

PRESS RELEASE

## The finalists for the NEUE STIMMEN 2019 have been selected

**Ten opera talents have qualified for the final round of the NEUE STIMMEN International Singing Competition in Gütersloh. The final concert to be held on October 26, 2019 will be broadcast live on [neue-stimmen.de](http://neue-stimmen.de), Takt 1 and arte Concert.**

Gütersloh, October 25, 2019. Ten young performers have qualified for the finals of the NEUE STIMMEN international singing competition and will be competing for first place in front of an exclusive audience this Saturday, October 26, at 7 pm. The finalists – six women and four men – are:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	VOICE TYPE	COUNTRY
Carpentier	Hélène	Soprano	France
El-Khashem	Anna	Soprano	Russia
Kamani	Enkeleda	Soprano	Albania
Križaj	Domen	Baritone	Slovenia
Kubheka	Bongani	Baritone	South Africa
Long	Long	Tenor	China
McCorkle	Jamez	Tenor	USA
Tanasii	Natalia	Soprano	Moldova
Yende	Nombulelo	Soprano	South Africa
Zámečníková	Slávka	Lyric Soprano	Slovakia

“These outstanding young talents, who have made it to the final, have worked hard for their dream. They’ve won our esteem not only with their excellent voices, but also with their personality, discipline and charisma. I look forward to listening to each and every one of them in the finals and wish everyone, from the bottom of my heart, nothing but success,” said Liz Mohn, President of NEUE STIMMEN and Vice-Chair of the Bertelsmann Stiftung Executive Board.

### From applying to participate to the finals

Of the 1,500 young vocalists who applied to participate in the NEUE STIMMEN singing competition this year, 42 talents from 26 nations qualified for the final round in the last spring and summer’s pre-selection phase. This Saturday, the top ten will be performing in the

Gütersloh Stadthalle in front of an elite jury led by Dominique Meyer, artistic director of the Vienna State Opera. The winners will receive cash and non-cash prizes worth a total of 60,000 euros. The final concert can be viewed live on October 26, 2019, starting at 7 p.m. at [www.neue-stimmen.de](http://www.neue-stimmen.de), [www.takt1.com/neue-stimmen](http://www.takt1.com/neue-stimmen) and at arte Concert at [www.arte.tv/de/arte-concert/](http://www.arte.tv/de/arte-concert/).

#### Additional information

The Bertelsmann Stiftung's NEUE STIMMEN International Singing Competition was initiated in 1987 by Liz Mohn, President of NEUE STIMMEN and Vice-Chair of the Bertelsmann Stiftung Executive Board. The platform is widely viewed as one of the most important opportunities worldwide for young opera talent. The competition gives young opera vocalists the opportunity to establish contacts with jury members, directors and agents. NEUE STIMMEN has already helped many young artists such as Christiane Karg, Nathalie Stutzmann, Marina Rebeka, Michael Volle, René Pape, Franco Fagioli and Elsa Dreisig launch their international careers and become internationally renowned singers.

Further information on the NEUE STIMMEN competition and previous press releases can be found at: [www.neue-stimmen.de](http://www.neue-stimmen.de).

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The Bertelsmann Stiftung is committed to ensuring that everyone can participate in society – politically, economically and culturally. The issues we address include education, democracy, Europe, health care, living values and the economy. We focus on people – because it's people who have the capacity to move the world, change it and make it a better place for all of us. That's why we share knowledge, promote skills development and develop solutions. The Bertelsmann Stiftung was founded in 1977 by Reinhard Mohn as a non-profit institution.

**Further information:** [www.bertelsmann-stiftung.de](http://www.bertelsmann-stiftung.de)