



MELBOURNE
INTERNATIONAL
CHAMBER MUSIC
COMPETITION

Eligibility/Rules

The Competition is open to string quartets and piano trios of all nationalities whose members are under the age of 35 on July 1 2018.

A person who was a member of a first prize winning ensemble in any previous Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition is not eligible to compete in the same stream of the Competition.

A person may enter the Competition as a member of only one ensemble.

Application process

All Applications are to be submitted via Musica Viva Australia's official Application partner Acceptd.

Online applications, together with all required supporting documents, audio-visual material and the application fee, must be submitted between 12:00pm local time March 6 2017 and 11:59pm local time September 29 2017.

An application fee USD\$280 is payable upon submission of the Application. The application fee is non-refundable.

Applicants must submit the following supporting documents with their Application:

- a) A certified copy of passport or birth certificate (or similar document), confirming the date and place of birth for each ensemble member.
- b) A resume of the ensemble's history including repertoire list and performance history for the period covering January 2015 to September 2017.
- c) A brief resume of each member's training and experience
- d) Two letters of recommendation by musical referees familiar with the ensemble's playing. References must be addressed specifically to the Competition.
- e) Two ensemble colour photographs of professional quality in high-resolution format (minimum 300 DPI).

- f) Two typewritten biographies of the ensemble suitable for Competition publicity as follows:
- i. One 100-word biography of the ensemble in English and;
 - ii. One 250-word biography of the ensemble in English.

Ensembles whose first language is not English must provide professional standard translations of biographic material in English.

- g) Three videos* – one per work – recorded after March 6 2017, containing:
- String Quartets:**
- i. Two contrasting movements of a Haydn, Mozart or Beethoven Op.18 quartet
 - ii. First movement of a 19th century Romantic quartet, or Ravel, Sibelius, Elgar or similar Romantic 20th century work.
 - iii. Complete 20th century quartet by Bartok, Janacek, Berg, Schoenberg, Britten, Ligeti, Shostakovich, or 20th century work of similar stature. Cannot be Romantic 20th century repertoire from Item ii.

Piano Trios:

- i. Two contrasting movements of a Haydn, Mozart or Beethoven Op.1 trio.
- ii. First movement of 19th century Romantic work, or Ravel or similar Romantic 20th century work.
- iii. Complete 20th century piano trio. Cannot be Romantic 20th Century from Item ii.

**Each video must be of professional quality, shot by a single stationary camera in real time, and must not be edited or altered in any way. Musica Viva reserves the right to disqualify studio enhanced or modified recordings, or recordings which are not of professional quality. Physical DVDs or CDs, or digital audio recordings will not be accepted. All videos must be uploaded to the Accepted online application platform.*

Competition Repertoire & Format

All applications will be pre-screened by Musica Viva, with eight piano trios and eight string quartets to be invited to perform at the live heats in Melbourne.

Each ensemble invited to Melbourne will perform in the first two heats, and if selected, will perform for a third and fourth time during the Semi-Finals Day and Finals Day respectively.

The competition format and required repertoire is as follows:

Heat One – Maximum stage time of 60 minutes

In addition to the following specified repertoire, all competitors are required to perform a work of their own choice written after January 1, 1998. This work may be performed in *either* Heat One *or* Heat Two.

String Quartets:

- i. Complete quartet by Haydn, Mozart or Beethoven (Op.18)
- ii. Complete 20th century quartet by Bartok, Janacek, Berg, Schoenberg, Britten, Ligeti, Shostakovich, or 20th century work of similar stature. Cannot

be Romantic 20th century repertoire such as Ravel, Sibelius, Elgar or similar.

Piano Trios:

- i. Complete trio by Haydn, Mozart or Beethoven (Op.1)
- ii. Complete 20th century trio. Cannot be Romantic 20th century repertoire such as Ravel or similar.

Heat Two – Maximum stage time of 60 minutes

In addition to the following specified repertoire, all competitors are required to perform a work of their own choice written after January 1, 1998. This work may be performed in *either* Heat One *or* Heat Two.

