



NOMINATION AND EVALUATION

OPUS KLASSIK 2021

Basis for Nomination

The basis for nomination in the individual categories of OPUS KLASSIK are sound carrier publications by one or more artists from the classical genre. In addition, prizes are awarded that are not linked to the release of sound carriers, but rather to projects, compositions, live formats or exceptional achievements or merits. Regardless of their nationality, all classical music artists who are active in the musical life and on the recording market at the time of submission are qualified for the award. In case of doubt, the classification in the Phononet database decides whether a sound carrier is to be assigned to the classical genre. With a submission you recognize the award categories, the submission and evaluation bases and the nomination procedure. The verdict is unchallengeable and the jury's decision is final.

Eligibility for Nomination

All labels and record manufacturers, whose sound carriers are constantly sold on the German market and who have the corresponding distribution rights to the sound carrier recordings of the artists are entitled to submit. Each company can nominate any number of audio or video carriers. In addition, each nomination can be proposed for any number of categories. Concert promoters, publishers, labels and artists can nominate in all categories that are not pure sound carrier prizes (categories 5, 6, 18, 23, 25).

Nomination and Evaluation Periods

The **nomination period** lasts from **31/01/2021 to 31/03/2021**. The postmark applies to physical submissions. Nominations that are incomplete after March 31, 2021 or within the nomination period cannot be considered. Grace periods are not approved.

The **evaluation period** for the OPUS KLASSIK 2021 is between **01/03/2020 and 31/03/2021**. All new classical publications that were published between 01/03/2020 and 31/03/2021 are eligible for the nomination process for audio and video carriers. The sound carriers must contain recordings published for the first time in the evaluation period, which must account for at least 50% of the total playing time of the publication. Products or projects submitted in the previous year (e.g. innovative concert) may not be nominated again. For all other prizes, the relevant period is stipulated in the announcement of the respective categories. If reviews for current publications (publication date between 01/01/2021 and 31/03/2021) haven't been released until the nomination deadline, they can be submitted to: info@opusklassik.de until 30/04/2021.

Form of submission

All nominations for the OPUS KLASSIK must be made via the online submission system, which can be reached under the following link: <http://nominierung-opusklassik.essenz.de>

The online nomination process must be completed by **31/03/2021** and in case of doubt, a confirmation email must be provided. In principle, all nominated recordings are submitted digitally (exceptions for categories 19 and 22 see below). When nominating, the corresponding link must be



entered under which the album can be accessed from a streaming provider such as Apple Music. If there is no publication on a streaming service, please enter a download link in the corresponding field in the nomination tool. In this case, the office of OPUS KLASSIK will ensure that the recording is available to the jury in the quality of the submitted download file. In categories 1 to 5 and 16, audio-visual media (DVD / Blu-ray) releases can be submitted instead when the nominated artist plays a key and clearly prominent role in the recording (no documentaries). In this case, 9 copies of each nominated audio and video carrier will be sent to the Association for the Promotion of Classical Music. Each submission consists of the completed online submission and **two outstanding reviews**, unless other requirements are defined in the respective category.

An above-average review of the submitted publication in a digital medium (e.g. digital editions of magazines, daily newspapers or qualified web forums), a print medium (both daily press and weekly press as well as magazines) is considered an outstanding review. Reviews on the radio or in a TV report must be accompanied by a link, a recording or a copy of a broadcast protocol. The publication must be rated in the review; interviews or concert reviews in which the publication is merely mentioned is not sufficient. Reviews in social media or on Youtube / Vimeo / Amazon or similar platforms or in in-house publications are not accepted. Reviews are valid in the languages: German and English - if the review was published in another language, the original review must be submitted with a translation into German or English.

In category 19 (audiovisual music production), 9 copies of each nominated audio and video carrier must be sent to the Verein zur Förderung der Klassischen Musik e.V.. In category 22 (innovative audio productions) it is necessary to send 9 copies of each nominated sound carrier to the Verein zur Förderung der Klassischen Musik e.V..

The Verein zur Förderung der Klassischen Musik reserves the right to request physical products for all other categories in which a digital submission is generally sufficient, if members of the jury so wish. The plastic foil must be removed and each sound / audio / visual carrier must be clearly indicating the corresponding category(/ies) and, if applicable, the area in which the product is submitted. Sound carriers that are not marked or that are marked on the plastic foil will not be considered.

