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PRESS RELEASE

**TIANYI LU, A YOUNG WOMAN FROM NEW ZEALAND, WINS THE 11TH EDITION OF THE “GUIDO CANTELLI” COMPETITION**

**The Critics Award goes to Dmitry Matvienko; Diego Ceretta obtains the Town Award**

**Tianyi Lu also wins the Teatro Regio Torino Orchestra Award and the Youth Award**

The **Final concert** can be still seen

on the Competition’s [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/premiocantelli) page and on the [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaOKNPYSlvfbMJKJlNANuRA) channel of the Teatro Coccia’s

**Tianyi Lu**, a young woman from New Zealand with Chinese origins is the winner of the 11th Edition of the **International Conducting Competition “Guido Cantelli”.** The thirty-year-old conductor born in Shanghai stood out from the other finalists – **Bertie Baigent** (twenty-five, from England), **Diego Ceretta** (twenty-three, from Italy) and **Dmitry Matvienko** (twenty-nine, from Belarus) – at the competition’s final concert which was held on Sunday 13 September at the **Teatro Coccia di Novara**. Leading the **Teatro Regio Torino Orchestra** the candidates conducted Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy’s Symphony No. 4 in A major “Italian” and Ludwig van Beethoven’s Symphony No. 7. The concert may still be seen on the Competition’s [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/premiocantelli) page and on the [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaOKNPYSlvfbMJKJlNANuRA) channel of the Teatro Coccia di Novara.

«During these difficult times – says **Tianyi Lu** -, it’s normal to be afraid, but we need to be generous and care for others. That’s why I would like to give my contribution, especially in a region like Piedmont that has been so strongly affected by the pandemic: I will donate part of the prize (two thousand euro) to a local non-profit organization, *Specchio dei Tempi*, which supports mainly the elderly and the weak ones. Music and art must survive, without them we risk forgetting who we are».

Tianyi Lu has New Zealand passport but presently lives in the Netherlands. She is Female-Conductor-in-Residence with the Welsh National Opera, Principal Conductor of the St. Woolos in the UK, and until December 2019 she was Assistant Conductor of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. She has won the First Prize (12,000 euro) assigned by a jury made of **Donato** **Renzetti**(the last winner of the Cantelli Prize in 1980 and president of the jury), **Christoph Becher** (Conductor of the RSO – Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra of the ORF), **Nazzareno Carusi** (pianist, Board Member of Teatro alla Scala in Milan, Managing Director in the Artistic Direction of the Fondazione Orchestra Regionale Toscana in Florence, Artistic Director of Società della Musica “Riccitelli” in Teramo), **Gabriel Chmura** (Cantelli Gold Medal, Artistic Director of the Poznan Opera, and First Guest Conductor of the Krakow Philharmonic), **Didier de Cottignies** (Artistic Director of the Monte-Carlo Philharmonic Orchestra), **José Luis Gómez** (Musical Director of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra), **Hein Mulders** (Superintendent of the Essen Opera and Philharmonic Orchestra), **Sebastian F. Schwarz** (Superintendent and Artistic Director of the Teatro Regio di Torino), and orchestra conductors **Matteo Beltrami**, **Jordi Bernàcer**, and **Antonino Fogliani**, who also managed the pre-selection of the candidates.

Besides winning the First Prize, **Tianyi Lu** has also won: the **Teatro Regio Torino Orchestra Award** (1,500 euro), assigned by the musicians of the Orchestra of the Regio; the **Youth Award** (1,000 euro) assigned by a jury made of middle school students from Novara, coordinated by the association **Giovani Dietro Le Quinte**; and artistic contracts to conduct a concert with the **Fondazione Teatro Coccia** and one with the **Teatro Regio Torino.**

The **Critics Award** was granted to **Dmitry Matvienko** by a jury presided by **Angelo Foletto** (La Repubblica) and whose other members were **Enrico Girardi** (Il Corriere della Sera), **Elvio Giudici** (Il Giorno), **Alberto Mattioli** (La Stampa), and **Carla Moreni** (Il Sole 24 Ore). Matvienko was also granted the **Made in Italy Prize** (a tailcoat designed by Carlo Pignatelli), given by the President of the Fondazione Teatro Coccia, **Fabio Ravanelli**, and by its Director **Corinne Baroni**.

