



ST MARTIN'S CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION
In partnership with

Making Music



St Martin's Chamber Music Competition is sponsored by Coutts

March 12, 13, 16 and 27, 2012
St Martin-in-the-Fields, London, WC2N 4JJ, United Kingdom

COMPETITION RULES AND ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

The *St Martin-in-the-Fields Chamber Music Competition* embodies St Martin's commitment to the discovery, nurture and promotion of new and emerging musical talent and continues a long history of musical excellence and artistic contribution at the heart of London. With the support of Making Music, the competition is able to offer winners the opportunity to establish and develop a performance profile throughout the UK.

Please read all rules and entry instructions before completing the entry form. Please keep a copy of the entry form for reference. Remember to share all information regarding your entry with all members of your ensemble and any other relevant parties.

COMPETITION TIMELINE

- **Monday 31 October 2011** entries open.
- **Friday 27 January 2012** entries close at 5pm.
- **Tuesday 31 January 2012 by 5pm** all entrants notified by email of receipt of entry.
- **Friday 24 February 2012** semi-finalists notified by phone and email. Unsuccessful applicants notified by email.
- **Monday 12 March 2012, 1.00pm** semi-final 1.
- **Tuesday 13 March 2012, 1.00pm** semi-final 2.
- **Friday 16 March 2012, 1.00pm** semi-final 3. Finalists announced by 5pm and notified by phone and email. Unsuccessful semi-finalists notified by phone and email.
- **Tuesday 27 March 2012, 7.00pm** competition final and announcement of 2012 Winners.

ENTRY

Entries are due in St Martin-in-the-Fields' Concerts Office by **5pm on Friday 27 January 2012**. Entries consist of three parts:

- Entry form
- Preliminary round audition CD (two copies)
- Proof of age documentation.

ELIGIBILITY

- The competition is open to UK based ensembles consisting of 3 to 8 musicians. The competition is unable to accommodate ensembles with more than one piano, non-acoustic instruments, or those requiring significantly more than 5 minutes set-up and break-down time (i.e. numerous percussion instruments.).
- Ensemble members must be aged no less than 18 and no more than 30 years on the closing date for applications **Friday 27 January 2012**. Proof of age for all ensemble members is required with the entry form - see **Entry Instructions** for details.
- No changes in personnel will be allowed once the entry form is received in the Concerts Office.
- Ensembles that perform repertoire with varied instrumentation must select works which use all members of the ensemble for all competition repertoire.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

By submitting an entry for this competition, the entrant waives all intellectual, economic and moral rights in perpetuity to performances made during the semi-finals and final of the competition. The entrant grants St Martin-in-the-Fields exclusive licence to make and use recordings of these performances for the purposes of administering and promoting the competition including without limitation; transmission on radio and/or television, streaming on the internet, making new copies and possible commercial use.

PRELIMINARY ROUND: CD Audition

The audition CD must be accompanied by all requested information. **Incomplete entries may result in disqualification.**

CD Requirements:

- The audition recording must be submitted in CD format. **No videocassettes, audio cassettes or DVD recordings will be accepted.**
- The CD case should be clearly marked with the Ensemble Title and Contact Name.
- The disc itself should have no identification other than the track listing outlined below. **Do not mark the disc with the names of the ensemble or ensemble members.**
- The total playing time of the CD should not exceed 15 minutes and must feature at least two contrasting tracks, each a complete work or movement.
- The repertoire must include all ensemble members.
- Each track must be a complete take with no editing.
- The CD must have separate tracks for each movement and should have a clear menu listing the tracks on the cover/back of the CD case AND on the disc itself.
- **2 copies of the CD must be submitted.**
- Ensembles are responsible for submitting CDs that are in working order and compatible with standard UK playing equipment. Defective recordings may result in disqualification.

Note: Audio quality is very important. You are urged to make every effort to use high quality audio equipment.

Entry CDs will be heard by a screening panel. Entries are judged blind and it is therefore imperative that the discs themselves contain no identification for the ensemble. Decisions made by the panel are final and will not be subject to comment or discussion. The screening panel will judge programming and listen for interpretation, ensemble sound and unity, technical accuracy, and overall performance effect. Programming is an essential element of the judging criteria at all levels of the competition and all programmes submitted by each entrant will be considered at each level.

