

PRESS RELEASE

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The winner of the Prague Spring Trombone Competition is the Portuguese Gonçalo Nova

The winner of the Prague Spring International Music Competition in the trombone category was the nineteen-year-old Portuguese Gonçalo Nova, a student of the Hochschule für Musik Freiburg. Second place went to Juhyeon Seo from the Republic of Korea and third place went to Tim Ouwejan from the Netherlands.

The jury announced the results late on Sunday evening in the Smetana Hall of the Municipal House, which was the venue of the final. All three competitors played before the jury and the audience *the Concertino in E flat major for trombone and orchestra* by the composer Ferdinand David and then *the Concerto for trombone and orchestra Don Quixote or the self-portrait* of the Slovak composer Juraj Filas, who died two years ago, which was premiered twenty years ago in St. Gallen, Switzerland. The finalists were accompanied by PKF - Prague Philharmonia with the conductor Ondřej Vrabec.

“The level of the competitors was very high, they played beautifully both in terms of technique and musicality. Personally, I would highlight most the ability of personal creativity and the fact that the young artists played really sincerely, from the heart. It was a great privilege to listen to all the competitors. I would also like to highlight the perfect preparation of the competition by the organizers,” said the chairman of the jury Zdzisław Stolarczyk (Poland), bass trombonist of the Polish National Radio Orchestra from Katowice. Other jury members were Zoltán Kiss (Hungary), Robert Kozánek (Czech Republic), Fabrice Millischer (France), Lukáš Mořka (Czech Republic), Oliver Siefert (Germany) and Jeremy Wilson (USA). All jurors will also perform at a joint concert at the National Technical Museum on Monday 15 May.

“Each musical instrument attracts different characters with its distinctiveness. During this year's competition I learned that trombonists are extremely cheerful and communicative people. After all, the sound of the trombone is very close to the human voice. So I am especially pleased that the trombone competition was held in a joyful and friendly spirit,” said Pavel Trojan, the director of the Prague Spring Festival.

Eighty one young people from all over the world entered the trombone category of 74th International Music Competition Prague Spring and 42 of them arrived to Prague on the



basis of the listening preliminary round. Viewers from all over the world watched the finals online on the Prague Spring YouTube page and the recording is still available on youtube.com/live/jXzICNb5dIg.

The last time they competed at the Prague Spring Festival in the trombone category was in 2011. This competition was the tenth in a row.

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Photographs of the Prague Spring 2023 concerts are available here:

https://bit.ly/PJ2023_foto

Photographs from the festival concerts can be found [here](#).