



THE MALTA INTERNATIONAL SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL
12th - 14th May 2023

International Competition for marching show bands, bands with majorettes, folk music bands & fanfares

EuroArt Production srl and Leon Promotions are organising this **International Bands Competition** as part of **The Malta International Spring Music Festival 2023**, in order to provide the participating groups a golden opportunity of enhancing their musical talents and learn the various European cultural diversities.

Wind band music is one of the most popular musical traditions in Malta. In almost every Maltese town and village, one can find one or two and sometimes even three, band clubs. These clubs annual highlight is their village feast celebration – a whole week religious celebration in honor of their patron saint.

All bands can take part in this competition, regardless of the number of musicians within their band. The bands must not only be professional ones.

The competition is divided in the following categories:

- ***Category C – For marching bands (with or without majorettes), fanfares and folk music bands.***
- ***Category B- For marching bands, show bands, fanfares.***
- ***Independent category*** (not competitive)

Each group can choose to join one of the above categories.

1) Performances

The repertoire for each category, can be freely chosen by each respective participant group.

During these displays, each group will have a space available of minimum 30 meters by 20 meters.

For the Bands taking part in the above categories, the presented programme, including the warm-up piece, must not be less than 12 minutes and must not exceed the maximum duration of 18 minutes. Their maximum display appearance including exits and entrances must not exceed 25 minutes.

There will be a penalty for those groups who exceed the mentioned durations. The jury panel will be strict on this issue and will time their appearance. This time will be counted from the moment first musician appears at the display area till when last one gets off the same area.

2) The Independent Category

The Independent Category is from groups who opt to be out of competition.

Only in this Category the bands will be provided, in private form, a written assessment by one of the qualified International jury members. This assessment will be about the artistic and technical skills of the band, thus proposing them valuable tools and suggestions for further improvement in musical arts.

The main aim of this category is to serve as a first step for groups aiming to participate in actual competitions in future years.

There are no prizes in connection with this Category

The bands taking part in this Category must perform two music scores of their choice.

They can also perform a short music score as warm-up, that should not last more than 2 minutes.

All music scores are at the respective band's own expenses.

3) Applications

The application form which a group must submit, in order participate in any of the above mentioned category, must include the following documents:

- Band's CV
- Band's Director CV

When the group received the official participation confirmation, the group must then provide:

- A photo of the band (possibly in marching/parade formation) in jpg format
- 3 original copies of the music scores.

- For those participating in the Independent Category - 1 original copy of both pieces to be performed.

After the performance one copy of the music scores will be held by the Organisation.

Given that photocopies are prohibited by law where music scores are involved, please note that the each respective group is responsible for any photocopying of music scores.

4) General Information for Applicants

- Admission in the competitions is at the discretion of the Jury Panel and Festival Organisation, who may even opt to suggest a group to participate in a different category from that requested.
- The running order of performances will be determined by the Organisation and the Jury Panel on basis of organisational and technical necessities and this will be communicated in writing to the participating groups.
- In the event of insufficient number of participants in a category, (minimum 6 bands entered in the competition) the Organization reserves the right to cancel the competition.
- the Organization reserves the right to cancel the respective category. The definitive confirmation will be communicated by 14th March 2023.
- If, due to reasons beyond the control of the Festival Organisation, the promoted venue will be not available, the competition will be organised in a different venue, suitable for such an event.
- The Festival Organisation will provide the participating bands with 3 timpani (26-29-32), bass drum, xylophone, vibraphone and a drum kit set. Percussion mallets and any percussion instruments which are not mentioned here must be brought by each respective band.
- The Festival Organisation reserves the right to hold also further performances and parades during the Festival days, apart from those scheduled in connection with the competition. These performances can take place in other venues around the island. The detailed programme will be

coordinated with each group. (Transfers from the Hotel to these venues will be provided by the Festival).

