



**13<sup>th</sup> Nadia and Lili Boulanger  
International Voice-Piano Competition**

**2025**

**Rules and repertoire**

**Paris, 23-26 October, 2025**

**[concours@cnlb.fr](mailto:concours@cnlb.fr)  
[www.cnlb.fr](http://www.cnlb.fr)**

# 13<sup>th</sup> Nadia and Lili Boulanger International Voice-Piano Competition 2025

## RULES

**ARTICLE 1** – The 13<sup>th</sup> competition, open to candidates of an advanced level, will take place in Paris from 23 to 26 October, 2025 at École normale de Musique de Paris (114bis, Boulevard Malherbes - 75017 Paris). The list of required musical repertoire can be found following these rules.

**ARTICLE 2** – All candidates must be born **after 23 October, 1992**.

**ARTICLE 3** – Candidates must register as a Voice-Piano duo, and no candidate may be a member of more than one duo. The two members forming the duo cannot be modified once the application has been validated.

### **ARTICLE 4 – CANDIDATE’S PORTFOLIO**

Each duo’s portfolio must include the following documents:

**4.1.** For each individual member, a digitized copy of a valid ID or passport, digitized copies of diplomas obtained, a CV in French or English written in Word format, and a recent, high-definition photo to be published in the official competition booklet.

**4.2.** The originals of two recommendation letters, both written specifically for this competition by established musicians. These letters may either be individual (in which case, four are needed per duo) or combined (in which case, only two are needed). Or, the two options may be combined, with one joint letter for the duo plus one for each individual member (i.e., three letters in all). The letters should be e-mailed directly by their authors, to the competition’s e-mail address ([concours@cmlb.fr](mailto:concours@cmlb.fr)).

**4.3.** Two recent video recordings (no editing allowed) of a song in French and a song in another language, the total of which should not exceed 5 minutes. Videos that have not been made for this edition of the competition may be used or re-used with the condition that they were not made more than two years ago. It is possible to record works that will be included in the compulsory musical repertoire. The recordings can either be sent with the portfolio or be accessible on internet via a link indicated in the portfolio.

**4.4.** The complete list of works for all three rounds in Word format. This list should be sorted alphabetically by composer and include all timings and all names of the authors of the lyrics. The envisaged order for the proposed programmes must be included for the first round and for the semi-final.

**4.5.** The application form, duly completed in block letters and signed by both members of the duo, together with a bank transfer for the amount of **€160 per duo** (bank charges to be paid by the candidates). This registration fee is non-refundable. It is to be paid to the order of “Concours international de chant-piano Nadia et Lili Boulanger”. Bank details IBAN: FR76 3056 8199 1300 0371 4130 169 /BIC: CMCIFRPP.

Only complete portfolios will be accepted and must be submitted uniquely by internet no later than **17 July, 2025** to the e-mail address of the competition ([concours@cmlb.fr](mailto:concours@cmlb.fr)). Confirmation will be sent to both duo members via e-mail once the portfolio has been received.

### **ARTICLE 5 – CALENDAR**

**5.1.** Candidates approved by the pre-selection committee will be informed of their eligibility status no later than three weeks after the deadline date for application.

**5.2.** The jury will take into account the content, the originality and the intelligence of the programmes. In the event of any changes to the complete list of works or to the programmes submitted, as per article **4.4**, candidates must send their definitive choices no later than **8 September, 2025**.

**5.3.** For the first round, each duo must submit a programme lasting **10 to 12 minutes** that includes:

- one compulsory *mélodie* (required musical repertoire: 1.1)
- one compulsory lied (required musical repertoire: 1.2)
- works chosen by the duo, of which at least one is in French and one in another language (required musical repertoire: 2).

- 5.4.** For the semi-final, each duo must submit a programme lasting no more than **17 to 20 minutes** that includes:
- the song expressly commissioned by the competition (required musical repertoire: 7)
  - one *mélodie* by Gabriel Fauré or by Max d'Ollone or by Maurice Ravel (required musical repertoire: 3)
  - one lied by F. Schubert, R. Schumann or J. Brahms (required musical repertoire: 4)
  - one lied by W. A. Mozart, J. Haydn or L. van Beethoven (required musical repertoire: 5)
  - one to three *mélodies* in French (required musical repertoire: 6.1)
  - one to three lieder in German (required musical repertoire: 6.2)
  - one to three works in one or more languages, but in neither French nor German (required musical repertoire: 6.3).