Fees

A one-off fee of EUR 50.00 (including VAT) is charged for each nomination (not applicable for categories 6, 23 and 24). If a sound carrier is proposed for several categories, there are no additional costs. The fee must be received in the account of the Verein zur Förderung der Klassischen Musik at the latest 30 days after receipt of the invoice. Nominations for which the fees have not been paid on time cannot be considered.

Verein zur Förderung der Klassischen Musik e.V.

Stralauer Allee 1
10245 Berlin



CATEGORIES

OPUS KLASSIK 2021

CATEGORY 1 | FEMALE SINGER OF THE YEAR

The outstanding singer of the year is honored for one of the nominated publications.

CATEGORY 2 | MALE SINGER OF THE YEAR

The outstanding male singer is honored for one of the nominated publications.

CATEGORY 3 | INSTRUMENTALIST

Up to three outstanding instrumentalists will be honored for one of the nominated publications. One prize can be awarded per instrument category.

CATEGORY 4 | CONDUCTOR OF THE YEAR

The outstanding conductor is honored for one of the nominated publications.

CATEGORY 5 | COMPOSER OF THE YEAR

The award goes to the composer whose work has received particular attention during the nomination period and has contributed to the enrichment of the local classical music scene.

A posthumous award is not possible. Nominations can be made by publishers and labels. The qualification must be justified in writing (no longer than 2 pages). The nomination and/or the performance of the work must be documented with a comprehensible recording: available (permanent) streaming link or audio link or on video or audio media. At least one review must be submitted.

CATEGORY 6 | LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS OF AN ARTIST

Recognition of the life's work of an artist. The award honors the personality whose artistic oeuvre is particularly important for the world of classical music. A posthumous award is not possible. The proposal must be justified in writing (max 3.300 letters incl. spaces) when it is submitted. The proposal can be made by labels, artists, artist managers, music publishers or concert organizers. There are no nomination fees to pay and no records or reviews to be submitted.

CATEGORY 7 | YOUNG ARTIST

Up to four outstanding young artistic personalities in the fields of conducting, singing and instruments are honoured. The submission can be made by labels, music publishers or concert organizers. Publications and performances must be submitted with a recording in professional image or sound quality: this can be a permanently available streaming or audio link or an image or sound carrier (DVD, bluray, CD, vinyl etc.). With the underlying sound carrier release, the artist must for the first time have achieved special attention in the German music scene and the sound carrier market.



CATEGORY 8 | ENSEMBLE / ORCHESTRA

In this category an outstanding ensemble or orchestra will be honoured for one of the nominated publications.

CATEGORY 9 | SOLISTIC RECORDING SINGING

Male and female singers are honoured for an outstanding performance in the fields of opera and oratorios as well as concert and song. For each field one prize can be awarded.

CATEGORY 10 | SOLISTIC RECORDING INSTRUMENT

Up to four artists will be honoured for a publication of a solo recording nominated in this area. One prize can be awarded per instrument.

CATEGORY 11 | CONCERT RECORDING

The soloist, the conductor and the orchestra are honoured together for the outstanding interpretation of a concert. Up to four prizes can be awarded for different instruments.

CATEGORY 12 | CHAMBER MUSIC RECORDING

The award goes to outstanding recordings in the field of chamber music. Up to six prizes can be awarded for wind instruments, strings and mixed ensembles.

CATEGORY 13 | CLASSIC WITHOUT LIMITS

Music productions can be nominated that build a bridge to or from classical music.

These bridges can go out from the music as well as from the artist. Classical compositions that are interpreted in a different musical genre, popular compositions that are provided with classical stylistic devices, or contemporary classical publications from the field of new classical or neo-classical can be awarded. On the other hand, productions by classical artists who have recorded a different genre of music or popular artists who have submitted classical productions can be awarded. Operetta and musical recordings as well as film soundtracks can also be submitted. Up to three prizes can be awarded.

CATEGORY 14 | SYMPHONIC RECORDING

The conductor and the orchestra are honoured together for the outstanding recording and interpretation of a symphonic work: a) music up to and including the 18th century, b) music of the 19th century and c) music of the 20th and 21st century can be awarded.

