

# ***Unanimes !* – Composition competition**

## **General regulations**

*Unanimes!* is a nation-wide event dedicated to the promotion of women composers and their repertoire. It will take place throughout the 2023-2024 season and involve all 42 orchestras member of the French Orchestra Association (AFO) as well as a vast network of partners. 3 distinct actions will take place: the certification of works by women composers, programmed throughout the year; a mentorship program for young composers; and a composition competition.

### **Support today's women composers**

Works written by today's women composers are tomorrow's heritage. However, women are often in minority in composition competitions. Supporting today's women composers means giving them the necessary visibility, be it from other artists, music professionals or a broader audience, to become integral parts of the musical landscape.

The goal of the *Unanimes!* composition competition is to partake in the advent of a more diverse symphonic repertoire.

## **General dispositions**

### **1. Applicant's profile**

The competition is open to women composers who are citizens or legal residents of the European Union, over 18 years old.

## 2. Application

The registration is done in two steps:

### 1. Pre-registration

When registering, the candidate must specify the category or categories (chamber or symphonic orchestra) in which she wants to participate.

The application file must include the following documents:

- Copy of an official, valid identity card or passport (.jpg or .pdf format)
- A proof of residency in the European Union (for candidates of non-EU nationalities)
- Resume and biography detailing background, obtained prizes, recent appointments
- 2 recent photos (.jpg or .png format)
- 1 cover letter

The candidates must submit their application on Muvac (<https://www.muvac.com/vac/association-francaise-des-orchestres-26b5436>) **up until September, 29<sup>th</sup> 2023.**

Acceptance of the general regulations is mandatory during the application process.

The candidates will receive an e-mail to confirm the receipt of their application.

The non-governmental documents must imperatively be written in one of the two official languages of the competition (English or French).  
Only registrations which are complete and comply to all criteria mentioned above will be accepted.

### 2. Submission of the scores

The registration will not be final until the score is received; the individual parts are not required.

The candidates must submit their scores to MUVAC **by September 30th.**

Only finalists will be required to submit the individual parts, by February 1<sup>st</sup> 2024.

### 3. Musical pieces

To compose, the candidates may choose between:

- ❖ A symphonic piece in the “chamber orchestra” category

The orchestra headcount must not exceed the following nomenclature. No additional instruments or electroacoustic devices are to be added:

**8 first violins, 6 second violins, 4 violas, 4 cellos, 2 double basses  
2 flutes (the 2<sup>nd</sup> of which may play the piccolo), 2 oboes (the 2<sup>nd</sup> of which may play the cor anglais), 2 clarinets (the 2<sup>nd</sup> of which may play the bass clarinet), 2 bassoons (the 2<sup>nd</sup> of which may play the contrabassoon), 2 French horns, 2 trumpets, 1 tympanist.**

*The piece duration must range between 7 and 10 minutes maximum.*

And / or

- ❖ A symphonic piece in the “symphonic orchestra” category

The orchestra headcount must not exceed the following nomenclature. No additional instruments are to be added:

**14 first violins, 12 second violins, 10 violas, 8 cellos, 6 double basses, 3 flutes (the third of which may play the piccolo), 3 oboes (the third of which may play the cor anglais), 3 clarinets (the third of which may play the bass clarinet), 3 bassoons (the third of which may play the contrabassoon), 4 French horns, 3 trumpets, 3 trombones (the third of which may play the bass trombone), 1 tuba, 1 harp, 1 tympanist, 3 percussionists.**

For each of these categories, the composer must strive to include the maximum instrumental headcount as detailed above.

*The piece duration must range between 7 and 10 minutes maximum.*

The piece must be written and unedited. This condition is imperative and suspensive.

A candidate may propose a piece for both categories but will only be able to compete in one category after selection by the jury.

The candidates are made aware that the orchestra will offer a maximum of 4 rehearsal services (2,5 hours) and a dress rehearsal to rehearse the piece before the public finals.

The rehearsal schedule will be given to the candidates one month prior.  
The work plan will be defined by the conductor after evaluation of the work necessary for each piece.

## 4. Selection process

### - First round

The selection is done via study of the score: the jury will select a maximum of 3 scores in each category. Scores will remain anonymous until announcement of the results of the 1<sup>st</sup> round, no later than January 15<sup>th</sup> 2024.

### - Selection jury

The jury will comprise one man and one woman composer at the least, as well as the artistic representative of the Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse harbouring the competition.

### - Public final round or performance of the laureates' work/award ceremony

The composers selected after the first round will send the full extent of their composition via email (between 7 and 10 minutes of music) before February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at the latest. This condition is imperative and suspensive.

Jury of the final round:

- The 3 members of the selection jury: one man and one woman composer, the artistic representative of the Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse;
- 4 musicians of the AFO member orchestras
- 5 representatives of the competition partners
- 3 qualified personalities, including at least two representatives of the general directors of the AFO member orchestras

Under the chairmanship of the Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse representative.