SEMI FINALS – Live at St Martin-in-the-Fields

At the conclusion of the Preliminary Round, performance order for the Semi Finals will be determined by the screening panel. Semi-finalists will be notified by telephone and email and unsuccessful entrants notified by email on **Friday 24 February 2012**.

The Semi Finals will be held during **the Lunchtime Concerts on 12, 13 and 16 March 2012** at St Martin-in-the-Fields. Not more than 6 groups will be selected to perform. Two reserve ensembles will also be notified.

Entrants should give details of their programme to be performed on the Entry Form. The repertoire should have a performance time of **no less than 20 and no more than 25 minutes** and should include works of contrasting style, character and (wherever possible) period. Programmes which do not adhere strictly to the time restrictions may be disqualified. Programming is an essential element of the judging criteria at all levels of the competition and all programmes submitted by each entrant will be considered at each level.

Each ensemble will be assigned a 40 minute rehearsal time in the venue on the day of their performance between 11am and 12.30pm.

Semi Final concerts are free, non-ticketed events open to the public. We strongly encourage semi-finalists to invite friends and family to support their performance.

The Semi Finals will be judged by a panel of three judges.

FINAL – Live at St Martin-in-the-Fields

Not more than 3 groups will be announced as finalists on the evening of **Friday 16 March 2012** after the last semi-final. A judging panel will hear the final performances during the ticketed evening concert on **Tuesday 27 March 2012 at 7.00pm**.

Entrants should give details of the programme to be performed on the Entry Form. The repertoire should have a performance time of **no less than 25 and no more than 30 minutes** and should include works of contrasting style, character and (wherever possible) period. Programmes for the Final should also contain **one complete work**. Programming is an essential element of the judging criteria at all levels of the competition and all programmes submitted by each entrant will be considered at each level.

The 2012 Competition Winner will be announced at the end of the evening along with the winners of the Audience Award.

PRIZE

The winning ensemble will be given the opportunity to raise their profile as outstanding performers with a series of paid performance opportunities across Britain through the Making Music member network. The winning ensemble will be promoted to members alongside Making Music's Young Concert Artists scheme.

Winners of the 2010 competition enjoyed over 15 professional engagements as a result of their competition success and winners of the 2011 competition will enjoy a concert tour in September 2012.

ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

Entry Deadline:

Entries consisting of the completed and signed Entry Form, Preliminary Round Audition CDs and Proof of Age must be **received by the Concerts Office at St Martin-in-the-Fields by 5.00pm on Friday 27 January 2012**. Recorded delivery is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. Late or incomplete entries will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Proof of Age:

Please include a **photocopy** of one of the following proof of age documents for each member of the ensemble:

- Valid passport
- Valid driver's licence
- Birth certificate

Do not send original documents as these cannot be returned.

Address:

All entries should be clearly addressed as follows: (The Concerts Office cannot be responsible for entries misdirected due to incomplete or unclear labelling.)

**FAO: The Concerts Department
St Martin's Chamber Music Competition 2012
St Martin-in-the-Fields
Trafalgar Square
London, WC2N 4JJ**

Before sending:

Please read the Entry Form carefully and thoroughly. Only complete entries received by the entry deadline will be accepted.

PLEASE NOTE: Entry CDs and proof of age documentation cannot be returned.

Acknowledgment:

You will receive an email acknowledgement once your entry is processed by St Martin-in-the-Fields' Concert Office. Ensembles will be notified of acceptance status by email no later than **Tuesday 31 January 2012**.

Questions:

Any questions regarding the entry process should be directed prior to submission to:

**Nicholas Boyd-Vaughan
Concerts Administrator
Direct: 020 7766 1136**

**Jennifer Lang
Assistant Concerts Manager
Direct: 020 7766 1130**

Or email: chambermusic@smitf.org

Email enquiries should have 'Chamber Competition' in the subject field.
Problems with meeting requirements cannot be corrected after the entry has been received by the Concerts Office.
GOOD LUCK!