

**9th INTERNATIONAL
SINGING CONTEST
"GERMANS PLA.CIUTAT DE BALAGUER"
3rd and 4th November'18**

RULES 2018

1. - The Associació Cultural Grup d'Art4 from Balaguer announces the **9th International Singing Contest "Germans Pla. Ciutat de Balaguer"**. It takes every two years.
2. - Its main aims are **not only to discover new voices and to support them as much as possible but also to make known The Pla Brothers' (Josep, Joan Baptista and Manuel) masterpieces and their celebrities as XVIII musicians**. Their family was from Balaguer.
3. - Its organization and management are developed by **"Associació Cultural Art4 de Balaguer"**.
 - **President:** Montserrat Cots Solé
 - **Communication manager:** Imma Perelló Goixart
 - **Secretary:** M.Àngels Barril Trepà
 - **Treasurer:** Joan de Déu Batalla Piquer
 - **Speakers:** Miquel Aige Donés
Xavier Cambray Amenós
4. Piano accompaniment: Mr. Alan Branch

JURY

ENRIQUETA TARRÉS:

- A Catalan soprano.
- She sang at the main opera houses in Europe, America and Japan.
- Among her long repertoire we highlight her performance of the best Verdi, Richard Strauss, and Mozart's masterpieces. She also first sang Xavier Benguerel's operas Spleen, Luis de Pablo's El Caballero indiscreto and others.
- Her career is also important thank to her performance of Lied and Oratorio.



- She owns the title Kamersängerin from Staatsoper in Berlin and the prize for the Best Catalan performer.

MIRNA LACAMBRA

- A soprano and an international musical manager and promoter.
- As a singer, she has played all over Europe and America.
- She has been awarded with Saint Jordi Cross by the Catalan Government Generalitat de Catalunya.
- She is the founder and president of 'Amics de l'Òpera de Sabadell' Association, who organizes The Opera Season in Catalonia, Opera Season in Sabadell and the Foundation of 'Vallès Symphonic Orchestra', the opera contest named after her and the Opera School in Sabadell.

MIREIA PINTÓ

- A Catalan mezzo-soprano.
- Hers is such a wide repertoire that involves from Baroque period to Contemporary music and also includes opera, oratory and Lied. She has taken part in seasons of Concerts, festivals and opera shows in Italy, Russia, Holland, Germany, Greece, France, Japan and Spain.
- She has been awarded with several prizes such as Premi Bagès de Cultura in 2011. Nowadays, she is a singing teacher in the High Music School in Catalonia and is the main director of the International Festival of Classical Music 'Memorial Eduard Casajuana' of Sant Fruitós de Bages.

MONTSERRAT COTS

- She has been trained as a pianist but she has been a vocational music teacher. As a pianist she got the highest awards during her career led by Mr. Pere Vallribera. She took part in concerts throughout the Catalan land as a solo artist and as an accompanied pianist. She also got a grant to study in the High Music School in Barcelona.
- She was responsible in Lleida for the musical training Seminar for teachers organized by the Education department of Generalitat de Catalunya and ICE of Polytechnic University of Catalonia.

- He became a teacher in the Summer Music Schools in Balaguer and Tàrrega, which had been founded by herself. She was also the head teacher of Balaguer Music School for 25 years.
- She was also one of the founders of Association Cultural Group d'Art4 in Balaguer and 'Concurs de Cant Liric Germans Pla. Ciutat de Balaguer'. These days, she also directs and presents the radio programme called 'Òpera de l'A a la Z'.

PEDRO PARDO

- A composer, choir and orchestra director and pianist, born in Lleida in 1974 where he started his musical studies. At Barcelona Music high school he got the professional qualification on Composition and Instrumentation and the advanced qualifications on Music Theory, Piano, Choir and Orchestra Conduction.
- He carried on his studies on conduction at Meisterkurse in Viena with the professor Salvador Mas.
- He has got a lot of prizes as well as on composition as conduction, such as the Honour Prize on Orchestra Conduction of Barcelona Music High School, the Prezi "Ateneu Popular de Ponent" on composition for the choir-symphonic piece "Visc en una ciutat" (I live in a city) with lyrics of the Lleida poetist Rosa Fabregat or the Prize on Composition given by Fundació Orfeó Manresà for the choir piece "Cançó a Mahalta" with lyrics of Màrius Torres.
- As a conductor his repertoire includes great classical pieces such as Mozart's Requiem, Beethoven's Symphony n. 5, Schubert's mass service n. 2, Vivaldi's Glòria, Fauré's Rèquiem and other pieces from contemporary composers.
- He has been the conductor and founder of the young orchestra in Cerdanyola and is the choir and Aulos orchestra conductor in the local music school in Cerdanyola, where he combines his concerts with teaching. In 2013-2014 seasons he became the artistic director of the music season of the local town council.
- He has composed a lot of pieces for choirs, orchestra and several instruments. Moreover, he has written musicals and operas such as "Retrato de Soledad" with Jordi Sierra i Fabra's libretto. On the season 14/15 his musical *La Monyos* with lyrics of Albert López Vivancos was performed at Theatre del Raval. He was the composer and musical conductor.
- Since 2005 he has been the choir conductor of Lleidatà, with whom he has played concerts throughout the country and first performed pieces such as *Concert per a piano i cor* with l'Orfeó Català at Palau de la Música. Lately, with Cor de l'Orfeó Lleidatà he has been