**Results:** Each finalist piece will be performed publicly by the orchestra, in the presence of the jury and of the finalist composers on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024: the jury will decide on the winning piece for each category at the end of the public final.

## Rewards

- The laureates designated by the jury will receive the *Unanimes!* prize:

> ***Unanimes ! award of Chamber Orchestra music*** - under the aegis of the Francis and Mica Salabert Foundation : 4500€

> ***Unanimes ! award of Symphonic Orchestra music*** - under the aegis of the Francis and Mica Salabert Foundation : 5500€

> Score edition for each of the winning pieces, provided the laureate doesn't have a preestablished exclusivity contract with a publisher

> The laureates/the finalists will be provided with a recording of their work for promotion purposes

- Premiered by the Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse, the laureate pieces will be performed again during various concerts before the end of 2026 by other AFO member orchestras.

- The audience attending the finals will vote for the "Audience favorite" piece.

## Recording and distribution of the laureate pieces

A recording of the piece will be provided to the laureates, for promotion purposes only. Commercial use of the recording is not permitted.

## 5. Commitments

### *Of the finalists / of the laureates*

#### Administrative authorizations

Each nominee must take responsibility for any legal requirements to enter the French territory, and of any potential formalities to participate in the Competition. The Organiser may, on request by the nominated candidate, provide an invitation letter for the completion of these formalities.

#### Promotion / communication

The candidates/laureates authorize the Competition Organiser to use their image for promotion of the competition free of charge, on the following media: videos, photos, posters, press, websites of the Organiser and its partners, newsletters, blogs, social media etc.

This authorization is granted free of charge, worldwide and with a 10-year limit.

The candidates/laureates agree to participate free of charge to any promotional operation for the Competition, interviews, press conferences filmed or recorded, radio broadcasts, photo shoots etc. on request by the Competition Organiser.

### Insurance / Liability

The candidates agree to subscribe to any necessary insurance aiming to cover all damage, whichever the nature, that they may cause during their participation to the trials of the competition. They guarantee the Organiser of the Competition that they will not file any legal complaints or claims for damages that the candidate may have caused on this occasion.

### ***The orchestra***

The Organiser of the Competition has subscribed to a third-party liability insurance policy covering any harm caused to the candidates by its employees, representatives or service providers within the scope of the Competition.

### **AFO**

#### Travel and living expenses

The Organiser will reimburse each finalist part of their travel fees, under the limit of 200€ for those residing in Europe and 500€ for those residing outside Europe. This reimbursement will take place after the Competition, upon presentation of supporting documents.

Lodgings for the finalists during the finals in Toulouse, from September 11<sup>th</sup> to September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 will be arranged and paid for by the Competition Organiser, who will take responsibility for hotel reservations for 1 person. Each nominee will remain in charge of any supplementary fees.

## **6. Cancelling / cases of force majeure**

If the Competition was to be cancelled in the case of force majeure (war, civil or political trouble, epidemics, flood, national mourning...), no registration fee nor expenses incurred will be reimbursed to the candidates and no legal action will be taken against the Competition Organiser or its partners.

## **7. Personal data**

This Regulation takes into account the new rules regarding protection of personal data enforced by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) of May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Only the information that are necessary to the smooth running of the competition are collected: name, surname, postal address (street number and street name, postal code, city, country), phone number, date of birth, email address.

The personal data is collected with consent of the candidates when applying for the competition. They are collected by AFO as responsible party for organising the competition and are necessary for the following reasons: registration and participation in the competition, attribution of rewards, communication to the candidates of information relative to the smooth running of the competition. By registering in the competition, candidates accept this Regulation and the collection of data necessary to this registration. The candidates are informed that all information asked in the application process are compulsory and mentioned as such. The lack of transmission of this compulsory information will have for sole consequence the inability to participate in the competition.

This personal data remains confidential and will not be used for commercial purposes; AFO denies itself the right to communicate it to a third-party without consent from the concerned party. AFO commits to taking all necessary measures to ensure the safety and confidentiality of the data collected during applications for the Competition in order to prevent loss, alteration, deterioration or malevolent use. In compliance with the law 78-17 of January 6<sup>th</sup>, 1978 modified by law n°2018-493 of June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 consecutive to the coming into effect of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) of May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018, candidates are reminded that they have a free and permanent right to modify, rectify, erase, oppose portability and limit processing of their personal data.

This right may be exercised at any time by the candidates on the data about them, by writing an email comprising proof of identity at the following email address:  
[afo@france-orchestres.com](mailto:afo@france-orchestres.com)

## **8. Jurisdiction / Election of domicile**

This Regulation is subject to French law. Any dispute that may arise in the interpretation or execution of this Regulation or during the proceedings of the competition will be submitted to the competent Tribunals of Paris, after all mediation methods have been proven ineffective.