

Rules for the 3rd International Piano Competition "Samson François" - 2024

Article 1 - Organizer and purpose of the competition

The organizer of the "Samson François International Piano Competition" (hereinafter referred to as "the Competition") is the Association "Le piano en Liberté" (hereinafter referred to as "the Association"), an association governed by the French law of July 1, 1901, registered under number RNA: W062017668 / SIREN: 910066117, with headquarters at 55 boulevard Victor Hugo 06000 Nice, represented by its president, Mrs Christine Gastaud.

The aim of the Competition is to perpetuate the musical legacy of Samson François and to spot the future stars of tomorrow.

Participation in the Competition implies full acceptance of these rules (hereinafter referred to as the "Rules"). The financial terms of participation in the Competition are described in article 2.3 Registration fees.

Article 2 - Participation conditions

The competition will take place at the Hippodrome de la Côte d'Azur in Cagnes-sur-Mer from Saturday June 29 to Thursday July 4, 2024 under the conditions set out in these rules.

5 categories are suggested:

- Artist" category
- Young Artist" category
- Junior" category
- Young Talent" category
- Children" category

The competition timetable is set out in article 3.2 of the rules.

The present rules and information about the Competition are available at the following Internet address: [Samson François International Piano Competition](https://www.samsonfrancoiscompetition.com) .

Any questions regarding the Competition can be sent to the following e-mail address: samsonfrancoiscompetition@gmail.com .

2.1 How to participate

The competition is open to candidates according to their date of birth, and is divided into 5 categories:

- Artist" category (32 or under - born after July 4, 1991)
- Young Artist" category (20 years or younger - born after July 2, 2003)
- Junior" category (15 years or under - born after July 1, 2008)
- Young Talent" category (aged 12 or under - born after June 30, 2011)
- Children" category (9 years and under - born after June 28, 2014)

It is recommended to register in the category corresponding to your age. Candidates may enter one or more categories.

The student of one of the members of the jury may not enter the "Artist" category.

2.2 Program conditions

Program conditions depend on the category chosen by the applicant.

2.2.1 For the "Artist" category

1st round online: 10 to 12 minutes comprising two pieces from different periods and in contrasting styles, to be sent before May 1, 2024.

Pre-selection :

- May 10, 2024: Notification of results to the 24 shortlisted candidates. They will have until May 15, 2024 to confirm their participation. 6 candidates will be placed on a waiting list in case the selected candidates are unable to attend.
- May 18, 2024: Announcement of results (Samson François's birthday)

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For candidates selected to compete on Wednesday, July 3 and Thursday, July 4, 2024: 35- to 40-minute free program comprising a piece by Chopin and a work by Debussy, Fauré or Ravel.

The program provided is subject to change until June 10, 2024. Requests for program changes should be sent by email to samsonfrancoiscompetition@gmail.com. No program changes will be accepted after this date.

2.2.2 For the "Young Artist" category

1st round online: 10-minute free program, to be sent before May 1, 2024.

Pre-selection :

- May 10, 2024: Notification of results to the 24 shortlisted candidates. They will have until May 15, 2024 to confirm their participation. 6 candidates will be placed on a waiting list in case the selected candidates are unable to attend.
- May 18, 2024: Announcement of results (Samson François's birthday)

For candidates selected to compete on Tuesday, July 2, 2024: 15- to 18-minute free program featuring a piece by Chopin.

The program provided is subject to change until June 10, 2024. Requests for program changes should be sent by email to samsonfrancoiscompetition@gmail.com. No program changes will be accepted after this date.

2.2.3 For the "Junior" category

Program: Free program of 12 to 15 minutes.

Pre-selection: The first 35 registrants will be selected.

The program provided is subject to change until June 10, 2024. Requests for program changes should be sent by email to samsonfrancoiscompetition@gmail.com. No program changes will be accepted after this date.

2.2.4 For the "Young Talent" category

Program: Free program of 8 to 10 minutes.

Pre-selection: The first 50 registrants will be selected.

The program provided is subject to change until June 10, 2024. Requests for program changes should be sent by email to samsonfrancoiscompetition@gmail.com. No program changes will be accepted after this date.

2.2.5 For the "Children" category

Program: Free program from 3 to 7 minutes.

