



## Organ Improvisation Competition at the Leipzig University of Music and Theatre „Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy“ 6 – 8 February 2025

The Church Music Institute of the Leipzig University of Music and Theatre cordially invites organists up to the age of 32 to take part in the 2025 competition for organ improvisation. In the finale at the organ of the Nikolaikirche, a special emphasis is placed on liturgical organ playing. Organists up to the age of 32 are invited to participate.

The jury can award the following prizes: **1st prize € 3,000 / 2nd prize € 2,000 / 3rd prize € 1,000.**

A division or non-awarding of the prizes is possible. Participation is free of charge; travel and accommodation expenses are not covered.

The competition is supported by Sparkasse Leipzig.

### 1. Registration

Register with a short CV by 30 October 2024 only by e-mail to: [prorektor.kp@hmt-leipzig.de](mailto:prorektor.kp@hmt-leipzig.de)

### 2. Pre-selection

All registered participants will receive the task for the pre-selection by e-mail on Monday, 4 November 2024.

An audio file with two improvisations that differ in form and style must be submitted by midnight on Thursday, 7 November 2024.

From the entries received, the jury will select a maximum of eight participants for the in-person main round in Leipzig.

### 3. Main-Round

The main round will take place on Friday, 7 February 2025, from 10 a.m. at the Eule organ in the Great Hall of the HMT Leipzig (60/III/P, scheduling and information below <https://www.hmt-leipzig.de/de/home/fachrichtenen/kirchenmusikalisches-institut/orgeln/ki-orgeln-an-der-hmt>).

Topics and tasks will be set on site (30 minutes preparation time), and participants will receive a set-up time at the HMT organ the day before (Thursday, 6 February 2025) between 9:00 am and 9:00 pm. The jury will select 3 participants for the final.

### 4. Final

The final will take place on Saturday, 8 February 2025, at the organ of the Nikolaikirche (Ladegast/Sauer/Eule, 106 registers on 5 manuals and pedal, disposition and information below <https://www.nikolaikirche.de/kirchen/nikolaikirche/orgel>).

The three participants each take on the organ playing of a program "organ + word" at 3pm/4pm/5pm.

The main round and final are public.

### 5. Jury

Preselection: Thomas organist Johannes Lang (Leipzig), cathedral organist Ruben Sturm (Munich), Prof. Dr. Martin Schmeding (HMT Leipzig)

Main round: Prof. Thomas Lennartz (HMT Leipzig), cathedral organist Konstantin Reymaier (Vienna), cathedral organist Christoph Schönfelder (St. Gallen), Monica Melcova (San Sebastián), Claus Fischer (radio journalist)

**Friday, 7 February 2024 / 7:30 pm / Propsteikirche**

Jurors' improvisation concert

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