The **Town Award** was granted to **Diego Ceretta** by **Emilio Iodice** (Councilor for Culture of the Town of Novara and President of the Town’s Jury), **Ettore Borri** (President of the Associazione Amici della Musica Vittorio Cocito), and **Roberto Politi** (Director of the “Guido Cantelli” Conservatory of Novara). Other artistic contracts were granted to **Bertie Baigent**, who will conduct a concert for the **Fondazione Arturo Toscanini** in Parma, and **Diego Ceretta**, who will conduct an opera at the **Rossini in Wildbad - Belcanto Opera Festival.**

The Cantelli Prize, which in the past launched the careers of great orchestra conductors like **Riccardo Muti**, **Eliahu Inbal**, and **Ádám Fischer,** was brought back to life in 2020, after a forty-year break, on the one hundred-year celebrations since Guido Cantelli’s birth, the celebrated orchestra conductor from Novara who passed away prematurely at the young age of thirty-five in 1956. The four finalists were selected from videos and curriculums among **206 candidates from all over the world** (from Australia to South Korea, from Brazil to Russia, and, to name just a few, from Japan, Hong Kong, Kazakhstan, Taiwan, and New Zealand), and after the preliminary rounds and semi-finals at the Teatro Regio Torino.

The finalists were all given the ***Guido Cantelli: The Complete Warner Recordings*** by **Warner Classics**. The gift is a ten-CD box with Cantelli’s interpretations which was recently published to celebrate one hundred years since the conductor’s birth.

«The 11th Edition of the Premio Cantelli – says **Corinne Baroni**, Artistic Director of the competition – was made possible thanks to persistence, team work and love for music. The great protagonist of this edition was first of all the Teatro Regio Torino Orchestra, always highly professional, dedicated and with a big heart. What we lived in Turin for the preliminary rounds was a magical week, and now more than ever it is clear that this light, which has been turned on after a forty-year absence, must not be put out again. This is why we are all called to play our part».

Novara, 14 September 2020

To download **photos** of the concert and of the final ceremony of the 2020 Premio Cantelli:

FIRST PRIZE – TIANYI LU
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1HWXAoWW3iE3-491m85IXE-t7d4fkMkol?usp=sharing>

THE OTHER FINALISTS
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-gUCt5TCkEDnVwfrEsywza_2UKgtG0j2?usp=sharing>

AWARD CEREMONY (creditS: Finotti/Tosi):
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/p0u6p616bqa6rv3/AADv8oB8edC0_Jc2VcI8L9xHa?dl=0>

To download **video fragments** of the concert and of the final ceremony:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1GpDyAFxYXqKTkhzyVWF3WF8qEx-VcHm1?usp=sharing>

To download photos of **Guido Cantelli** and other images:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1eIIXgFqizibpkYF2pMcFPCarsa0Rfuc7>

**Press Kit:**<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1zDVY2DAY72FqQzHMNt-dUWlImqI5E-y4>

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With the participationof **MiBACT Ministry of Culture and Cultural Activities and Tourism, Piedmont Region, City of Novara, Teatro Regio Torino, Fondazione Teatro Coccia Novara, UPO Università del Piemonte Orientale, Chamber of Commerce of Novara, Fondazione Banca Popolare di Novara.**

The Cantelli Prize was made possible with the support of **CM “We Design Experience” Srl** (main sponsor); **Itof, Reale Mutua, Righetti Mobili** (sponsor); **Atl Turismo – Provincia di Novara**, **Il Castello di Novara, Sun S.p.a., Rotary Club Val Ticino of Novara, Italgrafica Novara, Albergo Italia Novara, Hotel Cavour Novara, Interflora, Sguazzotti Acconciature Novara, Il Broletto Food & Drink** (technical partners); **Giovani Dietro Le Quinte** (social partner); **WarnerClassics** (recording label partnership).