String Quartets:

- i. Commissioned string quartet (roughly 10 to 15 minutes)
- ii. Complete 19th century Romantic quartet, or Ravel, Sibelius, Elgar or similar Romantic 20th century work. Cannot be Beethoven or Schubert.

Piano Trios:

- i. Commissioned piano trio (roughly 10 to 15 minutes)
- ii. Complete 19th century romantic trio, or Ravel or similar Romantic 20th century work. Cannot be Beethoven or Schubert.

Following Heat Two, the jury will select five string quartets and five piano trios to proceed to the Semi-Finals Day.

Semi-Finals Day – Maximum stage time of 45 minutes

String Quartets:

- i. Complete quartet by Beethoven (not Op.18), or Schubert

Piano Trios:

- i. Complete trio by Beethoven (not Op.1), or Schubert.

Following the Semi-Finals Day, the jury will select three string quartets and three piano trios to proceed to the Finals Day.

Finals Day – No time limit

String Quartets:

One complete work of the quartet's own choice. Cannot be repertoire performed in any previous heat.

Piano Trios:

One complete work of the trio's own choice. Cannot be repertoire performed in any previous heat.

Practical Information

Musica Viva will provide the following to all invited string quartets and piano trios participating in the live heats:

- Return economy airfare from the ensemble's home base to Melbourne International Airport (including cello seat on board)
- Ground transport to and from Melbourne International Airport, and around Melbourne as necessary to participate in the Competition

- Accommodation at the University of Melbourne's University College from Thursday 28 June 2018 to Monday 9 July 2018 (breakfast included)
- Rehearsal space for the duration of the Competition

Obtaining appropriate travel documents and travel insurance is the sole responsibility of each competitor. Musica Viva accepts no liability of any kind whatsoever for any personal illness or injury sustained by the competitor or for loss or damage to a competitor's belongings, including instrument, during transit or while at the competition.

Musica Viva has the right, without payment of any fee, to record, videotape, film, broadcast, or photograph any competition concerts or events for any purpose. All rights, including copyright in such media shall vest in and be owned by Musica Viva in perpetuity.

Musica Viva has the right to produce and distribute without limit or payment of any fee, audio and/or video recordings or all competition concerts or events in whole or in part, including any subsequent touring and performance engagements with the grand prize winning ensemble.

All competitors must be available for travel to Australia during November 2019 for performance engagements associated with the Grand Prize.

The official language of the Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition is English.

Prizes

The following prizes shall be awarded:

Grand Prize:

Awarded to either the winning ensemble from the string quartet division or the winning ensemble from the piano trio division:

- \$30,000 cash prize
- A performance tour in Australia arranged by Musica Viva for November 2019
- Career-enhancing professional development support

String Quartet Division

First Prize	\$30,000 cash prize
Second Prize	\$20,000 cash prize
Third Prize	\$10,000 cash prize
Best performance of the Commissioned work	\$4,000 cash prize
Audience Prize	\$8,000 cash prize

Piano Trio Division

First Prize	\$22,500 cash prize
Second Prize	\$15,000 cash prize
Third Prize	\$7,500 cash prize

Best performance of the Commissioned work	\$3,000 cash prize
Audience Prize	\$6,000 cash prize

All prizes are in Australian dollars, and are subject to relevant Australian government withholding taxes.

Key Dates

Applications open	Monday 6 March 2017
Applications close	Friday 29 September 2017
Applicants notified of the outcome	Friday 3 November 2017
Due date for participating ensemble confirmations	Friday 17 November 2017
Ensembles arrive in Melbourne	Thursday 28 June 2018
Heat One & Heat Two	Sunday 1 to Thursday 5 July 2018
Semi-Finals Day	Friday 6 July 2018
Finals Day	Sunday July 8 2018
Grand Prize Winners' Concert in Sydney	Wednesday, July 11 2018
Grand Prize Winners' Tour	November 2019

Contact Information

Please contact Naomi Lennox, Competitions Coordinator, Musica Viva with any questions, queries or concerns:

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