- Participating groups should opt only for the Festival accommodation packages.
- The Festival Organisation is not responsible for any accident to persons or equipment during their journey to Malta and even during the Festival Days in Malta
- All performances will be held either on Saturday 13th or Sunday 14th May.
- All costs connected with travelling and accommodation must be totally borne by the respective participants

5) The Competition judging

- **The Jury Panel** is going to be formed up of three famous International Directors of Bands/marching bands.

J. De Haan - Holland (Chairman)

Natalino Como (Italy)

(see curriculum).

The third judge will be announced as soon as possible.

- If for some reason or another, one of the above judges cannot make it, the Festival Organisation will provide a substitute, coming also from the International music sector.
- The jury panel will cast their votes on these parameters:
 1. Intonation, quality and balance of sound
 2. Repertoire
 3. Ensemble and rhythmic
 4. Uniforms
 5. General view of their performance (precision and uniformity in marching, movements and visual co-ordination of the body and instruments).
- For each Category, the ranking will be based on the final scores. The band that will achieve the highest score in all categories will win **“The Malta International Spring Music Festival Trophy”**
- The final classification for each category will start with the first, then second, then third place.
- The final classification for each category will be in descending order, with the band declared first obtaining the highest score regardless of the merit. The

band that will be declared second will be that obtaining the second highest ranking order and so on.

- The way in which the Jury Panel will do their work, is regulated by internal rules of procedure. The jury's decisions are unquestionable and final.
- The bands participating in all the above mentioned categories and which will exceed the maximum time set for their performance, will be penalised by deducting 0.5 points from their final score, for every minute they exceed the agreed time of their display.
- A group which is not on site at their scheduled performing time, without any valid justification will be disqualified from competition/participation.
- All results will be announced at the end of the event.
- The results and of the written evaluations will both be provided by the Jury Panel at the end of the event, during the closing ceremony.
- As already stated, there will be no prizes for those who register in the Independent Category. The groups in this category will receive a certificate of participation.
- The groups participating in the Independent category may be asked by the Jury Panel, to interrupt their performance if they will exceed the time set for their display appearance

6) The Festival Workshops

- This workshop will be conducted by Maestro Jacob De Haan. All those who love the music of this famous Dutch composer will be able to participate in these meetings, regardless of number and ages. Participants will also have the opportunity to know the creative process that leads to his music.
- The workshops will be divided in three sections:
 - A) Theoretical
 - B) Practical (Concert lesson)
 - C) Marching Bands

In the application form, the group must communicate if intends to participate in these workshops. If the group wants to participate, it is mandatory to communicate the number of participants.

The workshop will be held in English and Italian.

A participation certificate will be given to all those attending these workshops.

- **Theoretical Section**

This is dedicated for the Band Directors and with a maximum of 4 components from each band as listeners. In this meeting, Jacob De Haan, through a detailed musical analysis of his scores, will make the participants discover the creation of his music scores, from the moment that these were commissioned to the moment when these were performed.

Participants will also discover, step by step, the various musical passages that characterise all his compositions.

- **Practical Section**

A band will be composed from musicians of different participating groups in the competition/festival. These musicians will be selected by their own respective Band Director, in collaboration with the Organisation, in order to create a balanced band, for a minimum number of 6 to a maximum of 10 musicians from each formation.

All participants, therefore, will have the opportunity to observe, practice, and listen how Jacob De Haan works with a Band and what the concertation technique is in assembling the pieces to be performed in public.

In addition to the selected musicians, it will be also possible for all the other musicians to participate at the “Concert lesson”, but only as listeners.

- **Marching Bands Section**

This workshop will feature:

- a) A general discussion on the marching bands sector.
- b) Suggestions to participant groups for improvements.