The program provided is subject to change until June 10, 2024. Requests for program changes should be sent by email to samsonfrancoiscompetition@gmail.com. No program changes will be accepted after this date.

2.2.6 Video recording conditions for the online preselection tour

- It's important to pay particular attention to the quality of the video recording. - The video must be produced without cuts, in a fixed shot, with the candidate's face and hands clearly visible at all times and without special effects such as zooms and the like. Preference should be given to sound quality.
- Any type of editing or manipulation of audio and video is prohibited and may result in disqualification.
- The program can be recorded at different times and then assembled into a single video (preferably), or it can be recorded entirely without a break between one piece and the next (variations **should** be recorded in a single video - sonatas and multi-part pieces should **preferably** be recorded in one go. It is also possible to submit individual parts of pieces - for example, the 1st movement of a sonata alone).
- All videos must be recent (2023/2024).
- The video is not necessarily intended to be recorded in a professional studio, but can also be recorded in a domestic environment.
- By submitting your entry, you automatically authorize the Competition organization to use this video for purposes related to the Competition: sending the videos to the jurors and publishing the videos on the site and on social channels.
- Recordings can be sent with a Youtube or Vimeo link, or using file transfer tools, for example. In all cases, the name of the file or link must include the candidate's first and last name.

2.3 Registration fees

The registration fee depends on the category and must be paid via the procedure described on the Competition page: [Samson François International Piano Competition](#).

- Artist" category: €100
- Young Artist" category: €80
- Junior" category: €70
- Young Talent" category: €60
- Children's category: €50

It is recommended to register in the category corresponding to your age (see paragraph: "2.1 Entry requirements"). Candidates may enter one or more categories.

Applications will only be accepted once the full registration fee has been received. Any bank charges or transfer fees are the responsibility of the candidate.

No claims will be accepted and the registration fee will not be refunded under any circumstances, except under the conditions of Article 11 - Force majeure.

2.4 Application validity

The closing date for entries is:

- For the "Artist" category: April 30, 2024 at midnight
- For the "Young Artist" category: April 30, 2024 at midnight
- For the "Junior" category: June 1, 2024 at midnight
- For the "Young Talent" category: June 1, 2024 at midnight
- For the "Children" category: June 1, 2024 at midnight

Candidates must register online ([Samson François International Piano Competition](#)), sending the following supporting documents:

- Copy of identity card or passport;
- A curriculum vitae in English or French ;
- A recent high-resolution photo;
- These rules must be signed, if they have not already been signed electronically; and the registration fee must have been paid in advance.

For an application to be valid, it must include all of the following information and be received by the closing date for entries. Incomplete entries will be rejected.

Article 3 - Competition procedure

3.1 Competition announcement

The competition is announced on :

- The Association's website at <https://www.lesnocturnesdupiano.com> and sites such as www.alink-argerich.org;
- Social networks used by the Association and its partners;
- Paper communication tools produced by the Association.

3.2 Competition timetable

The events are open to the public and admission is free.

The competition takes place according to the following schedule:

- **Saturday June 29 and Sunday June 30, 2024:** "Children" and "Young Talent" category competitions
- **Monday, July 1, 2024:** "Junior" category competition
- **Tuesday, July 2, 2024:** "Young Artist" category competition
- **Wednesday, July 3 and Thursday, July 4, 2024:** "Artist" category competition

This schedule may be adjusted by the Association.

Working pianos will be made available to candidates at the Hippodrome de la Côte d'Azur. The schedule will be communicated by email in June 2024.

3.3 Selection of winners

The jury is responsible for selecting the winners.

The jury is made up of international personalities from the world of music. The composition of the jury is available on the Competition website: [Samson François International Piano Competition](#).

In the event of a tie, the jury chairman has the casting vote. Jury decisions are final and binding.

The jury may interrupt the performance of a piece if it considers the competitor's playing to be inadequate, or if the maximum duration imposed for the round is exceeded.

Article 4 - Prizes awarded

The jury is not obliged to award all prizes, but reserves the right to award special prizes or to share prizes.