CATEGORY 15 | CHORAL RECORDING OF THE YEAR

The award is given for the outstanding recording of a choral work, a cappella music or choral / ensemble music with instrumental accompaniment. The prize goes to both, the choir / ensemble and the leader / conductor of the recording.



CATEGORY 16 | OPERA RECORDING

The soloist, the conductor and the orchestra are all together honoured for the outstanding opera production of the year: a) up to and including the 17th / 18th century, b) the 19th century and c) opera of the 20th and 21st century. For each period one prize can be awarded. Both audio productions and audiovisual productions can be nominated.

CATEGORY 17 | WORLD PREMIERE OF THE YEAR

The award is given to the world's first recording of a composition (regardless of the time of its creation), the work must use classical stylistic devices and must be made available on sound carriers for the first time. The parts of the recording that have been recorded for the first time and have been marked so must amount to more than 66% of the total playing time of the sound carrier. The performers and / or conductor and / or the orchestra are awarded together.

CATEGORY 18 | INNOVATIVE CONCERT OF THE YEAR

The concert organizer or classical artist is honoured for an innovative concert experience. Special programs can be awarded, but also a concert experience associated with a special staging. The nomination must be justified in writing (max. 3.300 letters incl. spaces), at least one excellent concert review must be submitted. Concert organizers, artists or labels and publishers may nominate.

CATEGORY 19 | AUDIOVISUAL MUSIC PRODUCTION

The award is given to an outstanding long-form video in the field of classical music. The nomination can be made for a music production as well as a documentation. The production must have been published on audiovisual media or in the home entertainment area (on demand) during the nomination period.

CATEGORY 20 | VIDEO CLIP OF THE YEAR

The award goes to a short-form video production that was published during the nomination period and that is characterized by its special quality, extraordinary aesthetics and / or emotional power and media reach. There is no need to submit a review for this category.

CATEGORY 21 | EDITORIAL PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR

A label / company is awarded for its outstanding editorial work in the field of sound carriers, which represents a significant enrichment of the repertoire. For the nomination, a precise description and justification of the editorial work must be submitted.

CATEGORY 22 | INNOVATIVE AUDIO PRODUCTION OF THE YEAR

The award is given for the outstanding production of a recording in the classic field that enables multi-channel output in 3D audio. In this category, nine copies of each nominated sound carrier must be sent to the office of the Verein zur Förderung der Klassischen Musik e.V.. The award goes to both the sound engineer and the label.



CATEGORY 23 | PROMOTING CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENT

The award is given to a project which during the evaluation period has made an extraordinary contribution to promoting the activities of children and adolescent in the field of classical music or which has brought children / young people closer to classical music in a special way. The prize is awarded to natural or legal persons or their representatives. Anyone who provides information about such a project is entitled to be nominated. The nomination must be justified in writing (max. 3.300 letters incl. spaces) and must be documented by reviews / press articles and / or video links and / or audio links. There are no nomination fees to be paid.

CATEGORY 24 | BEST SELLER OF THE YEAR

The best-selling album must be released during the evaluation period. In this category the artists of the album are awarded. The bestseller of the year is determined by the GfK Entertainment (including all retail partners shown there), deciding are the sales of a full-price sound carrier in the evaluation period . Crossover productions and recordings with Christmas music (e.g. Christmas carols) that are published for seasonal business and that would hardly be heard or purchased outside of the Christmas period are not permitted. The exclusion does not include works with an overarching repertoire value such as Bach's Christmas Oratorio, Handel's Messiah, Christmas cantatas, so-called Christmas Concerti grossi etc.

CATEGORY 25 | SPECIAL PRICE FOR AUDIENCE AND PARTICIPATION PROJECTS

Up to two projects that have enabled broad social participation in classical music during the evaluation period can be awarded. The projects must have activated new audiences, created interaction between performers and listeners or conveyed classical music in a new creative way. The prize is awarded to natural or legal persons or their representatives. Anyone who provides information about such a project is entitled to be nominated. The qualification must be justified in writing with the nomination (max. 3,300 characters including spaces) and must be supported by reviews / press articles and / or video and / or audio links. There are no nomination fees to be paid.