nominated to Premis Enderrock for his last record [CHRISTMAS.CAT](#) with own versions of traditional carols.

- Nowadays he is the conductor of the Symphonic Orchestra Victoria de los Ángeles, with whom he performed for first time very successfully at Theatre Nacional de Catalunya [Essència](#) in tribute to Foundation named after the greatest Catalan soprano. He has also performed with OSVA two songs written by Victòria dels Àngels conducting the Basque soprano Ainhoa Arteta at Festival Internacional de Música Castell de Peralada with a great success of critics and public.
- Active, innovative and eclectic musician , lately he has become very popular thanks to his role as a judge at the tv3 music contest *OH HAPPY DAY!* . He keeps working on the media with the section “En clau de Pardo” on DIVENDRES of TV3, on Catalunya Ràdio with “El Suplement” and with his own programme with Galceran on Catalunya Música: “Els homes clàssics”.

ROGER ALIER AIXALÀ ([Venezuela 1941](#)),

- A music critic and historian.
- He started to study medicine and behind his family’s back Art and Philosophy. He also started piano studies. Later he studied a university degree on Modern History.
- From 1971 to 1977 he was in charge of the Catalan and universal music department of [Gran Enciclopèdia Catalana](#). Since [1987](#) he has been an opera critic in [La Vanguardia](#) and afterwards in [El País](#). Since 1979 he has been a professor of Music History at [Universitat de Barcelona](#) .
- In 1991 he founded the highly recognised magazine [Òpera Actual](#), which he also directed until 2000 and is still the president-founder. He also works with the magazine [Opera](#), in London.
- He has published several books about [Gran Theatre del Liceu](#), a deep biography on [Luciano Pavarotti](#) (2005) and a long dictionary *Dictionary de la òpera* (2007), two books.
- He has also worked on the media. With [Marcel Gorgori](#) he broadcast a TV opera programme on [Canal 33](#) and later a radio programme about the greatest voices. Nowadays, every Wednesday at 11 pm, with Marcel Gorgori run a radio programme on the best moments of opera history *Històries d'òpera* in [Catalunya Música](#).

- He is a chosen full member of [Reial Acadèmia de Bones Lletres de Barcelona](#), member of The Advisor Council of Liceu high school (Consell Assessor del Conservatori del Liceu), Honour president of Federació d'Associacions d'Amics de l'Òpera de Catalunya, and teacher at the Opera School in Sabadell.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ENROL.

1. Download the registration form on www.grupdart4.com.
2. Fill the form out.
3. Applicants must also pay €60 as enrolment fees by means of post transfer or paying in the Association bank account. It must include the name of who pays. **The ones who enrol before 1st October will get a 20% off discount. The final fee is €48.**

Grup d'Art4

Balaguer (Lleida)

ES62 2100 5958 0402 0000 2679 Caixabank

4. Contestant's brief CV

- The list of pieces.
- A copy DNI / NIE / PASSPORT.
- A photo.
- A list of previous awards, if so.
- For international transfer it is necessary to enclose the code.
- Phone number and email.

5. Afterwards, the application form, the copy of bank payment and the CV must be sent to:

- balaguerdart4@yahoo.es
- **Certificate post to**
[Grup d'Art4](#)
[Casal Lapallavacara](#)
[C/ Francesc Borràs 17-19](#)
[25600 Balaguer](#)

6. Further information 637 900 020 (Montse Cots) 679 463 275 (Xavier Cambray)

7. **DEADLINE:**

Applicants to take part in this contest must send the registration form before **21st October 2018.**

