

# MUSIQUES d'ENSEMBLE, a different contest...

In 1987, Simone du Breuil, chairwoman of **FNAPEC**, the French federation of associations of parents of the pupils of the Conservatoires and schools of music, dancing and theater, and Jacques Taddei, Headmaster of the school of music of Rueil-Malmaison, created the **Musiques d'Ensemble** contest.

It soon became one of France's most prestigious contests for chamber music. Above all, candidates appreciate its audience, recognition, advices, all kinds of support - especially financial - for their professional project.

## Grants\* to finance a musical project

The prizes granted come with variable financial rewards \* (1.000 to 5.000 €). They are a recognition not only of the laureates musical performance but also of the quality of their collective professional project. The grants offered every year help financing, for example a work's order, a concert, a CD, promotional flyers, a course abroad, a master class, etc.

\* depending on financial support of sponsors and partners of Musiques d'Ensemble.

## A competition as well as an exchange meeting place

**Musiques d'Ensemble** also claims to be a place of meeting for every one: contestants, young musicians, jury members, audience, and organizers. Therefore several festival organizers take the opportunity of the event to hire one or more groups for concerts, whenever they become laureates or not. The commitment of FNAPEC to a strict selection of the candidates and a highly qualified partnership helps developing a skills and expertise exchange to the benefit of young musicians.

## The list of winners with a high quality professional project

The competition welcomes groups of young artists, aged 18 to 30, with a **professional vocation** but no conductor, and composed of 2 to 15 musicians, who have been studying in Europe – there is no nationality requirement for the contest. The contest awards the best musical performances: 5 or 6 prizes are granted every year. The jury also evaluates the quality of the group's project and its capacity to last.

This is the reason why this **contest is unquestionably the one with the most prize winners we still hear about today**. In 29 years, more than 80 groups have been rewarded and still exist. And most of the other contestants have become professional musicians.

## Diversity and complementarity

The jury itself reflects the spirit of diversity and excellence of the **Musiques d'Ensemble** contest. It is composed of several members of the musical world – former laureates, schools of music headmasters, soloists, composers, opera or orchestra house directors, festival directors – and it praises every year the exceptional skill standards of the contestants.



An original formula created by its founders:  
a contest to help young musicians  
adventuring into their professional life.