**5.5.** For the final, each duo must submit a programme lasting no more than **25 to 28 minutes**, to be chosen by the jury from required musical repertory. The jury's choice will be made immediately after their deliberation following the semi-final and will be communicated to the candidates as soon as the results are announced. This programme must include:

- one *mélodie* by Lili Boulanger or Nadia Boulanger (required musical repertoire: 8)
- a choice of works selected by the jury amongst those not selected by the candidates for the semi-final (required musical repertoire: 3, 4, 5 and 6).
- works selected by the candidates to reach the required duration.

The programme will be performed in the order of preference of each finalist duo.

**5.6.** The jury has the right to interrupt the candidates if they exceed the stipulated time limits for each round.

**5.7.** Singers must perform works in their original language and by memory with the possible exception of the work commissioned for the semi-final round (required musical repertoire: 7). Transpositions are allowed, including for the compulsory works.

**ARTICLE 6** – Before each round, the running-order will be determined by random selection in the form of a lottery system. All rounds will be open to the public.

**ARTICLE 7** – The jury will have the sole authority to award the following prizes:

- **Duo Grand Prize: €12.000**
- **French Mélodie Prize: €6.000**
- **Lied Prize: €6.000**
- **Prize for the creation of the commissioned work: €2.000**

Prizes may remain non-attributed, or may be attributed *ex aequo*. More than one prize may be attributed to the same duo. In the event that the same duo wins both the French Mélodie Prize and the German Lied Prize, the prize awarded is called the Special Jury Prize.

The jury's decision is final.

Winners may be invited to give a recital during the 2025-2026 season.

Winners are committed by honour to mention the prizes won in their biographies for a minimum of the next five years to come.

**ARTICLE 8** – All rounds of the competition may be recorded, filmed, and/or photographed, in accordance with the French Code of Intellectual Property. These archives will remain the property of the competition.

**ARTICLE 9** – Candidates are reminded that it is illegal to perform using photocopies of copyrighted, published music.

**ARTICLE 10** – Accommodation will be the candidates' responsibility, at their own expense. Administrative procedure must be initiated early enough to enable the granting of any visas needed for candidates from abroad.

**ARTICLE 11** – All registered candidates shall respect the rules set out above and be present on the date and at the times notified. Unjustified absence may jeopardize any subsequent applications.

**ARTICLE 12** – In the event of any conflict, only the French version of the present rules will be considered legally binding and the only competent court will be the one located in Paris.

## REQUIRED MUSICAL REPERTORY

Each duo of the 13<sup>th</sup> Nadia and Lili Boulanger International Voice-Piano Competition is to present the following required musical repertoire:

- 1 • Two compulsory works for the first round:
  - 1.1. Marie Jaëll, « Larmes », *La Mer* (Jean Richepin), éditions Paul Dupont [pdf upon request to the competition email: [concours@cnlb.fr](mailto:concours@cnlb.fr)]
  - 1.2. Adolf Jensen, *Klinge, klinge, mein Pandero*, op. 21/1 (Alvaro Fernandez de Almeida), éditions Bosworth
- 2 • Works chosen by the duo, at least one in French and one in a language other than French
- 3 • Three *mélodies*: two by Gabriel Fauré chosen only among those with the opus numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 63, 76, 83, 85, 87, 92, 94, 114 and posthumous opuses, and either a *mélodie* by Max d'Ollone, or a *mélodie* by Maurice Ravel
- 4 • A choice of five lieder by F. Schubert, R. Schumann and/or J. Brahms (five by either the same composer or not)
- 5 • A choice of three lieder by W. A. Mozart, J. Haydn and/or L. van Beethoven (three by either the same composer or not)
- 6 • A choice of fifteen songs from the following three categories:
  - 6.1. Five *mélodies* in French (with at least two composed after 1900) excepting those by Gabriel Fauré, by Max d'Ollone and by Maurice Ravel
  - 6.2. Five lieder in German (with at least two composed after 1900), excepting the five by R. Schumann and/or J. Brahms chosen in category 4
  - 6.3. Five works in one or more languages, but which are neither in French nor German (with at least two composed after 1900)
- 7 • The song expressly commissioned by the competition, available for purchase in June 2025
- 8 • At least one *mélodie* by Lili Boulanger or Nadia Boulanger

### *Nota bene:*

- no work may be repeated
- should you have any questions, please contact us at [concours@cnlb.fr](mailto:concours@cnlb.fr)

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