

14th

Toulouse international

Organ Competition



2024

France

Conceive and perform a musical program of your choice on one of the most beautiful organs of Toulouse!

3 Organ categories
3 Winners rewarded
3 Prizes of €4 000
and concert possibilities around Europe

Presentation of the competition

The Toulouse international Organ Competition, founded in 1981 by Xavier Darasse, offers to young organists the opportunity to meet and compete on the most beautiful organs of Toulouse.

The idea is unique and original: each candidate curates a concert programme for the organ of his or her choice and plays excerpts from it during each round of the Competition. The Competition is designed to encourage artistically coherent programmes, chosen to match a given instrument, and also to showcase the organ's potential for appeal to a wider audience.

Competitors can choose the organ on which they would like to perform, in one of the following categories:

- **“Baroque Organ”**: the organs of the Musée des Augustins or the Church of Saint-Pierre des Chartreux
- **“Symphonic Organ”**: the organs of the Basilica of Saint-Sernin or the Church of Notre-Dame de la Dalbade
- **“XXth century Organ”**: the organs of the Cathedral of Saint-Étienne or the organs of the Dominican Convent

The 2024 Toulouse International Organ Competition will reward three performers, with one winner in each of these three categories.

Schedule

1. **Submit online applications at : www.toulouse-les-orgues.org** between 1st February - 7th April 2024.
2. **Pre-selection based on audio recordings (duration : 20 minutes) in May 2024.** 12 candidates will be selected for the semi-final round to be held in Toulouse in October 2024.
3. **Public semi-final (duration : 30 minutes) in Toulouse on the 1st and 2nd of October 2024.** 6 candidates will be selected for the final round.
4. **Public final (duration : 45 minutes) on 4 and 5 October,** when the 3 winners of the Toulouse international Organ Competition 2024 will be chosen.

→ Each round including the pre-selection will be held anonymously.

Programme

When registering, each candidate will propose a programme for a 45-minute recital of music he or she has prepared for one of the competition organs, i.e. in one of the categories mentioned on the previous page.

→ It is not possible to register in more than one category, nor for 2 different organs.

→ The programme for the competition is entirely free.

However, the candidate must take the following criteria into account:

- The programme must be conceived with a view to artistic and musical coherence. This coherence can be stylistic or thematic.
- The programme must be designed for the chosen organ in such a way as to give the fullest possible expression to the organ's capabilities, as well as the music.
- Any musical style is acceptable. Non-classical music and improvisations are accepted but must not exceed 15 minutes over the entire programme. Transcriptions will be accepted with no time limit.



Application and Competition rules

The Competition is open to candidates born after the 1st of January 1994.

Each candidate must read the competition rules on our website www.toulouse-les-orgues.org

For a summary of the rules contact us at:
concoursdarasse@toulouse-les-orgues.org or +33 (0)5 61 33 76 80

The application has to be made on our website: www.toulouse-les-orgues.org

Financial assistance

Toulouse les Orgues will provide financial assistance for semi-finalists to cover their travel and accommodation costs, upon presentation of receipts, to a maximum of €300.

Prizes and concerts

The Competition offers the following prizes and rewards:

- A prize of €4000 for the winner of each category.
 - Concerts in the cities belonging to the ECHO network for the winner of the “Baroque Organ” category.
 - A Concert in the Festival international Toulouse les Orgues 2025 for one of the finalists of the “Symphonic organ” category, who will receive the “Audience Choice Award”.
- A Concert in a European city for one of the finalists of the “XXth century Organ” category, who will receive the “Audience Choice Award”.

JURY

Pre-selection jury

Michel Bouvard (France)
Cindy Castillo (Belgium)
Jan Willem Jansen (France)

Jury for the semi-finals and finals

Vincent Bernhardt (France/Germany)
Michel Bouvard (France)
Cindy Castillo (Belgium)
Isabelle Demers (Canada)
Jan Willem Jansen (France)
Martin Schmeding (Germany)
Yuan Shen (China)



The organs

Information on the organs of Toulouse: www.toulouse-les-orgues.org (under “Organs”)

“Baroque Organ” category:

- **Musée des Augustins:** J. Ahrend organ 1981 (3 man., ped., 33 stops)
- **Church of Saint-Pierre des Chartreux:** R. Delaunay organ 1683, J.B. Micot 1783, restored by G. Grenzing 1983 (4 man., ped., 51 stops)

“Symphonic Organ” category:

- **Basilica of Saint-Sernin:** A. Cavallé-Coll organ, 1889, restored by J.L. Boisseau / B. Cattiaux / P. Bellet 1996, refurbished by Manufacture Robert / S. Pesce 2016 (3 man., ped., 54 stops)
- **Church of Notre-Dame de la Dalbade:** E. Puget organ 1888, restored by G. Bancells / D. Lacorre 2009 (3 man., ped., 50 stops)

“XXth century Organ” category:

- **Cathedral of Saint-Étienne:** A. Lefèbvre organ 1609, A. Cavallé-Coll 1849. Reconstruction A. Kern 1976 (4 man., ped., 46 stops)
- **Dominican Convent:** P. Chéron organ 1950, Y. Sévère 1977, J. P. Conan 2001 (3 man., ped., 54 stops, electronic combination mechanism)