

## **The 19th International Piano Duo Competition 2015 Composition Section Final Contest**

The International Piano Duo Association has been holding Composition and Performing competition every year alternately. This year, the composition section was held.

The final round was held at Yamaha Artist Salon in Ginza on November 29th. 15 compositions by 15 composers were selected for the final after preliminaries. As it is stipulated in the regulation of the competition that “piano duo pieces which can be played with four hands not only using one piano but also two pianos”, four hands by two people played on one piano at the final.



11 entries from Japan and 4 entries from overseas countries were judged at the final. All 15 compositions were so well written and attractive that the judging time was passed very quickly, though actually it took long hours.

The Superior Prize was awarded to the composition called “Three Epigrams” 1. Greetings to Mr. Copland 2. Lullaby 3. Doremi composed by Oliver KOLB(Germany), which is a suite with three individual pieces. Each piece has an independent characteristics with clear direction, and yet all are integrated into a lovely suite.

Encouragement awards went to the following three pieces. “COUNTRY of the FIRES ”for piano duo composed by Elena SAMARINA (Russia), which is very suitable for 4 hands piano piece with tasteful balance, and to “Tango Vita”for piano 4 hands composed by Arnold NEVOLOVITSCH(Russia/Germany), which is a dynamic and unique tango, and lastly to ”Left”: A Sonic Representation of the Shorin-zu Byobu composed by Verity LANE(UK/Japan), which is a work inspired by the national treasure“Shorin-zu Byobu”Japanese ink painting in Azuchi Momoyama era. It is a tasteful piece.

I should mention that there are many other interesting pieces worth listening repeatedly.

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