

## PRESS RELEASE

Rotterdam, 2 August 2019

### Young organists promise spellbinding performances in finale Ambitus Organ Competition

On Saturday 7 September the festive finale of the 2nd edition of the Ambitus Organ competition will be held in the *Grote or Sint-Laurenskerk* in Rotterdam. Doors open at 09.00, attendance is free. The preliminary rounds of the past year have resulted in no less than 9 finalists divided into three age categories. Judging from the high level of performance in the previous rounds, the finale promises to be spellbinding.

#### Finalists

The finalists per category are:

Category A:	Thirsa Brokking, Leanne Pul, Casper Struijk
Category B:	Auke Kieviet, Steven Knieriem, Jaap de Vos
Category C:	Francesca Ajossa, Diederik Blanckesteijn, Rik Melissant

#### Programme

Finalists will play from 9.00 to 14.10:

09.00 - 10.00:	amateur organists up to and including age 14 (category A)
10.00 - 11.00:	amateur organists from age 15 up to and including age 20 (category B)
12.15 - 14.10:	organ students (category C)
15.00 - 15.30:	results and prize giving ceremony

#### Repertoire finalists

The finalists will play music composed by J.S. Bach and Louis Vierne on the beautiful transept organ and the monumental main organ. The repertoire also specifically includes compositions from Dutch composers such as Johann Lemckert and Marius Monnickendam.

Ensemble playing is an important part of this competition organised together with Codarts school of the Arts. A brass quartet made up from students of Codarts will be play together with the finalists.

#### Repertoire category A

*On the main organ:*

- A composition of finalists' choice, composed before 1800
- Louis Vierne: a part of: "24 Pièces en style libre, opus 31"
- Possibly another work of finalists' choice (time permitting, time allowed is 15 minutes)

### Repertoire category B

#### *On the transept organ:*

- One of 2 compositions for organs from “Italienische Meister um 1600”, from which the “prima parte” is to be played.

#### *On the main organ:*

- A composition of finalists’ choice from the French Romantic period
- Johann Lemckert: one of the “12 koraalpreludes voor de Paaskring”.

### Repertoire category C

#### *On the transept organ:*

- Johann Sebastian Bach: Trio “Allein Gott in de Höh sei’ Ehr” BWV 664 or BWV 676
- Bach/Vivaldi: Concerto in a-moll BWV 593

#### *On the main organ:*

- A composition of finalists’ choice from the period 1850 – 1940
- Marius Monnickendam: Concerto per organo, due trombe e due tromboni, part 1 or 3.

### **Jury**

Ambitus is pleased that leading organists Leo van Doeselaar (chairman), Wolfgang Baumgratz, Theo Jellema and Jan Hage will judge the finale. The jury judges competitors on musical performance, technique, choice of programma, use of the organ and ensemble playing.

### **Results & prizes**

Results will be announced by 15.00 followed by the Ambitus prize giving Ceremony. There are several prizes for each category. Special prizes are made available by others.

### **About Ambitus**

The organisation of the Ambitus Organ Competition aims to create opportunities for young organists in Holland and abroad to further develop their talent. It also aims to highlight the great wealth of Dutch organs.

### **About Codarts**

This 2nd edition is organised in close cooperation with the Classical Music Department of Codarts (The Rotterdam Conservatory). Codarts supported this edition in various ways such as organising master classes and musicians for ensemble playing during the competition.

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### **More information**

\*footnote for editors. If you need more information or interviews please contact Johanna Noom | T. 06-45 400536 | E. [jnoom@ambitusfoundation.org](mailto:jnoom@ambitusfoundation.org)