

Francois-Xavier Dangremont from France has won the prestigious European guitar competition in Kutná Hora

On Saturday, July 6th, 2019, last guitar tones of the participants of prestigious International Guitar Biennial with Masterclasses Kutná Hora 2019 were played. **61 participants from 23 countries worldwide** sent their registrations to the 20th edition of the contest, which was held under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic. During four days the participants were presenting their guitar performing mastery to the international jury led by its chairman Štěpán Rak. The jury appointed the best ones, after hearing 30 hours of performances. The members of the jury were: Anna Hronová (Czech Republic), Michal Nagy (Poland), Thomas Offermann (Germany), Petr Saidl (Czech Republic), Pavel Steidl (Česká republika), Franciszek Wieczorek (Poland), Marek Nosal (Poland), Johannes Monno (Germany), Jens Wagner (Germany) and Miriam Rodriguez Brüllová (Slovak Republic).

The winner of the 1st category (up to the age of 20) is **Leon Jänicke** (Germany), second prize goes to **Jan Čonka** (Czech Republic) and third prize goes to **Elodie Brzustowski** (France).

The winner and the laureate of the 2nd category (without age limit) is **Francois-Xavier Dangremont** (France), second prize goes to **Chiawei Lin** (Taiwan) and third prize goes to **Niklas Johansen** (Denmark).

Prize for the best Czech participant in the 1st category goes to Jan Čonka, in the 2nd category to Milena Šolcová.

Besides competition rounds and six wonderful evening guitar recitals, held in the Gallery of Central Bohemian Region – Refectory and Stuff House (Chiawei Lin, Pavel Steidl, Johannes Monno, Lorenzo Micheli, Cyprien N'tsaï, Zoran Dukić + Helen Sanderson) there were in total

136 masterclasses lectures taught by today's leading guitar pedagogues, held in the Club House.

The International Biennial was held – this year for the second time – in newly reconstructed and exclusive Dačický House. The building's disposition is fully suitable for this prestigious event and both participants and the jury truly enjoyed it. Big thanks go to the permanent employees of the Dačický House, who were always ready to help and to Jaroslava Brandejská and Pavel Ladra from the Culture Department of the Town of Kutná Hora.

The next Biennial, 21st edition, will be held again in 2021. The organisers thank to all the sponsors, mainly to the main organiser of the contest, the Town of Kutná Hora. Owing to its huge support the biennial exists and the preparations for the Biennial 2021 will start in a few months.

Results of Kutná Hora 2019:

2nd category (without age limit)

1st prize – François-Xavier Dangremont (France)

2nd prize – Chiawei Lin (Taiwan)

3rd prize – Niklas Johansen (Denmark)

4th prize – Milena Šolcová (Czech Republic)

5th prize – Martin Cába (Czech Republic)

6th prize – Flavio Nati (Italy)

1st category (until the age of 20)

1st prize – Leon Jänicke (Germany)

2nd prize – Jan Čonka (Czech Republic)

3rd prize – Elodie Brzustowski (France)

Finalists: Przemyslaw Religa (Poland), Mateusz Soltyssek (Poland), Oktavia Bujnowicz (Poland), Jiří Pipek (Czech Republic), Jan Markowski (Poland).

Best Czech participant in the 1st category

Jan Čonka (Czech Republic)

Best Czech participant in the 2nd category

Milena Šolcová (Czech Republic)

Audience prize

Niklas Johansen (Denmark)

Prize of the jury chairman for exceptional performance

Chiawei Lin (Taiwan)

Number of participants in the 1st category

20 guitarists

Number of participants in the 2nd category

41 guitarists

Participants' countries:

Czech Republic, Poland, Ukraine, Slovak Republic, Serbia, Chile, Italy, Hungary, France, Germany, Greece, Columbia, Canada, Mexico, Russia, Israel, Denmark, Taiwan, Thailand, Peru, Armenia, Bulgaria, Korea.

Main organiser

Town of Kutná Hora

Under auspices of

Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic

Partners

Ministerstvo kultury

Dačického dům

GASK

Petr Matoušek

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Základní umělecká škola Kutná Hora