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Juan Pedro García Oliva wins YPF European Piano Competition - Grand Prix Youri Egorov 2022

Winner of the YPF European Piano Competition 2022 that took place Sunday afternoon 20 February in concert venue Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ is: Juan Pedro García Oliva. He received the first prize from jury chairman Ronan O'Hora. Second is Noah Zhou and the third prize was awarded to Carlos Marín Rayo. The Audience Award was granted to Juan Pedro García Oliva. This was the eighth edition of the piano competition organized by the Young Pianist Foundation. This year marks the first edition that was open to all participants with an EU passport, including the UK. The next edition will take place in February 2025.

The three finalists started their performance during the final on Sunday afternoon 20 February with a solo piece by Dutch composer Reza Namavar, commissioned by the YPF (world premiere). Subsequently each finalist performed a piano concerto. Carlos Marín Rayo and Noah Zhou played the Beethoven Concerto nr. 5 and Juan Pedro García Oliva Schumann's Concerto. *Phion, Orchestra of Gelderland & Overijssel* conducted by Antony Hermus accompanied the finalists.

During the jury deliberation Yang Yang Cai (the winner of the 2019 YPF competition) performed the *Sonata no.3 in B minor, op. 58* by F. Chopin. The awards ceremony took place directly following jury deliberation.

The Grand Final Results

- 1 Juan Pedro García Oliva (2001, Spain)
- 2 Noah Zhou (2001, UK)
- 3 Carlos Marín Rayo (1994, Spain)

Practical - Competition

In the Grand Final in *Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ*, the three finalists had to prove themselves to the eight member independent international jury, consisting of Jean-Claude Vanden Eynden (Belgium), Edith Fischer (Chile), Nino Gvetadze (Georgia-Netherlands), Hannes Minnaar (Netherlands), Ronan O'Hora (Great-Brittan, non-voting Chair), Hanna Shybayeva (Belarus-

Netherlands) en Malcolm Singer (Great-Brittan). Unfortunately Severin von Eckardstein had to withdraw form the jury after the semi finals; he has been replaced by Marco Riaskoff.

To play for was a **first prize of €15.000** and a prize package that includes, next to a series of international recitals and masterclasses, other cash prizes. Only in case of an exceptional performance the **Grand Prix Youri Egorov** is awarded: a recital in St. Petersburg with the Mariinski Orchestra conducted by Valery Gergiev.

More information:

www.YPF.nl/en

Note to the editor:

For questions or requests for interviews: Marjolein van Ruiten, pr@ypf.nl, +31 (0)6 200 62 844. Press photos YPF European Piano Competition 2022: photographer: Foppe Schut. Press photo winner Grand Final Juan Pedro García Oliva: photographer: Foppe Schut.