

VIII Miami International Organ Competition

Fratelli Ruffatti

Rules and Information



General Information and Eligibility

This biennial competition is sponsored by Fratelli Ruffatti, organ builders from Padua, Italy and the Church of the Epiphany, Miami, Florida, with the intention of encouraging and recognizing talented young organists from around the world.

Any organist under the age of 30 - born after February 26, 1986 - is eligible to compete in the Seventh Miami International Organ Competition (MIOC). The deadline for receiving the application form is **Monday, December 7, 2015**; the final round of the competition will take place on **Friday, February 26, 2016**.

Preliminary Round

Procedure

The information needed to enter the Eighth Miami International Organ Competition may be found on the Ruffatti website: www.ruffatti.com/MIOC.html All materials are to be transmitted electronically.

The non-refundable application fee is \$95 USD. This may be paid using a credit card or PayPal account. The following link will lead to the Paypal website: [MIOC Fee](#)



Email the completed application form to: MiamiOrganCompetition@gmail.com

Once an application is received, a confirmation email will be sent with information on how to submit mp3 files of the required repertoire. Please do not send any recordings until after receiving this confirmation.

Required Recorded Repertoire

1. A work (or movement) composed before 1750, but not by J.S. Bach. Some possible composers include: Couperin, Buxtehude, Bruhns, DeGrigny, etc. Time limit is 8 minutes.
2. Two movements from a Trio Sonata BWV 525-530 by J. S. Bach. (Either the 1st and 2nd movements OR the 2nd and 3rd movements).
3. One Chorale Prelude from the Eleven Choral Preludes Op. 122 by Johannes Brahms
4. A virtuoso work (or movement) in the French Romantic tradition. Some possible composers include: Widor, Dupré, Messiaen, Duruflé, Alain, Vierne, Hakim, etc. Time limit is 8 minutes.

The preliminary round will be judged on the basis of this recording. It is therefore in the competitor's best interest to ensure that the recorded material is of good audio quality. If desired, more than one organ may be used for the different pieces. Recordings must be continuous, without edits, in mp3 format. There should be five separate files, one for each piece (two for the Bach Trio Sonata). **Additional information on how to process and submit the recordings will be given after an application is received.**

Judging

The recorded round will be judged by three internationally known organists, from at least two different continents. The judges will each rank the contestants individually, then conferring among themselves to resolve any discrepancies. No comments will be provided.

Notification

All competitors will be notified of their status by January 11, 2016. Three organists will be invited to compete in the final round. In the event that a finalist is unable to compete on February 26, 2016, the next eligible runner-up will take their place.

Final Round

The final round of the competition will take place on the evening of **Friday, February 26, 2016** at the Church of the Epiphany in Miami, Florida, USA. It will be in the form of a concert, with interaction from a live audience (the judges will be behind a screen). The total performance time for each competitor should not exceed 25 minutes - this includes the time taken between pieces to acknowledge the applause of the audience. Memorization is not required and will not influence the decision of the judges. An experienced page-turner is available upon request, but may not assist with registration changes, etc.

Travel and Accommodations

We will offer an airfare stipend of up to \$250 for travel from the Americas, and up to \$500 from Europe and Asia. Housing, meals, and local transportation will be provided by church parishioners free of charge.

Repertoire

The repertoire of the final round should be carefully chosen to provide the competitor with as much opportunity as possible to display different styles in a limited amount of time. Single movements of larger works are fine. Repeating repertoire from the preliminary round is allowed, but not required. There is, however, one condition: **One piece in the final program must be based on plainchant.** The competitor must submit a proposed final round program as part of the application.

Prizes

1st Place- \$5,000 USD and an invitation to appear in the 2016-2017 Epiphany Concert Series

2nd Place- \$2,500 USD

3rd Place- \$1,500 USD

Audience Prize- \$500 USD

Prizes will be awarded at the judges' discretion. All decisions are final.

Organ and Practice Time

The organ for the final competition is the 61-rank Ruffatti at the Church of the Epiphany, Miami, Florida. A stop list and more information can be found in the December 2002 American Organist (cover feature), and at the Ruffatti website www.ruffatti.com. Adequate memory levels and five hours of practice time on the organ will be given to each competitor prior to the competition; additional practice time at instruments in neighboring churches can also be arranged.

Judges

Three well-recognized musicians will judge the final round of the competition. Two of them will be organists; the third will be from another musical discipline.

Additional Information

Any questions regarding the competition should be directed to competition secretary Nightingale Ngo by emailing MiamiOrganCompetition@gmail.com

**Please ensure that the completed application form is emailed no later than
December 7, 2015**