

Bonn, June 8, 2009

Launch of competition year 2009: Timotheus Höttges presents selection commission for the International Deutsche Telekom Beethoven Competition Bonn

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Launch of 2009 competition: Between now and June 21, 2009, the selection commission of the piano competition for upcoming young pianists will select the competitors for this year's International Deutsche Telekom Beethoven Competition Bonn at Deutsche Telekom Headquarters. During the next few weeks, the commission, consisting of Professor Pavel Gililov, the competition's Artistic Director and Chairman of the Jury, Professor Klaus Kaufmann, Mozarteum Salzburg, Austria, and Professor Sergej Maltsev, St. Petersburg Academy of Music, will choose 32 competitors from all the applicants. Selection will be made using videos sent in by applicants. The majority of entries have so far come from Asia (Japan, China, South Korea, Taiwan, India) and Europe (France, Italy, the UK, Switzerland, Austria, Poland, Croatia, Russia), followed by the United States and Canada. The classical music competition will take place from December 2-12, 2009 in Bonn.

The members of the selection commission were welcomed by Timotheus Höttges, Chief Financial Officer of Deutsche Telekom AG, who succeeds Dr. Karl-Gerhard Eick as Chairman of the Organization Committee of the Deutsche Telekom Beethoven Competition Bonn, a position Dr. Eick had held for several years. "In the International Deutsche Telekom Beethoven Competition Bonn, young piano virtuosos have the chance to display their skills before a world-renowned jury and a knowledgeable audience, and to set new standards for the modern interpretation of Beethoven's works. I look forward to supporting the competition in future," said Höttges. "With the International Beethoven Competition Bonn, Deutsche Telekom is making an active commitment to promoting talented young pianists from all over the world. As a telecommunications company, we feel a particular obligation here. Just as music brings people together across frontiers, telecommunications connect people all round the world."

Deutsche Telekom has been running the International Beethoven Competition Bonn, to be staged for the third time this year, on a biannual basis since 2005. The final concert will take place in Bonn's *Beethovenhalle* on December 12, 2009. Competitors are especially required to demonstrate technical perfection, profound artistic maturity, and an individual approach to Beethoven's works and a repertoire covering the Baroque, Romantic, Classical Modern periods as well as contemporary music. The Jury for 2009 comprises Daejin Kim (South

Korea), Marian Lapsansky (Slovakia), Alfredo Perl (Chile), Jean Bernard Pommier (France), Jerome Rose (U.S.), Andreas Staier (Germany), Einar Steen-Nøkleberg (Norway) and Elisso Virsaladze (Russia). There are high-value cash and material prizes to be won. In addition, the winners will have the opportunity to perform at numerous concerts in Germany and abroad and to record a CD (1st prize winner).

Date of final concert (Save the date): December 12, 2009, Beethovenhalle Bonn.

For more information, please visit: [www.beethoven-competition-bonn.de](http://www.beethoven-competition-bonn.de)