

**Adopted by the Order  
of the Hibla Gerzmava  
International Charitable Foundation  
No. 25 of December 25, 2021**

**REGULATIONS ON THE EXPERT COUNCIL AND THE JURY OF  
THE HIBLA GERZMAVA OPERA SINGERS COMPETITION**

## 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 1.1. These Regulations govern the composition and operating procedures of the Expert Council and the Jury established by the Organising Committee of the Competition to select applicants for the Competition and assess the performances of participants.
- 1.2. The Expert Council and the Jury shall serve as the representative and public bodies of the Competition, ensuring public confidence, status, and authority of the Competition.
- 1.3. The Expert Council shall be established for the purpose of auditioning participants of the Qualifying Round of the Competition.
- 1.4. Applications for the Qualifying Round of the Competition shall be accepted **from June 1 to September 30, 2022**, on the Competition's official website: [www.competitionhibla.ru](http://www.competitionhibla.ru).
- 1.5. The Jury shall be established to audition participants (vocalists and accompanists) of the Main Round of the Competition.
- 1.6. The Main Round of the Competition shall be held in-person on the stages of the General Partner of the Competition – the Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Moscow Academic Music Theatre, **from January 11 to 22, 2023**, in Moscow.

## 2. MEMBERS OF THE EXPERT COUNCIL

- 2.1. The Expert Council may include singers, accompanists, conductors, theatre professionals associated with the work of the opera company, teachers, theatre/music critics specialising in opera.
- 2.2. The list of members of the Expert Council headed by a Chairman (no less than 10 persons) shall be approved by the Organising Committee **no later than June 1, 2022**, and shall be published on the Competition's official website (once the participants for the Main Round of the Competition have been selected).

## 3. OPERATING PROCEDURES OF THE EXPERT COUNCIL

- 3.1. Before it commences its work, the Expert Council shall receive the Competition Regulations and other documents regulating

the work of the Expert Council from the Organising Committee of the Competition.

- 3.2. The Qualifying Round of the Competition will take place in the form of remote auditions.
- 3.3. During the remote auditions, the members of the Expert Council shall examine the application forms and video-recordings of the participants sent to them by the Organising Committee in the form of files or links to the video-recordings on file-sharing websites or internet resources **in 3 days** and shall select 100 participants (vocalists and accompanists) for the second stage of the remote auditions.
- 3.4. During the second stage of remote auditions, the members of the Expert Council shall select 16 vocalists and 16 accompanists.
- 3.5. The members of the Expert Council shall assess the participants guided by their professional experience, impartially and objectively, based on the following criteria (as specified in the evaluation sheet):
  - vocal component (range, evenness through the registers, technique)
  - musicality of performance;
  - artistry;
  - repertoire selection.The accompanists are assessed based on:
  - piano skills (technique, sound);
  - musicality;
  - sense of ensemble;
  - repertoire selection.*\*The Organising Committee of the Competition acknowledges that a recording does not provide a full understanding of the timbre of the voice, its squillo, and some other qualities.*
- 3.6. The Chairman of the Expert Council shall sign the minutes on the results of the Qualifying Round and send the minutes and scans of the evaluation forms of each member of the Expert Council to the e-mail of the Organising Committee at the conclusion of the in-person and remote auditions. When signing the minutes, the Chairman of the Expert Council guarantees the accuracy of the final results.
- 3.7. The remote auditions shall be held by **October 15, 2022**.

- 3.8. The Expert Council shall meet (zoom can be used for this) at least 3 times to select 16 vocalists during the remote auditions before the final decision is made.
- 3.9. Members of the Expert Council undertake to abstain from providing reviews on the performances of the participants and commenting publicly on their decisions.
- 3.10. Members of the Expert Council shall be held responsible for the use of personal data and works of the participants for personal or professional purposes without the written consent of the Organiser of the Competition.

#### 4. MEMBERS OF THE JURY

- 4.1. Leading figures from the musical theatre world shall be invited to join the Jury of the Competition: theatrical directors, conductors, directors, opera singers, and accompanists.
- 4.2. The composition of the Jury (no less than 7 persons) shall be approved by the Organiser of the Competition and announced **no later than December 1, 2022**.
- 4.3. The President of the Jury is Hibla Gerzmava.

#### 5. OPERATING PROCEDURE OF THE JURY

- 5.1. The Jury evaluates the participants – vocalists and accompanists – in the Main Round of the Competition according to the following criteria:
  - professional vocal/piano level;
  - musicality of performance and understanding of the style of the composition;
  - artistry of performance;
  - repertoire selection;
  - sense of ensemble.
- 5.2. At the end of each Main Round, the Jury meets and reaches a decision, announcing the names of the winners. After the Second Round, the members of the Jury may also choose participants to perform at the Gala Concert among those who have not been selected for the Third Round.
- 5.3. At the end of each round of the Competition the members of the Jury shall have the right to meet with the participants not advancing to the next round for a professional review of their performances. At the end of the

Competition the members of the Jury shall meet with the participants for a post-performance review.

- 5.4. The members of the Jury may give interviews and comment on their decisions in public.
- 5.5. Each participant's piece shall be evaluated by each member of the Jury based on a 10-point system. The final score of each participant shall be made by adding up the scores of all members of the Jury for all the criteria.
- 5.6. The evaluation sheets of the members of the Jury shall not be disclosed in the public domain.
- 5.7. A protocol of the decision of the Jury shall be drawn up based on the adding up of the evaluation points.
- 5.8. At least half of the members of the Jury and its President shall be present to constitute a quorum.
- 5.9. The Jury shall be entitled to decide on:
  - selection of prize-winners in the main and additional categories, one in each category;
  - awarding special prizes and/or diplomas to the participants.
- 5.10. The Jury shall hold a meeting for each nomination as well as an additional meeting to decide on awarding special prizes and/or diplomas to individual participants of the Competition.
- 5.11. The Jury shall formally document each decision made in a timely manner in the form of an evaluation sheet.
- 5.12. The members of the Jury shall be held responsible for the use of personal data and works of the participants for personal or professional purposes without the written consent of the Organiser of the Competition.
- 5.13. The members of the Jury – the artistic directors of the theatres – may, at their discretion and in agreement with the Organising Committee, meet with the Grand Prix and First Prize winners to sign an agreement on their debut performance after the Competition results have been announced. The dates of the debuts are set when the theatre's programme is being devised. The Competition Laureates' debuts must take place no later than the 2023-2024 season.