

Invitation

The 9th Worldwide Madame Butterfly Competition will take place in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, between the 16th and the 23rd of September 2007.

The Republic of Moldova is a small country in Eastern Europe, located between Romania to the west and Ukraine to the east. The country's population is about 4.26 million.

Chisinau is the capital of the Republic of Moldova, its administrative, cultural and industrial centre. The most famous events in Chisinau are the Specialized Exhibition ExpoVin Moldova and annual Wine Festival which attract many guests from all over the world.

The republic is also famous for its cultural life. There are 11 professional theaters, National Philharmonic Society, Organ Hall, Academy of Music, Theatre and Fine Arts, 1397 museums and libraries. Each year in Moldova many festivals are held, including International Festival of Opera and Ballet Stars „Maria Biesu Invites”, Spring Festival „Martisor”, Days of New Music Festival.

Organizers of the competition:

Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Moldova,
Musicians Union of the Republic of Moldova
Madama Butterfly International, Japan.

All professional singers or students (sopranos, mezzo-sopranos, tenors, baritones) born between the 16th of September 1970 and 16th of September 1990 are invited to enter the competition.

For more information please contact:

The 9th Worldwide Madame Butterfly Competition Organizing Committee

The National Opera and Ballet Theatre
152, Stefan cel Mare Bld.,
Chisinau, MD 2012, Republic of Moldova
tel: +373 22 245167
fax: +373 22 245158
gsm: +37369186944
e-mail: info@nationalopera.md
<http://www.madamebutterflycompetition.md>

Regulation

The 9th Worldwide Madame Butterfly Competition will take place in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, between the 16th and the 23rd of September 2007.

1. Information about the competition

The Worldwide Madame Butterfly Competition was founded in 1967 as the state competition in Japan. The competition has been held 8 times in Japan, Italy, USA, Spain. The prizewinners are Maria Biesu, Moldova, Vilma Vernocchi, Renato Grimaldi, Alessandra Mantovani, Italy, Eugenia Moldoveanu, Romania, Gizella Tipola, Ukraine, Carolyn James, USA, Ekaterina Kudryavtchenko, Russia, Sen Hyoun Ko, Korea, Bojidar Nicolov, Bulgaria, Teresa Borowczyk, Poland and others.

The mission of the Worldwide Madame Butterfly Competition is to discover talented singers who will become pillars of the next generation of the opera community.

Organizers of the competition: Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Musicians Union, Republic of Moldova, and Madama Butterfly International, Japan.

The Republic of Moldova is the birthplace of Maria Biesu – winner of the First Worldwide Madame Butterfly Competition in Tokyo, Japan.

2. Participation Rules

2.1. The Competition is open to all professional singers – students and graduates of Music Academy - born between the 16th of September 1970 and 16th of September, 1990.

2.2. The Competition will be divided into three rounds:

- Preliminary round September 17 – 18, 2007
- Semifinals September 19, 2007
- Finals September 21, 2007

All the auditions will be open to the public.

The performance order will be determined by draw.

2.3. The application deadline is May the 30th, 2007 at the following address:

The 9th Worldwide Madame Butterfly Competition Organizing Committee

**The National Opera and Ballet Theatre
152, Stefan cel Mare Bld.,
Chisinau, MD 2012, Republic of Moldova**

2.4. Applications that are not completed or that do not reach the Organizing Committee by the specified date will not be considered (as postmarked).

2.5. The registration fee is 200 dollars USA.

The participants' fee is to be transferred to the account:

Uniunea Muzicienilor
2012 Chisinau, Republic of Moldova
Account in dollars Nr. 2224722000202
BC Banca Sociala S.A. fil. Interraionala Chisinau
BSOCMD 2X722

The registration fee is in no way refundable.

2.6. The following documents must be attached to the application:

- Copy of passport or identity card
- Copy of diploma certifying music education or studies certificate (for students)
- A short summary of the competitor's career (typewritten page)
- Three recent photographs (3 x 4 cm)
- The program for the competition (typewritten page)
- Copy of payment of receipt

2.7. The participants are to arrive on September 15th 2007.

3. Competition Schedule

3.1. The Preliminary round (17th-18th September) and Semifinals (19th September) will be held at the Organ Hall and the Finals (21st September) at the National Opera and Ballet Theatre. The finalists will be accompanied by the National Opera and Ballet Orchestra.

3.2. All travel and accommodation expenses during the Preliminary Round must be covered by the participants themselves.

3.3. Hotel accommodation and meal for the Semifinals and Finals participants and their accompanists will be paid for by the Organizing Committee.

