

PRESS RELEASE

Magdalena Lucjan and Alejandro Baliñas Vieites win NEUEN STIMMEN 2024

Magdalena Lucjan from Poland and Alejandro Baliñas Vieites from Spain are the winners of the 20th edition of the NEUE STIMMEN International Singing Competition. In the final in Gütersloh, they convinced the jury composed of world-renowned opera experts. There were also awards for the second and third prize winners. Three exclusive special prizes were also awarded.

Gütersloh, October 12, 2024. Magdalena Lucjan from Poland and Alejandro Baliñas Vieites from Spain have won the NEUE STIMMEN 2024 International Singing Competition. The two talents prevailed in a high-class final concert on Friday evening, giving their ambitions for a successful career in the opera world a huge boost. In addition, both can look forward to a prize money of 15,000 euros each.

At the grand finale in the Stadthalle Gütersloh, four female and four male singers demonstrated their vocal quality, charisma and stage presence in front of the jury of renowned opera experts, the professional audience and other guests and media representatives. The winners of the first three awards received cash prizes with a total value of 65,000 euros. The third prize in the women's category was awarded to two singers. Alejandro Baliñas Vieites also won the audience prize worth 500 euros. The Duisburg Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Jonathan Darlington accompanied the finalists. The jury nominated Magdalena Lucjan from the semi final to replace Martina Russomanno, who was unable to perform due to illness. The complete final concert can be watched on [OperaVision](#). All individual arias from the final will soon be available to watch and listen to again on the [Liz Mohn Foundation YouTube channel](#).

These are the winners of NEUEN STIMMEN 2024:

Women:

- 1st Prize, 15,000 euros: Magdalena Lucjan (Poland) – Soprano
- 2nd Prize, 10,000 euros: Anita Monserrat (United Kingdom) – Mezzo-Soprano
- 3rd Prize, 5,000 euros: Teona Todua (Ukraine) – Soprano
- 3rd Prize, 5,000 euros: Seray Pinar (Türkiye) – Mezzo-Soprano

Men:

- 1st Prize, 15,000 euros: Alejandro Baliñas Vieites (Spain) – Bass
- 2nd Prize, 10,000 euros: Trevor Haumschilt-Rocha (United States) – Baritone
- 3rd Prize, 5,000 euros: Finn Sagal (United States) – Baritone

In addition, the jury chairman Dominique Meyer and his jury colleague Evamaria Wieser privately donated 2,000 euros as a prize for Ian Rucker, Baritone from the United States.

The winner of this final was Alejandro Baliñas Vieites, who won a total of three prizes. The surprise of the evening was Magdalena Lucjan, who only found out shortly beforehand that she would move up to the final. She replaced the indisposed Soprano Martina Russomanno, who had entered the final just ahead of her on points in the semi final.

Congratulations from founder Liz Mohn

Liz Mohn, founder of the competition and Chairwoman of the Liz Mohn Foundation, presented the prizes together with jury chairman Dominique Meyer, Artistic Director of La Scala in Milan, and expressed her congratulations to all the winners: “My heartfelt congratulations to all the winners. It is always a special experience to see how hard these young people work on themselves and then come a step closer to their dream of a national or international opera career with their win.”

This year’s special prizes go to China, Spain and The United Kingdom

The „Brian Dickie Young Talent Award” is awarded to the Chinese singer Lin Fan. The prize is endowed with a grant of 5,000 euros. In addition, Alejandro Baliñas Vieites from Spain and Anita Monserrat from The United Kingdom were honored with the „Patagonia Voice Award“.

Over 1,000 young singers from 73 countries entered the NEUE STIMMEN 2024 International Singing Competition. A total of 40 talented singers from 19 countries took part in the final round in Gütersloh. They all had the opportunity to present themselves to international opera experts, directors and agents. All participants in the final round can continue to benefit from the international and established network of NEUE STIMMEN beyond the final in Gütersloh on their further career path.

Additional information

The NEUE STIMMEN International Singing Competition was initiated by Liz Mohn in 1987. With NEUE STIMMEN, the Liz Mohn Foundation searches for and promotes the best young opera singers worldwide. All project components - competition, masterclass, concerts, seminars and coachings - operate under the term NEUE STIMMEN “Creating Careers”. The aim of existing and new support measures is not only to discover talent, but also to provide them with long-term support and advice. In this way, the Liz Mohn Foundation opens up development opportunities for young singing talents in a globalized and rapidly changing opera world. NEUE STIMMEN has already supported many renowned singers at a young age on their way to an international career, including Christiane Karg, Nathalie Stutzmann, Marina Rebeka, Michael Volle, René Pape, Franco Fagioli, Nadine Sierra, Nicole Car, Pene Pati and Elsa Dreisig.

Further information and visual material

This press release, selected official photos from the final and all previous press releases on this year’s competition, including background information and visual material, can be found on liz-mohn-stiftung.de/unsere-news. Please filter by „NEUE STIMMEN Wettbewerb“. If you have any further requests or questions, please contact: lindemann@liz-mohn-stiftung.de (+49 5241 2133-533) oder kristine.erdmeier@bertelsmann-stiftung.de (+49 5241 81-81184).

Photo captions:

- “Liz Mohn, founder of the competition and Chairwoman of the Board of the Liz Mohn Foundation, and Dominique Meyer, Chairman of the NEUE STIMMEN jury, with the first prize winners of the NEUE STIMMEN competition 2024”
- “Liz Mohn, founder of the competition and Chairwoman of the Board of the Liz Mohn Foundation, and Dominique Meyer, Chairman of the NEUE STIMMEN jury, with all the winners of the NEUE STIMMEN competition 2024”

Photos: Besim Mazhiqi

For all information regarding the competition, including the week schedule of the final round, jury members, artistic team, information on the prizes or pre-selection cities please visit neue-stimmen.de/wettbewerb.

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The Liz Mohn Foundation is an independent foundation governed by private law within the meaning of Section 1 of the Foundation Act for the State of North Rhine-Westphalia with its registered office in Gütersloh.

The respective supervisory authority is the district government of Detmold.

Board of Directors: Liz Mohn (Chairwoman), Matthias Meis

Executive directors: Dr. Jörg Habich, Nadine Lindemann

About the Liz Mohn Stiftung:

The non-profit Liz Mohn Foundation continues the activities of the Liz Mohn Center gGmbH and the Liz Mohn Cultural and Music Foundation as an independent institution. The Liz Mohn Foundation has four areas of activity: International Relations, Creating Leadership Cultures, Power of Culture and Global Talents. A particular concern of Liz Mohn and the foundation is to build bridges of communication across languages and borders and in this way bringing people from different nations and cultures, with different professions and positions and from different generations into dialog. **More information:** www.liz-mohn-stiftung.de