The list of prizes awarded to the winners depends on the category and is as follows as of December 31, 2023:

- **Artist" category: €13,000 (Cash prize: €7,000 + Recitals: €6,000)**
 - Grand Prix: €5,000
 - Prix Estivales 4 Recitals (€1,100 fee)
 - Recital Château Grimaldi / Ville de Cagnes-sur-Mer (800€ fee)
 - Bernard Olivieri Prize: Recital (€800 fee)
 - Prix Spécial Dugenne-Bendien for the best performance of a Fauré nocturne: €1,000
 - Demoulin Special Prize for the best performance of the Cadenza from the Concerto by Samson François: €1,000

- **Young Artist" category: €2,500**
 - 1st Prize: €1,500
 - 2nd Prize: €700
 - 3rd Prize: €300

- **Junior" category: €1,500**
 - 1st Prize: €800
 - 2nd Prize: €500
 - 3rd Prize: €200

- **Young Talent" category: €800**
 - 1st Prize: €400
 - 2nd Prize: €200
 - 3rd Prize: €100
 - Pierre Lanoë" Special Prize: €100

- **Children" category: €400**
 - 1st Prize: €150
 - 2nd Prize: €100
 - 3rd Prize: €50
 - Pierre Lanoë" Special Prize: €100

Special prize for the best interpretation of Chopin: 500€. This prize will be awarded to one of the candidates in any category.

Other prizes may be added. The updated list is available on the Competition website: [Samson François International Piano Competition](#).

All candidates may request a certificate of participation in the competition.

Article 5 - How prizes are awarded

Prizes will be awarded at the end of each category. The presence of all candidates, accompanied by a parent or guardian in the case of minors, is recommended.

For the "Artist" category, a "Concert des lauréats" will follow the prize-giving ceremony on Thursday, July 4, 2024.

Article 6 - Travel and accommodation expenses

Candidates are responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses.

Article 7 - Image rights

Candidates must agree to any interviews, videos or promotional meetings related to the Competition.

The Association reserves the right to make or authorize audio or video recordings and to take photographs throughout the competition and during the closing ceremony. It also reserves the right to preserve and communicate these for the benefit of the Association, and to retain ownership of them.

By entering the Competition, candidates authorize the Association, free of charge, to use their surname, first name(s), image and, where applicable, any other attributes of their personality, exclusively for the purposes of communication relating to the Competition, by all digital and/or analog processes, on all supports, worldwide and for a period of fifty (50) years from the start of the Competition.

Article 8 - Official version of the rules

These rules are written in French and English. Only the French version is binding.

Article 9 - Protection of personal data

As part of the organization of the Competition, the Association may collect and process personal data from candidates and, where applicable, their parents and/or legal guardians.

The Association undertakes to ensure that the processing of personal data thus carried out complies with current rules on the protection of personal data, in particular the General Data Protection Regulation (RGPD) 2016/679 of April 27, 2016 and the French Data Protection Act no. 78-17 of January 6, 1978 as amended.

What are the purposes of this data collection?

The collection of this data is necessary for :

- Consideration or rejection of entries ;
- Where applicable, to inform the winning candidates individually and on the Association's website;
- Obtaining the necessary authorizations from the person(s) exercising parental authority for candidates ;
- Handling requests and questions sent by e-mail to the Association;
- To the awarding of prizes to the winners.

What data is involved?

- For candidates:

Candidates are hereby informed that the following personal data is collected by the Association for the purposes of the Competition: surname, first name, pseudonym (if any), title (if any), e-mail address (if any) for candidates aged 15 and over, date of birth, category in which the candidate is participating. This data is collected when the form is sent, as part of the candidate's authorization to take part in the competition, completed by the person(s) exercising parental authority over the minor. The Association also collects the postal address of the minor candidate as part of the authorization provided by the person(s) exercising parental authority.

- For persons exercising parental authority :

The person(s) exercising parental authority are hereby informed that the following data concerning them is collected by the Association: their surname, first name, civil status, date of birth, e-mail address, cell phone number, postal address and parental relationship with the minor candidate (if exercising parental authority). This data is collected within the framework of the authorization to participate in the Competition filled in by the person(s) exercising parental authority.

What are the legal bases for this processing?

The legal basis for the processing of personal data by the Association is the consent of the person(s) exercising parental authority for candidates.

Who receives this data?

All personal data collected by the Association is intended for its services.

How long is this data kept?

