

19th International Brass Festival



1st edition

Regulations

Article 1 - Object

The ITALIAN BRASS NETWORK with the support of Italian Brass Week, hereby announces the First Edition of the «Old Bridge» **International Composition Prize**. The competition aims to stimulate composers to create music compositions suitable to performing in one of the most beautiful and unique scenery in the world: *Florence, with its Arno river, on front of the Old Bridge*.

Article 2 - Admission requirements and general performance details

The Competition is open to all composers regardless of ages or nationality. Candidates should submit to the jury a composition (*urban symphony*) for large brass orchestra, small drum section and separate brass ensembles, lasting between **15 and 25 minutes**, which is freely inspired by the river, the bridge and the city. For the first edition, the Organization has decided to accompany the execution of the winning piece of the competition with a virtual installation with pictorial games of lights and lasers created by the contemporary painter SIMAFRA (www.simafra.com). The composer should therefore freely be inspired by extra-musical themes such as water, gold and flowers, connotative elements of the city of Florence and subjects of the video installation by visual artist Simafra.

The organization counts for about **100 brass instruments** available for execution, divided between trumpets, horns, euphonium¹, trombones and tubas formed by students and professors of the Master Classes of the Italian Brass Week. The number may change according to members of the master classes. The composer can divide the

¹ The presence of some category of instrument may change according to members of the master classes

ensembles as he wishes, but he must take in consideration the following important points:

1) The performance's location is at the Florence's Old Bridge area is divided essentially in 3 zones: on the Right river side (*zone number 1*) usually for a large ensemble; on the 3 boats at the center of the river (*zone number 2*) with 3 small brass ensemble on board; on the Old Bidge (*zone number 3*), just Soloist or very small ensemble.

(please see the picture below);

2) The 3 boats in the middle of the river on front of the Bridge, with 3 small brass ensemble on board, are obligatory. Basically you can have 3 brass quintets, one for each boat, or you can divide the brass ensemble in 3 parts : Trumpets 1st boat, Horns and Euphonium 2nd boat, Trombones and Tubas 3rd boat. Please consider no more than 5 musicians every boat and one only conductor on the central boat. The position of the three boats will be almost between zone 1 and zone 3 and will be absolutely motionless during the performance;

3) No more than 3 orchestra conductors in total. The winner piece will be conducted by **Dale Clevenger** and **Roger Bobo**. The eventual third director will be selected by the organization one month before the concert.

4) The orchestra will be formed by students and professors of the Master Classes of the Italian Brass Week.

(please visit www.italianbrass.com and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w8subVEC4sik>).



In accordance with the picture above, work should be thought for one of the following combinations:

A) 1-2 (1- all orchestra / 2- brass ensemble* or quintets)

B) 1-2-3 (1 - all orchestra / 2- brass ensemble or quintets / 3- brass soloists)

* Certainly you may also have solo parts from brass ensembles or quintets on boats.

The rhythm section must include no more than 2 performers and the usable percussions are: snare, timpani (2 pieces), bass drum, cymbals, thunder sheet and toms.

Candidates must consider that the performance will be in a large open space, with little background noise and little bit of echo especially if choose an a large disposition of the ensembles (point B above). The winner of the competition, if necessary, must submit an outline of the arrangement of the ensemble

Criteria for judging are **musicianship** and **suitability for performance**.

Submitted works must be unpublished, must never have been performed in public or have received any award, whether under their current title or any other, and must not have been previously commissioned.

Transcriptions, arrangements, paraphrases or works which includes musical references to other works are not accepted.

Article 3 – Entries

The deadline for the submission of manuscripts is **1st May, 2018**. Each participant may only present **one** composition.

Article 4 - Registration and submission of scores.

Registration should be made through the site **www.italianbrass.com**

All candidates must register on the site and fill in the online application form, following the instructions provided.

The composers must send three (3) files to **segreteria@italianbrass.com**

1 – The first must contain only the musical score (legible PDF no larger than A3 format 42 cm x29.7 cm)

2 – The second must be an audio file of the piece (MIDI or mp3 only)

3 – The third must contain the registration form filled and attachments* (PDF/WORD file – A4)

* The following documents must be uploaded:

- scan of identity card or document giving proof of age and nationality;

- two recent photos;

- receipt of the payment of the registration fee of **50 Euros**, through bank transfer (**Banca Prossima IBAN: IT20**

Z033 5901 6001 0000 0146 233, BIC/Swift BCITITMX)

- completed and **signed entry-form** (downloadable from the site), containing the following information: home address and phone numbers for any necessary communications, and an email address, curriculum vitae in Italian and English, self-certification testifying to the originality of the composition, which must not have been published, performed or recorded and authorization for the performance, recording and broadcasting of the work. Scores should be submitted through the site anonymously through a pseudonym, both in PDF format, (*Sibelius or Finale format are welcomed*), following the instructions and the upload link given in the email received during the registration process.

