the piece directed towards the recovery of a language common to both the figure of the composer and the performer based on a balanced connection and shared understanding.

Rules for the Competition

Article. 1 (Contestants)

a) The contest is reserved for interpreters from all countries born after 1st January 1990.
b) The winners of the first Prize in the previous editions of the *Valentino Bucchi Prize* can not enter the competition

Article. 2 (Instruments)

The contest is reserved for performers of the following acoustic instruments:
Flute (also Piccolo, Alto Flute and Bass Flute), Oboe (also Oboe d'amore and English Horn), Clarinet (also "Piccolo" Clarinet and Bass Clarinet), Bassoon, French horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Saxophone (Soprano Sax, Alto Sax, Tenor Sax and Baritone Sax), Piano, Accordion/Bayan, Harp, Guitar, Violin, Viola (also Viola d'amore), Cello, Double Bass.

a) The contestants can freely choose to provide works with or without electronic media;
b) The contestants cannot have a second performer for live electronics
c) Candidates con freely choose to use the instruments above mentioned and the instruments indicated in brackets where expressly written.

Article. 3 (How to Apply)
To participate in the competition, candidates must send the registration form filled by 29 January , 2026 to the following e-mail address:

bucchi@premiobucchi.it

The application for participation in the competition must be done following all the instruction described in the attached registration form complemented by the privacy policy. In particular, is required:

a) a copy in PDF format of the chosen scores by the contestants for the three phases of the Competition.
b) Unpublished works will not be accepted.

Article 4. (Selection Process and required repertoire)
The competition is divided into three phases

a) First selection

The candidate must provide:
1. The curriculum vitae, with particular attention to their artistic and musical education and any existing professional artistic activities;
2. one or more video recordings featuring the contestant as a performer, with a maximum total duration of 30 minutes. The video recordings can include a selection from a live concert or be recorded specifically in a studio or suitable environment;
3. the aforementioned video recordings must showcase the candidate's interpretative skills and professional skills related to repertoire for solo instrument with or without electronic support;
4. the works performed by the contestant must necessarily include at least one piece from the historical 20th century and a composition from the period spanning from the second half of the 20th century to the contemporary period (see Registration Form).

b) Semi- final
The candidates admitted to the Semifinal round must provide a single work or two short works, from their solo repertoire with or without the electronic media, published in the period between 1 January 1950 and 2025(see Registration Form):

1. The Semifinal round will be conducted in person at the headquarters of the Accademia Filarmonica Romana, on March 20, 2026;
2. the calendar and the time for the performance for each candidate will be communicated to the persons concerned at least thirty days before the start date;

3. during the first selection and the semi-final the jury has the right to ask to perform the work entirely or just a part of it, otherwise, if the candidate provides two short works, the jury can ask to perform just one of the two;
4. the candidate must provide the Jury with three hard copies or photocopies of the proposed repertoire;
5. the candidate must provide the electronic support in case of choosing compositions for instrument and electronics;
6. it is specified that the repertoire presented in the Semifinal round cannot be repeated in the subsequent Final round.

c) Final

The candidates admitted to the final round, up to a maximum of seven performers, must present a significant work from the repertoire spanning from the historical 20th century to the contemporary period (see Registration Form).

1) The final round of the competition will be a public concert, which will be livestreamed online on the YouTube channel of the Accademia Filarmonica Romana and subsequently replicated by the Valentino Bucchi Foundation;
2) the final concert is planned for March 28, 2026 in the Artistic Season 2025/26 of the Accademia Filarmonica Romana, at the Sala Casella in via Flaminia 118, Rome;
3) the candidate will have the option to perform a work that was presented during the First selection phase, but they cannot repeat the repertoire performed in the Semifinal round (refer to the previous point B6);
4) the candidate must present three hard copies or photocopies of the proposed work to the Jury;
5) the candidate must provide electronic support in the case of choosing compositions for instrument and electronics;
6) the announcement of the winner of the Valentino Bucchi Prize will be communicated within one week after the Final Concert and publicized on the website of the Accademia Filarmonica Romana, the Valentino Bucchi Foundation, as well as on other channels.

