

**Sole trader H.L. Gerzmava
dated February _1_, 2024 No.**

**REGULATION ON THE EXPERT BOARD AND THE JURY
OF THE INTERNATIONAL
HIBLA GERZMAVA OPERA SINGERS AND ACCOMPANISTS COMPETITION**

1. GENERAL TERMS

1.1. This Regulation regulates the composition and proceedings of the Expert Board and the Jury established by the Competition Organizing Committee to select applicants for participation in the Competition and to rate performance of participants.

1.2. The Expert Board and the Jury are representative and public bodies of the Competition, ensuring public trust, status and authority of the Competition.

1.3. The Expert Board is established to audition participants of the Competition Qualifying Round.

1.4. Applications for the Qualifying Round shall be submitted from **March 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024** on the Competition official website www.competitionhibla.ru.

1.5. The Jury is established to audition participants (singers and accompanists) of the Main Round of the Competition.

1.6. The Main Round of the Competition will be held in-person in Moscow from **January 12 to 25, 2025** on the stages of the General Partner of the Competition (the Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Moscow Academic Music Theatre).

2. EXPERT BOARD COMPOSITION

2.1. The Expert Board may include singers, accompanists, conductors, theatre practitioners associated with opera company activities, instructors, theatre/music critics with expertise in opera.

2.2. The composition of the Expert Board headed by the Chairperson (at least 10 persons in total for singers and accompanists) shall be approved by the Organizing Committee **no later than February 15, 2024. The composition of the Expert Board** is published on the Competition official website after the participants of the Main Round of the Competition have been qualified.

3. EXPERT BOARD PROCEEDINGS

3.1. Prior to its proceedings, the Expert Board shall receive from the Organizing Committee Terms & Conditions of the Competition and other documentation regulating activities of the Expert Board.

3.2. The Qualifying Round of the Competition will be held in absentee format.

3.3. During the absentee auditions, members of the Expert Board will consider applications and video recordings of the participants sent to them by the Organizing Committee by email in the form

of files or links to video recordings from a file-sharing/Internet resource, and select at least 100 participants (singers and accompanists) for the second round of the absentee auditions.

3.4. At least 40 singers and at least 20 accompanists will be selected by members of the Expert Board during the second round of the absentee auditions.

3.5. Members of the Expert Board shall rate participants using their own professional experience, impartially and objectively, according to the following criteria:

- Vocal components (range, evenness of registers, technique);
 - Musicality of performance;
 - Artistic skills;
 - Choice of repertoire.
- Accompanists are rated on:
- Pianistic components (technique, sound);
 - Musicality of performance;
 - Feeling of ensemble;
 - Choice of repertoire.

**The Organizing Committee of the Competition is aware that the recording does not give a full representation of the voice timbre, sound projection and some other qualities.*

3.6. After completion of the absentee auditions, the Chairperson of the Expert Board shall sign the protocol of the Qualifying Round results and send it to the Organizing Committee email. By signing the protocol, the Chairperson of the Expert Board guarantees the accuracy of the final results.

3.7. The absentee auditions are open until **October 15, 2024. The results will be announced no later than October 15, 2024.**

3.8. The Expert Board shall meet (via Zoom or other online conference platforms) at least 3 times to select participants based on the auditions results before making a final decision.

3.9. Members of the Expert Board undertake not to give feedback on participants' performances and not to comment publicly on their decisions.

3.10. Members of the Expert Board are responsible for the use of personal data and art works of participants for personal or professional purposes without written consent from the Competition Organizer.

4. JURY COMPOSITION

4.1. Leading music theatre personalities are invited to join the Jury of the Competition: artistic directors of theatres, conductors, directors, opera singers and accompanists.

4.2. The composition of the Jury (at least 7 persons) shall be approved by the Competition Organizer and announced **no later than December 1, 2024**.

4.3. The Jury will be chaired by Hibla Gerzmava.

5. JURY PROCEEDINGS

5.1. The Jury shall rate participants (singers and accompanists) during the Main Round of the Competition according to the following criteria:

- Professional vocal/piano skills;
- Musicality of performance, comprehension of the style of the piece;
- Artistic skills;
- Choice of repertoire;
- Feeling of ensemble.

5.2. At the end of each Main Round, the Jury shall meet for deliberation and reach an agreed verdict, announcing names of the winners. After the Second Round, the Jury may also select participants of the Gala Concert from among participants who did not qualify for the Third Round.

5.3. At the end of each Competition round, Jury members can meet participants who did not make it to the next round for a professional review of their performances. Once the Competition is over, Jury members shall meet participants to recap results of their performances.

5.4. Jury members have the right to be interviewed and to comment publicly on their decisions.

5.5. In the First and in the Second rounds, each performance will be rated by each of the Jury members on a 5-point scale. The final score of the participant is formed by summing up all the scores of the Jury under all criteria. Performances of the Third Round will be rated by an open vote of the Jury members.

5.6. Jury members' score sheets will not be published in open sources.

5.7. After summing up the scores, a protocol of the Jury's decision will be made.

5.8. To ensure a quorum, at least half of the Jury and its Chairperson must be present when voting.

5.9. The Jury has the right to make the following decisions:

- Select prize winners in main and additional nominations;
- Award special prizes to individual participants.

5.10. The Jury shall formally and timely document each decision made in the form of a score sheet.

5.11. Jury members are responsible for the use of personal data and art works of participants for personal or professional purposes without written consent from the Competition Organizer.

5.12. Jury members (artistic directors of theatres), may, at their discretion and in agreement with the Organizing Committee, meet laureates to sign an agreement for their debut performance after the results of the Competition have been announced. Debut dates are set while preparing a theatre's repertoire. Competition laureates shall make their debuts no later than the 2025-2026 season.