A maximum of 5 members from each Band accompanied by their Director, can participate in this workshop

7) Prizes

Category C

1st place: A total amount of **€ 1,500** to be redeemed as follow:

A **€ 1,000** voucher to be spend on musical instruments from ‘Oltremusica’ via their online portal www.oltremusicashop.com

A **€ 500** discount voucher, to be used before December 2024, to participate in the festivals that the Organisation holds annually in Malta, Malgrat de Mar (Spain)

and Taormina (Sicily- Italy)

2nd place: A total amount of **€ 1,000** to be redeemed as follow:

A **€ 500** voucher to be spend on musical instruments from 'Oltremusica' via their online portal www.oltremusicashop.com

A **€ 500** discount voucher, to be used before December 2024, to participate in the festivals that the Organisation holds annually in Malta, Malgrat de Mar (Spain) and Taormina (Sicily- Italy)

3rd place: A total amount of **€ 500** to be redeemed as follow:

A **€ 500** discount voucher, to be used before December 2024, to participate in the festivals that the Organisation holds annually in Malta, Malgrat de Mar (Spain) and Taormina (Sicily- Italy)

Category D

1st place: A total amount of **€ 1,500** to be redeemed as follow:

A **€ 1,000** voucher to be spend on musical instruments from 'Oltremusica' via their online portal www.oltremusicashop.com

A **€ 500** discount voucher, to be used before December 2024, to participate in the festivals that the Organisation holds annually in Malta, Malgrat de Mar (Spain) and Taormina (Sicily- Italy).

2nd place: A total amount of **€ 1,000** to be redeemed as follow:

A **€ 500** voucher to be spend on musical instruments from 'Oltremusica' via their online portal www.oltremusicashop.com

A **€ 500** discount voucher, to be used before December 2024, to participate in the festivals that the Organisation holds annually in Malta, Malgrat de Mar (Spain) and Taormina (Sicily- Italy).

3rd place: A total amount of **€ 500** to be redeemed as follow:

A **€ 500** discount voucher, to be used before December 2024, to participate in the festivals that the Organisation holds annually in Malta, Malgrat de Mar (Spain) and Taormina (Sicily- Italy).

The mentioned discount voucher is not transferable and it is valid only if the group participates in the chosen festival (not only for taking a holiday). Voucher cannot be used as payment for the competitions registration fee.

The Bands that will only get a final score ranging from 60.01 to 75.00 will not be eligible for any prize. However, all the participating bands will receive a certificate of participation.

Groups will be responsible for all shipping charges.

The Festival Organisation reserves the right to award additional prizes for performances of particular interest or to Band Directors who will have demonstrated special artistic skills.

During the awards ceremony, there must be a representative for each participating Band, who will collect the participation certificate and also a technical document including details of the votes for each song and criteria and even awards if any.

8) General Conditions for Participation

- The Festival Organisation reserves the right to make any changes to the programme established, as may be necessary, for reasons beyond their control, if however this should prove necessary for the success of the festival itself. The Organisation, in such cases, will make the choices with the upmost respect for all the participating groups and with the sole aim of the Festival successful outcome.
- The Organisation reserves the right to use photographic and/or audiovisual material and use it for advertising and promotional purposes. So the participating groups when confirming their participation, will automatically authorise the production of such material for the purposes specified above and are therefore not entitled to any payment for the photographic, audiovisual, radio broadcasts, and any recordings which will be used.
- The Organisation accepts no liability regarding any accidents or injuries to persons or property during the course of the Festival and even during travelling for this Festival. The groups, therefore, be held liable for any damage caused by their members to persons and/or property (including the Hotel where they will stay), during performances and permanence, while travelling to reach Malta and to return to their respective countries of origin. The groups will also be responsible for any health problems, accidents, accidents that may occur to their members during the event. The groups will also be responsible for their minors.
- If a group, could not arrive for the Festival, for reasons not attributable to the Organisation, the same group would lose the amount paid at the time of defection.
- The Festival Organisation – EuroArt production (Giuseppe Corsaro) and Leon Promotions (Noel Castillo) is released from any liability under the above as described and specified.

9) Participation Fees

For the local concert Bands, who want to take part in the competition, the participation fee is €500

The registration fee for the workshop is €100 per person.

For International bands who opt to participate and take the Festival Organisation Package, will not pay the above mentioned fees of participation and even the workshop registration fee.

Deadline for submissions of applications : 28th February 2023.

A big thank you to our partner:

Oltremusica *Music store*
www.oltremusicashop.com



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