

THE J. DORFMAN MEMORIAL COMPETITION FOR COMPOSERS

Themes for ISAM 2017

Darius Milhaud at 125 - Happy Birthday!

All ISAM participating composers are invited to partake in an international competition annually. This competition is intended to increase the excitement, energy, and creativity among our hand-picked young and talented composers, while at the same time generate a harvest of new, beautiful, and highly artistic works. The competition carries the name and blessed memory of ISAM co-founder, composer, pianist, musicologist, teacher, and visionary leader, professor Joseph Dorfman (1940-2006.)

ISAM 2017 COMPOSERS COMPETITION INFORMATION

The competition is open only to ISAM participants. Participation in the competition is not mandatory. However, it is a wonderful opportunity to write a new piece, work with professional performers and receive an excellent live performance and recording. This year the instruments available are: clarinet, cello, piano, and percussion. You can choose to write for any combination out of the above instruments using any number of them from solo up to all four players. The duration of the composition should be between 6-10 minutes.

The themes for ISAM 2017 are based on Milhaud's Sonata No. 1, in celebration of his 125th Anniversary. This year we are focusing on Milhaud's poly-harmonic treatment and poly-tonal language. You may engage this concept in any way you wish, and in any manner you find artistically and musically inspiring. You may start working on this composition at any time prior to ISAM and bring with you as many sketches or a finished score as you wish.

Theme 1: Poly-tonality example

Musical score for Theme 1: Poly-tonality example. The score is in 4/4 time and consists of two staves. The music is characterized by complex poly-tonality, with multiple sharps and naturals in the key signature. The dynamics range from *mf* to *f* etc.

Theme 2: Quintal and Poly-harmony samples

Musical score for Theme 2: Quintal and Poly-harmony samples. The score is in 4/4 time and consists of two staves. It is divided into three examples: 2a, 2b, and 2c. Example 2a shows a quintal harmony with *ff* dynamics. Example 2b shows a poly-harmonic texture. Example 2c shows a complex poly-harmonic texture.