This data is deleted at the end of the competition, unless it is kept for a longer period of time, as may be necessary for the management of a dispute, with the exception of the identity and, where applicable, the pseudonym of candidates, in order to respect their right to paternity, and with the exception of data concerning under-age candidates and the person(s) exercising parental authority, which is (are) kept for the legal period of prescription and then archived.

Other information about these treatments :

The Association undertakes to implement and enforce the security measures it deems necessary to ensure the confidentiality of the data collected for the duration necessary for their processing, in accordance with the aforementioned French Data Protection Act. The processing does not involve automated decision-making. No data is transferred outside the European Union.

What are your rights?

In accordance with the French Data Protection Act no. 78-18 of January 6, 1978, as amended, the person(s) exercising parental authority in the case of minors may access, rectify, request the deletion of or object to the processing of data concerning them. However, certain data are essential for taking into account participation in this Competition and for awarding prizes to the winners.

To exercise these rights or for any questions about the processing of their data in connection with the Competition, candidates should contact the Association's Data Protection Officer at the following address: contact@lesnocturnesdupiano.com, stating the purpose of the request and providing proof of identity by any means.

Visit cnil.fr for more information on your rights.

The person or persons exercising parental authority in the case of under-age candidates are informed of their right to lodge a complaint with the CNIL if, after contacting the Association, they feel that their rights with regard to their data have not been respected.

Article 10 - Insurance and civil liability

The Association is covered by civil liability insurance.

Article 11 - Force majeure

The Association may not be held liable if, in the event of force majeure as defined in article 1218 of the French Civil Code and case law, it is forced to cancel the 2024 edition of the Competition due to health conditions or government instructions, or in the event of an insufficient number of entries.

Article 12 - Applicable law and competent court

The rules are subject to French law.

Any dispute will be brought before the competent court in Nice, after all avenues of conciliation have been exhausted.

For Adult candidates:

I, the undersigned :

Mr. Mrs.

First name:

Last Name:

Born on:/...../..... Born in:

Nationality :

Address:

Postal code: City:

Country:

Mobile: E-mail:

1. Compete in category(ies):

Artist" category

Young Artist" category

2. Certify that I have read the rules of the "Samson François International Piano Competition" organized by the Association "Le piano en liberté" and accept them in all their provisions, and in particular :

a. Consent to the collection and processing by the Association "Le piano en liberté" of personal data in the context of and for the purposes of the Competition, in accordance with article 9 of the rules.

b. Graciously assigns image rights under the conditions of article 7 of the rules.

Done at:.....

Date:/...../.....

Signature of candidate:

For minor candidates:

**APPENDIX TO THE REGULATIONS
AUTHORIZATION OF PERSONS
EXERCISING PARENTAL AUTHORITY**

AUTHORIZATION

To be completed by one or both parents (or person(s) with parental authority).

I/We undersigned

Mr. Mrs.

First name:

Last Name:

Born on:/...../..... Born in:

Address:

Postal code: City:

Country:

Mobile: E-mail:

And

Mr. Mrs.

First name:

Last Name:

Born on:/...../..... Born in:

Address:

Postal code: City:

Country:

Mobile: E-mail:

Parent(s) / guardian(s) of :

Mr. Mrs.

First name:

Last Name:

Born on:/...../..... Born in:

Nationality :

Address:

Postal code: City:

Country:

Mobile: E-mail:

Hereinafter referred to as "the minor" :

1. Compete in category(ies):
 - Artist" category
 - Young Artist" category
 - Junior" category
 - Young Talent" category
 - Category "Children
2. Certify / certify that we have parental authority over the minor
3. Certify / certify that I have read the rules of the "Samson François International Piano Competition" organized by the Association "Le piano en liberté" and accept them in all their provisions and in particular:
 - a Consent, when the minor is under fifteen years of age, to the collection and processing by the Association "Le piano en liberté" of the minor's personal data in the context of and for the purposes of the Competition, in accordance with article 9 of the rules.
 - b Graciously assigns image rights under the conditions of article 7 of the rules.
4. Certify that I/we have read the Competition rules with the minor, and that I/we have ensured that the minor has understood them.
5. Authorize the minor to participate in the Competition.

Done at:.....

Date://

Signature :	Signature :
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Signature of minor over 13 :
