

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

In 1987, Simone du Breuil, then chairwoman of FNAPEC – National Federation for Schools of Music's Parents Association – and Jacques Taddei created the **Musiques d'Ensemble** contest. It soon became one of France most prestigious challenges for Chamber Music. Most of all, candidates come there in search for audience, recognition, advices, supports and financial help to carry through a professional project.

## Grants\* to fund a musical project

The prizes come with variable grants (from 1 000 to 5 000 €). They reward the musical performance as well as the quality of the group's professional project. The grants made available every year to the winners are meant to help to realise it, e.g. by financing a work, a concert, a CD, promotional flyers, a course abroad, a master class....

*\* subject to the financial support of our sponsors and partners*

## A competition as well as an exchange place

**Musiques d'Ensemble** event also claims to be a place to meet and exchange with every entrant, young musicians, jury members, audience and organisers. In this way, many festival organisers take the opportunity of this event to hire one or more groups for concert, be they prize winners or not.

That commitment to a strict selection and a quality partnership shows the essence of **FNAPEC** action: sharing of skills and expertises for the benefit of young musicians.

## Rewards that take into account the quality of the professional project

The competition is open to groups of 2 to 15 musicians, aged 18 to 30, and trained in Europe, without nationality requirement. They have to be a group with professional purpose and no conductor. The event awards the best musical performances: 5 to 6 grants are offered every year. The jury also cares about the quality of the project and the ability of the group to last.

This is probably the reason why this competition is unquestionably the one with the most prize winners we still hear of today. In 26 years, 15 awards winners groups have become very famous, and most of the other entrants have become professional musicians.

## Diversity and complementarities

The jury itself reflects that spirit of diversity and demand that liven up **Musiques d'Ensemble** contest. Composed by different members from the musical world, former prize winners, school of music headmasters, soloists, composers, orchestra or opera house directors, festival directors, the jury praises the exceptional skill standards of the entrants.



That is what makes the originality of this event  
imagined by its founders  
a contest to help young musicians to start their professional adventure.