

International Telekom Beethoven Competition Bonn  
Selection Commission 2009

Bonner Rundschau  
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## **Dual approach to maestro Beethoven**

### **Famous jurors decide on the winners of the International Beethoven Competition Bonn**

**BONN.** In Beethoven's birthplace, Deutsche Telekom is now advancing with the composer on two fronts. The main track – the new festival hall on the Rhine, being built together with Deutsche Post and Postbank – is still at its planning stage. Then there is the "International Beethoven Competition Bonn," previously held in 2005 and 2007, and now taking place for the third time under a new banner. From now on, the piano competition will not only have Bonn in its name but also Deutsche Telekom. And Timotheus Höttges, who succeeded Karl-Gerhard Eick as CFO, is also taking over from him as Chairman of the Organization Committee.

The fact that the competition is again sponsored by the CFO should fill piano fans with optimism about its future. "I am looking forward to supporting the competition in the future," he confirmed, after presenting the Selection Commission, made up of Jury President Pavel Gililov, Klaus Kaufmann (Salzburg) and Sergei Maltsev (St. Petersburg), at Deutsche Telekom's headquarters. These gentlemen have the task of selecting the most promising candidates from the pile of applications, which has grown steadily since 2005. All submissions have to include videos. The 2009 competition will take place from December 2 to 12.

The 32 participants will be identified by June 21. The competition is among the most generously endowed, with EUR 30,000 to the winner, EUR 20,000 for second place, and EUR 10,000 for third. There are also special prizes. The presenters also announced the members of the jury, including such prominent names as Daejin Kim (Korea), Marian Lapsansky (Slovakia), Alfredo Perl (Chile), Jean Bernard Pommier (France), Jerome Rose (USA), Andreas Staier (Germany), Einar Steen-Nøkleberg (Norway) and Elisso Virsaladze (Russia).

The applicants come from all over Europe and Asia. Many of them are studying in Germany, and members of the jury are allowed to enter their own pupils, although they cannot vote for them. This is not improper, but quite normal in competitions like this.

The closing concert in the Beethovenhalle on December 12 is also the final competition round, where the Beethoven Orchestra will be accompanying the master's piano concerti. The semi-final will also require candidates to perform chamber music and get to grips with a new piece commissioned for the occasion – something to look forward to. The public performances in the Large Hall of Deutsche Telekom headquarters on the B9 highway have long since established themselves as a first-rate attraction for audiences.