3.4. In case of need the Organizing Committee will place an accompanist at the disposal of each competitor. Each competitor is entitled to two rehearsals before the Preliminary round and the Semifinals.

3.5. All the laureates of the Competition are obliged to participate in the final concert with the orchestra at the National Opera and Ballet Theatre on

September 22nd and in Gala-concert at the National Palace on September 23rd without claiming any further compensation.

3.6. For further information please contact:

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4. Programme

4.1. Preliminary Round (with piano)

- 1) one aria obligatory
- 2) one aria from selective list

Semifinals (with piano)

- 1) one aria obligatory
- 2) one aria from selective list

Finals (with orchestra)

- 1) one duet obligatory
- 2) one aria obligatory

Preliminary Round

Soprano

Butterfly “*Un bel di, vedremo*” Act II (“Madama Butterfly” by G.Puccini)

Mezzo-soprano

Leonora “*Oh, mio Fernando!*” Act III (“La Favorita” by G.Donizetti)

Tenor

Pinkerton “*Addio, fiorito asil*” Act II (“Madama Butterfly” by G.Puccini)

Baritone

Il Conte di Luna “*Il balen del suo sorriso*” Act II (“Il Trovatore” by G.Verdi)

Semifinals

Soprano

Butterfly “*Che tua madre dovrà prenderti in braccio*” Act II (“Madama Butterfly” by G.Puccini)

Mezzo-soprano

Princess de Bouillon “*Acerba volutta, dolce tortura*” Act II “Adriana Lecouvreur” by F.Cilea)

Tenor

Rodolfo “*Che gelida manina*” Act I (“La Bohème” by G.Puccini)

Baritone

Germont “*Di Provenza il mar, il suol chi dal corti cancello*” Act II (“La Traviata” by G.Verdi)

Selective list for Preliminary Round and Semifinals

Soprano

Tosca “*Vissi d’arte, vissi d’amore*” Act II (“Tosca” by G.Puccini)

Manon “*Sola, perduta, abbandonata*” Act IV (“Manon Lescaut” by G.Puccini)

Liù “*Tu, che di gel sei cinta*” Act III (“Turandot” by G.Puccini)

Mezzo-soprano

Cieca “*Voce di donna o d’angelo*” Act I (“La Gioconda” by A.Ponchielli)

Rosina “*Una voce poco fa*” Act I, Part II (“Il Barbiere di Siviglia” by G.Rossini)

Tenor

Calaf “*Nessun dorma*” Act III (“Turandot” by G.Puccini)

Des Grieux “*Donna non vidi mai*” Act I (“Manon Lescaut” by G.Puccini)

Baritone

Renato “*Eri tu, che macchiavi*” Act III (“Un ballo in maschera” by G.Verdi)

Figaro “*Largo al factotum della città*” Act I, Part I (“Il Barbiere di Siviglia” by G.Rossini)

Finals

Soprano

Butterfly/Pinkerton “*Viene la sera*” Act I (“Madama Butterfly” by G.Puccini)

Butterfly “*Tu? tu?... piccolo Iddio*” Act III (“Madama Butterfly” by G.Puccini)

Mezzo-soprano

Suzuki/Butterfly “*Scuoti quella fronda di ciliegio*” Act II (“Madama Butterfly” by G.Puccini)

Eboli “*O don fatale, o don crudel*” Act III, Scene 6 (“Don Carlo” by G.Verdi)

Tenor

Pinkerton/Butterfly “*Viene la sera*” Act I (“Madama Butterfly” by G.Puccini)

Cavaradossi “*Recondita armonia*” Act I (“Tosca” by G.Puccini)

Baritone

Sharpless/Butterfly “*Ora a noi, Sedete qui*” Act II, Part I (“Madama Butterfly” by G.Puccini)

Rodrigo “*Per me... O Carlo ascolta*” Act III, Part 2 (“Don Carlo” by G.Verdi)

4.2. The programme must be sung on their original language.

4.3. Participants do not have the right to change the programme indicated in the application form.

5. Prizes

5.1. Grand Prix	15.000 \$
First Prize	10.000 \$
Second Prize	7.000 \$
Third Prize	5.000 \$

In addition there may be four Honorable Mentions to the value of 2.500 each.

5.2. First two winners will participate at the Concert dedicated to the 150th anniversary of Giacomo Puccini in Tokyo on January 23rd 2008. All the expenses will be covered by Japanese part.

5.3. Jury may:

 divide prizes among participants

 award additional Special Prizes

 award diplomas to the participants of the Semifinals

 award special diplomas to the best accompanists of the Competition

5.4. The Organizing Committee has unlimited rights to make audio or visual recordings at the Competition without any payment to the competitors or prize-winners.