The secretary's office will only send the first and second files of each candidate to the jury. The jury will not know the names of the candidates. The composer's name must not appear on the score or audio file. To ensure impartiality, use only a *pseudonym* onto the first and second files. The personal details of the winner composer will be made known to the jury and public only in the final phase. Composers who do not reach the final phase will remain anonymous also after the end of the competition.

Article 5 – Phases of the competition

The competition will consist of 2 phases: the elimination phase and the final. After the elimination phase, a maximum of 10 scores will be selected by the jury by *15th May, 2018*. The title of the works chosen for the final phase will be published on the site of the Competition on *16th May, 2018*.

In the final phase, which will conclude by *31st May, 2018*, the jury will select the winner. The title of the work chosen will be published on the site of the Competition on *1st June, 2018* and the winning composer will be informed by email.

By the date of *30th June, 2018*, the winning composer must to send all the instrumental parts in pdf (A4 format) to the secretary's office via email.

Summary

DATE	EVENT
1st May	DEADLINE
15th May	10 selected works*
16th May	Publication on the site
31st May	Choice of winner
1st June	Publication on the site
30th June	Dead line sending instrumental parts and scores
Third week of July	Public concert at the Old Bridge area, Florence (IT)

***the number of selected scores may change at the unquestionable judgment of the jury**

Article 6 – Jury and voting procedure

The jury will be composed by five members: Simon Leclerc, Dale Clevenger, Jurai Filas, Giancarlo Aquilanti, Francesco Traversi and Luca Benucci (Artistic Director of the Italian Brass Week) as a non-voting President of the Jury.



Simon Leclerc



Dale Clevenger



Jurai Filas



Giancarlo Aquilanti



Francesco Traversi

Simon Leclerc, renowned composer and conductor, official orchestrator at the Montreal Symphonic Orchestra.(CAN)

Dale Clevenger, Former Principal Horn of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Professor of Horn at the Indiana University and conductor. President of IBW. (USA)

Jurai Filas, Composer and Professor of Composition at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (CZ)

Giancarlo Aquilanti, Composer, conductor and Professor of Composition at the Stanford University (ITA/USA).

Francesco Traversi, Composer and conductor. Global Music Award 2016.(ITA)



Luca Benucci



Roger Bobo

Luca Benucci, Principal Horn of Orchestra del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino and Artistic Director of the Italian Brass Week Festival.

Roger Bobo, Former Principal tuba of Los Angeles Philharmonic, teacher and conductor.

The jury will examine the submitted compositions independently and will indicate their choice, 2 compositions each member. Then for the final phase the jury will examine again all the 10 chosen compositions independently and will indicate their choice giving them marks from 1 to 5. The score that obtain the highest total of marks will be the winner. If there is a tie, further votes will be cast (choosing between “yes” and “no”) exclusively for those compositions. Should there be a further tie, priority will be given exceptionally to the vote of the President of the jury. The winner composition will be performed during the Italian Brass Week on third/fourth week of July.

The decision of the jury is irrevocable.

Article 7 – Prizes and expenses refund

The winner of the competition will be awarded by the “Old Bridge Composition Prize”, which includes:

- Live performance with video recording (*DVD*).
- award plaque “*Old Bridge Composition Prize*”.
- cash prize amounting to **500 Euros** (*refunded through paypal, Bank or similar*)
- facility and small discount as a guest for attending the final event in Florence (*hotel and ticket restaurant*)

Article 8 - Legal terms

Application to participate in the Competition implies the acceptance of the above-stated rules. In the case of contestations, the Italian version of the announcement is legally binding. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the court of Florence.

Article 9 – Activation of the competition

The jury and the organization reserves the right not to activate the competition if significant organizational problems or insufficient number of participants occur. In this case the entry fee paid by the competitor will be fully refunded.

Article 10 – Promotional Agency

ITALIAN BRASS NETWORK, Associazione Culturale Musicale, Via delle Cinque Giornate, 20 – 50124 –
Florence - Italy