The ones who enrol before 1st October will get a 20% off. The final fee is €48.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.- The contest is taking place in the local theatre on 3rd and 4th November 2018 in Balaguer. All the rounds are held in this same place.
- 2.- Singers in all pitches are allowed to take part in the contest. Moreover, singers from any Nationality, settled here or abroad, and at any age.
- 3.- The contestants agree to observe these rules and take part in all the stages when they register for the competition. They must sing in all the rounds and concerts decided by the jury.
- 4.- The organization reserves the right to broadcast the rounds and concerts during the contest by media (radio, TV, Internet). Contestants refuse this right.
- 5.- Any incidents that may occur during the contest will be resolved by the Panel of Judges, if Appointed, or by the Contest Committee should such incidents occur prior to the appointment Of the Panel.
- 6.- Decisions made by the jury are Not subject to appeal.
- 7.- All the applicants must enrol on this contest by email by following instructions above.
- 8.- The finalists agree to perform in the Award ceremony of their Singing Contest , when prizes and diplomas will be given. Pieces will be chosen by the jury and agreed by winners.

ROUNDS

- 1.- The rehearsal of repertoire will take place in the local music school (Carrer del Miracle 23) on 2nd November, 2018. It will start at 4 o'clock p.m.

- 2.- The organization offers piano accompaniment but contestants can come with their own if they like.
- 3.- The order to take part in the contest is decided by means of a raffle after being welcomed by the jury and town council at the assembly hall of the town on 3rd November 2018 at 10 a.m.
- 4.- Public is welcomed in all the rounds, all of which have piano accompaniment.
- 5.- Contestants, who have already won the first prize in another singing contest, will attend second round (semi-final) directly. They must send the certificate of this singing contest.
- 6.- Each participant must sing in the target language of the piece and follow the programme previously chosen. It can only be altered by the jury's decision.
- 7.- The chosen pieces must be different in each round..
- 8.- Prizes can be void.
- 9.- The contestant must choose in the registration form: the piece and composer to perform on the first round and the final round, in case to get there.
- 10.- The finalists agree to perform in the Award Ceremony Concert of their Singing Contest "Germans Pla. Ciutat de Balaguer". During this event, prizes and certificates will be given.
- 11.- The winners agree to perform in IX Concert de Cant Líric Internacional "Germans Pla. Ciutat de Balaguer", to be held the following year 2019 (a paid concert).
- 12.- The registration form means agreeing these rules.

PIECES TO PERFORM

1. FIRST ROUND:

Compulsory piece: Oratorio to be chosen between:

- Stabat Mater II. Cujus Animam Gementem
- Stabat Mater IX. Fac ut ardeat

(To download it , PDF document, web : <http://www.grupdart4.com>)



A **LIED** to choose freely (target language)

AN **ARIA** opera or zarzuela ; to choose freely . (Target language)

(All the pieces are to sing by heart in front of the judges. It is not compulsory to sing the oratorio by heart.)

2. SECOND ROUND:

On this round the contestant has to sing the same type of pieces but from different works.

A **LIED** : to choose freely. (Target language)

AN **ARIA** : opera or zarzuela ; to choose freely. (Target language)

AN **ORATORIO**: to choose freely. However, : "Oratori Stabat Mater" by Josep Pla could be repeated.

PRIZES

1st prize:

- 4.000 Euros in cash,
- diploma-certificate
- the paid participation in IX Concert "Germans Pla.Ciutat de Balaguer" in 2019.

2nd prize:

- 2.000 Euros in cash,
- diploma-certificate
- the paid participation in IX Concert "Germans Pla.Ciutat de Balaguer" in 2019.

3rd prize:

- 1.000 Euros in cash,
- diploma-certificate
- the paid participation in IX Concert "Germans Pla.Ciutat de Balaguer" in 2019.

EXTRAORDINARY PRIZES

Prize for the best Lied singer given by Foundation Victoria dels Àngels.

- A scholarship to take part in Master Class for the festival of Lieder "Life Victòria dels Àngels 2019".

Prize given by Òpera de Sabadell.

- It is a scholarship to take part in The Opera School in Sabadell 2019.



Prize given by Amics de l'Òpera de Lleida.

- A paid concert in the concert hall Enric Granados in Lleida in 2019.

Prize given by Orgues DE Ponent and Pirineu.

- To take part in two paid concerts in the autumn music festival “Orgues de Ponent i del pirineu” 2019.

Prize for the best Singer of Oratorio “Stabat Mater” given by l'Associació d'Art4

- the paid participation in IX Concert “Germans Pla.Ciutat de Balaguer” in 2019.

Prize given by the public.

- the paid participation in IX Concert “Germans Pla.Ciutat de Balaguer” in 2019.

Special prize “Joventuts Musicals de Catalunya”

- Prize for the best Catalan singer to be included in the Xarxa de Músiques 2019-2020.

***Prizes contain the legally established withholding and their reception is subject to the current Taxations.**