YouTube channel of the Accademia Filarmonica Romana:
https://www.youtube.com/user/FilarmonicaRomana

Art. 5 (Jury of the Competition)

The performances will be submitted to the evaluation of an international jury. The Jury will be announced by February 2026.

a) The international jury will appoint its own President, who will perform all the functions necessary to guide the evaluation;
b) the decisions taken in the context of selection procedures will be final;
c) the international jury will retain the right not to award prizes set forth by Article. 6 of these rules.

Article 6. (Valentino Bucchi Prize)
The Competition awards a single and indivisible ***Valentino Bucchi Prize***.

a) The winner of the *Valentino Bucchi Prize* will receive a monetary prize of Euro 2,000 gross and an invitation to perform in a future concert as part of the artistic activities of the Accademia Filarmonica Romana;
b) The Jury may assign special mentions to any deserving finalist contestants who did not win.

Article 7. (Amendments to the Rules of Procedure)
The Valentino Bucchi Prize administration reserves the right to make any changes to the present rules necessary for reasons of force majeure.

Article 8. (Fee)
All participants must pay a registration fee of 80 Euros by bank transfer to:
IT 70 Y 02008 05028 000101604283 Valentino Bucchi Foundation
BIC SWIFT: UNCRITM1B96

Article. 9 (Acceptance of the rules of the Regulation)
The application for participation in the Contest implies acceptance of all the rules hereby listed.

Article. 10 (Jurisdiction)
In case of dispute, the only legally valid text will be held to be the contest rules written in the Italian language. Any dispute shall be referred to the Court of Rome.

MODULO D'ISCRIZIONE - REGISTRATION FORM

Cognome
Family name _____

Nome
First name _____

Luogo e data di nascita
Place and date of birth _____

Nazionalità
Nationality _____

Residenza
Address _____

_____

Telefono
Phone number_____E-mail_____

Attestazione del pagamento della Tassa d'iscrizione

Proof of receipt of payment of the Registration fee _____

Prima Selezione. Opere edite nel periodo compreso fra il 1900 e il 2025.
First Selection. Works published in the period between 1900 and 2025.

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Semifinale. Opera edita, oppure opere brevi edite nel periodo compreso fra 1950 e il 2025.
Semi-final. Work or short works published in the period between 1950 and 2025.
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Finale. Opera edita nel periodo compreso fra il 1900 e il 2025.
Final. Work published in the period between 1900 and 2025.

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Dopo aver preso piena conoscenza del testo, dichiaro di accettare tutte le norme del Regolamento del Concorso internazionale di Interpretazione della Musica contemporanea ***Premio Valentino Bucchi***

Having read and fully understood this text, I declare that I accept all the rules on the Regulation of the International Contest for the interpretation of the Contemporary Music ***Premio Valentino Bucchi.***

Firma
Signed _____

Data
Date _____

Privacy Policy

Pursuant to European Regulation 2016/679 GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation):
a) The data contained in the registration form will be used, through IT and / or telematic tools, with organizational methods and with logic strictly related to the purposes indicated by the activity in question;

b) In particular, for the strictly necessary services, personal data are processed exclusively for:
• Operational management of competition procedures
• Data security management
• The protection or defense of rights in court
• The fulfillment of obligations under current laws and regulations, including accounting and tax matters.

Date _____ Signature for acceptance *

_____

* Non- acceptance implies the impossibility of fulfilling the obligations arising from the contract with you and subsequent competition procedures.

c) For information services - optional - personal data may be used exclusively for:
- The processing of anonymous and aggregate usage statistics
- Sending newsletters

Date _____ Signature for acceptance *

_____

* Non- acceptance implies the impossibility of fulfilling the obligations arising from the contract with you and subsequent competition procedures.

d) The Contestant, who at any time can assert his rights in accordance with current legislation on Privacy, has the right to obtain the updating, correction, integration and deletion of data in our possession as well as the transformation into anonymous form or blocking of data processed unlawfully, including data whose retention is unnecessary for the purposes for which the data were collected or subsequently processed.

e) The Data holder is: Valentino Bucchi Foundation via Ubaldino Peruzzi, 20 Rome 00139 - Italy.

f) The person in charge of data protection (DPO) is the Secretary of the Valentino Bucchi Foundation: Mr. Diego Marchesi.