



Siemens Hallé International Conductors Competition **shortlist announced**

The Hallé is delighted to announce that over 200 applications for the 2023 Siemens Hallé International Conductors Competition were received, from six continents! These have now been shortlisted to just eight. Over the coming weeks these eight will be reduced to just three finalists, who will continue through the process that culminates in the public final and the announcement of the winner on Tuesday 14 March 2023 in Manchester's Bridgewater Hall.

The eight shortlisted candidates are:

Charlotte Politi	Italy
Abner Padrino	Venezuela
Bjarni Frimann Bjarnason	Iceland
Pablo Urbina	Spain
Agata Zajac	Poland
Konstantinos Terzakis	Greece
Euan Shields	USA / Japan
Chloé Meyzie	France

This is the second Siemens Hallé International Conductors Competition following the hugely successful inaugural edition, which was held at Hallé St Peter's, Ancoats, in 2020. This year's event will take place in both Hallé St Peter's and The Bridgewater Hall.

Each of the three finalists will prepare all of the repertoire listed below. On the day, they will each conduct *The Marriage of Figaro* Overture and one of the other symphonic works:

Elgar	<i>Enigma Variations</i>
Sibelius	Symphony No.3
Stravinsky	<i>Firebird</i> Suite (1945)

The first Siemens Hallé International Conductors Competition in 2020 was recognised as a great success, with an exhaustive application process involving 287 candidates across 55 countries. Several of the finalists – including Joel Sandelson, Chloé Dufresne and Rodolfo Barráez – have excelled on podiums around the world. The competition's inaugural winner and the Hallé's current Assistant Conductor was Delyana Lazarova, already a popular figure with audiences and musicians, and celebrated for her boundless energy and musical insight. Next year's competition will reward the talents of another emerging conductor with a minimum two-year engagement as Assistant Conductor of the Hallé, during which they will develop their skills under the mentorship of the Hallé's Music Director Sir Mark Elder.

The position of Hallé Assistant Conductor is a prestigious role for upcoming conductors, and has been held, over the past twenty years, by figures such as Edward Gardner, Andrew Gourlay, Ewa Strusińska, Jamie Phillips and now Delyana Lazarova herself. As well as leading the Hallé Youth Orchestra during their tenure, the winning

conductor will have the opportunity to establish themselves on the world stage through guest conducting appearances.

The Siemens Hallé International Conductors Competition builds upon a remarkable partnership between the Hallé and Siemens that has been developed over the last two decades. Creating links between engineering and music, Siemens and the Hallé have not only brought classical music to Manchester audiences, they have collaborated on delivering a variety of education and community outreach projects that engage children and support communities throughout the North of England.

David Butcher, Chief Executive of the Hallé, said: “The Hallé’s Assistant Conductorship has a track record for impacting the lives of rising stars, many of whom have gone on to great commercial and critical success. Following the huge success of the first Siemens Hallé Conductors competition in 2020, we are thrilled to announce the next iteration, with the finals open to the public at The Bridgewater Hall on 14 March 2023. A huge thank you to Siemens for their support and for extending this opportunity to global audiences, bringing the very best and brightest musical talent to Manchester.”

Stephan Frucht, Artistic Director Siemens Arts Program, said: “The Siemens Arts Program places high importance on sustainably fostering the development of up-and-coming young artists. Therefore, we are pleased to strengthen our partnership with the Hallé through the second Siemens Hallé International Conductors Competition. This competition offers a wonderful platform for upcoming conducting talent to develop their abilities and bring their musical leadership skills to the next level.”

The judging panel for the competition will comprise Sir Mark Elder, Music Director of the Hallé; Professor Dr Stephan Frucht, Artistic Director of the Siemens Arts Programme; David Butcher, Chief Executive of the Hallé; Anna Hirst, Head of Artistic Planning for the Hallé; Angela Dixon, Chief Executive Saffron Hall; Carola Reul, Managing Director Junge Deutsche Philharmonie; and Sergey Smbatyan, Principal Conductor, Armenian State Symphony Orchestra.

Tickets for the final on 14 March are now available from www.halle.co.uk or by ringing 0161 907 9000.

www.conductors-competition.com
[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#)

For press enquiries, please contact:

Elena Dante at Valerie Barber PR
elena@vbpr.co.uk / +44 (0)20 7586 8560 / www.vbpr.co.uk

We at Valerie Barber PR are committed to protecting your personal information and so we are letting you know that we are storing your email address, work telephone numbers and work postal address on our database so that we can keep you up to date with news on our clients. You can ask us to stop using your information at any time by emailing us at info@vbpr.co.uk. You may also request access to the personal data we have about you, request that any incorrect personal data we have about you be rectified, or request that we erase your personal data. If you have any questions about how we care for and use your personal information please let us know us at info@vbpr.co.uk.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Hallé former Assistant Conductors:

Edward Gardner	2001-2004	Andrew Gourlay	2010-2012
André de Ridder	2004-2006	Jamie Phillips	2012-2016
Rory Macdonald	2006-2008	Jonathon Heyward	2016-2019
Ewa Strusińska	2008-2010	Delyana Lazarova	2020-