

Belmont Prize Awarded to Mirela Ivičević

Award Ceremony: The Belmont Prize will be presented to Mirela Ivičević on Thursday, 22 May 2025 at 18:30 in the "Gartensaal" of the Prinzregententheater, Munich.

Following the Ceremony, at 20:00: 7th subscription concert of the Munich Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Bas Wiegers, featuring the world premiere of a new work by Mirela Ivičević commissioned by musica femina münchen e.V. for the MKO

— Press Release 25 February 2025

The Forberg-Schneider Foundation is awarding the Belmont Prize for Contemporary Music to the composer Mirela Ivičević. For the first time, the prize is endowed with € 25,000 (previously € 20,000). The award ceremony will take place on 22 May 2025 at 18:30 in the "Gartensaal" of the Prinzregententheater in Munich.

"Mirela Ivičević writes music full of power and wit", explains the board in justifying their decision, adding:

"With impulsive yet playful gestures, Mirela Ivičević arranges elaborately crafted instrumental and electronic sounds to reveal a palette where finely wrought everyday noises interweave. The composer from Split, Croatia, calls her globally resonant aural narratives 'Sonic Fictions'. The stark contrasts in her works point to a decidedly confrontational interplay between disparate layers of time and meaning. Ivičević's keen sensibility for harnessing the creative impetus of these tensions reveals what an engaged and resolutely politically minded artist she is."

Mirela Ivičević comments on the accolade: „The award came as a complete surprise! I am still in awe of being included among such a distinguished group of prize recipients. It is truly an honor!"

Mirela Ivičević, born in 1980 in Split, Croatia, and now based in Vienna, Austria, has an oeuvre spanning chamber music and orchestral works, electroacoustic and multimedia pieces, as well as theater and film music. Her compositions have been performed at international festivals and have been interpreted by renowned ensembles such as Klangforum Wien and the Munich Chamber Orchestra. She also maintains a close collaboration with the Black Page Orchestra, an experimental collective she co-founded in 2014.

Her early musical instruction began in childhood with the piano. Later she studied composition and music theory with Željko Brkanović, media composition and applied music with Klaus-Peter Sattler, and composition with Beat Furrer. In addition to composing, she works as a performer and as a curator.

Founded in 1997, the **Forberg-Schneider Foundation** promotes outstanding achievements in the field of contemporary music. Among other initiatives, it awards the Belmont Prize, which is typically presented biennially. The prize is one of the highest endowed accolades for artistic endeavour in Europe. Board of Trustees: Gabriele Forberg-Schneider (Chair), Anselm Cybinski, Florian Ganslmeier.

Previous Belmont Prize Winners for Contemporary Music:

2022: Sarah Aristidou, soprano (Berlin) • 2020: Florian Weber, pianist and composer (Osnabrück, New York) • 2018: Eamonn Quinn, curator and founder of LCMS (Dundalk) • 2015: Milica Djordjević, composer (Belgrade, Cologne) • 2013: Sabrina Hölzer, director (Berlin) • 2012: Alex Ross, author and music critic (New York) • 2009: Marino Formenti, pianist and conductor (Vienna) • 2007: Bruno Mantovani, composer (Paris) • 2005: Quatuor Ébène, string quartet (Paris) • 2004: Carolin Widmann, violinist (Leipzig) • 2001: Florent Boffard, pianist (Paris) • 1999: Jörg Widmann, composer and clarinetist (Munich, Berlin)

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Further information can be found at:

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