The flower designs for the finals were created by **Interflora**: «Always close to the various arts, Interflora – a worldwide leading network in the delivery of flowers and plants all over the world – gifts the finals of the Premio Cantelli with its flower designs, living by its claim: *Interflora, the art of sharing emotions*».

With the support of the **Amici del Regio** and of **Sunsnote**.

The competition is thankful for the collaboration of **Angela and Gianfranco Merciai**, **Paolo Pomati**, **Stefano Boda**, **Tiziana Favero**, **Barbara Gallo**.

**THE DATES**

* **Registration to the competition:** 1 March - 15 May
* **Results of pre-selections based on curriculum and videos:** 17 June
* **Preliminary Rounds and Semifinals:**8, 9, 10, 11, 12 September - Teatro Regio di Torino
* **Final Concert and Awards:** 13 September – Novara, Teatro Coccia

**THE AWARDS**

* **First Prize** (12,000 euro)

by **Fondazione Teatro Coccia**

* **Cristic Award** (3,000 euro)

by **Fondazione Banca Popolare di Novara**

* **Town Award** (2,000 euro)

by **Righetti Mobili**

* **Youth Award** (1,000 euro)

by **Itof**

* **Orchestra del Teatro Regio Torino Award** (1,500 euro)

by **Amici del Regio**

* **Made in Italy Award**

by Altin Tafilaj, CEO and founder of **Sunsnote**

* **Artistic Contracts**

**JURY FOR THE FIRST PRIZE**

**Preselections**

* **Matteo Beltrami**Musical Director of the Teatro Coccia di Novara
* **Jordi Bernàcer**Ochestra Conductor
* **Antonino Fogliani**Musical Director of the Festival Rossini in Wildbad
Principal Guest Conductor of the Deutsche Oper am Rhein

**Preliminary rounds, semi-finals, finals**

**President
Donato Renzetti**
Orchestra Conductor – last conductor to win the Cantelli Prize (1980) – Professor at the Accademia di Direzione d’Orchestra di Saluzzo

* **Christoph Becher**Direttore della RSO ORF Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra
* **Matteo Beltrami**Musical Director of the Teatro Coccia di Novara
* **Jordi Bernàcer**Orchestra Conductor
* **Nazzareno Carusi**Pianist
* **Gabriel Chmura**
Artistic Director of the Poznan Opera and First Guest Conductor of the Krakow Philhamonic
* **Didier de Cottignies**Artistic Director of the Monte-Carlo Philharmonic Orchestra
* **Antonino Fogliani**Musical Director of the Rossini Festival in Wildbad
Principal Guest Conductor of the Deutsche Oper am Rhein
* **Hein Mulders**
Superintendent of the Essen Opera and Philharmonic Orchestra
* **José Luis Gómez**Musical Director of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra
* **Sebastian F. Schwarz**Superintendent and Artistic Director of the Teatro Regio di Torino

**HONORARY ARTISTIC COMMITTEE**

* **Eliahu Inbal**, winner of the 1963 edition
* **Riccardo Muti**, winner of the 1967 edition
* **Ádám Fischer** and **Lothar Zagrosek**, *ex aequo* winners of the 1973 edition

**HONORARY COMMITTEE**

* **Dario Franceschini**

Minister of Culture

* **Alberto Cirio**

President of the Piedmont Region

* **Alessandro Canelli**

Mayor of the City of Novara

* **Gian Carlo Avanzi**

Dean of the Università degli Studi del Piemonte Orientale

* **Gianni Letta**

President of the Fondazione Gioachino Rossini

* **Leonardo Cantelli**

**WINNERS OF PAST EDITIONS**

1st Edition 1961 - **Hermann Michael**

2nd Edition 1963 - **Eliahu Inbal**

3rd Edition 1965 - **Walter Gillessen**

4th Edition 1967 - **Riccardo Muti**

5th Edition 1969 - **James Frazier**

6th Edition 1971 - **Michiyoshi Inoue**

7th Edition 1973 - **Ádám Fischer** and **Lothar Zagrosek** (*ex aequo*)

8th Edition 1975 - **Hubert Soudant**

9th Edition 1977 - **Wojciech Michniewski**

10th Edition 1980 - **Donato Renzetti**