

from August 15 to 23, 2026

FIRST EDITION



INTERNATIONAL  
PIANO  
COMPETITION

CHOPIN  
PLEYEL

NOHANT • 2026 • FRANCE

A new international competition dedicated to Chopin,  
created to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of George Sand,  
who created the ideal conditions for Frédéric Chopin to compose  
two-thirds of his works in Nohant, from 1839 to 1846.

**A pianistic confrontation of the highest order at the heart of Romanticism.**



## COMPETITION PROGRAM

Created jointly by the Centre des Monuments Nationaux, the Nohant Festival Chopin, and Pleyel Pianos, this new international competition dedicated to Chopin will take place from August 15 to 23, 2026, at the George Sand estate in Nohant (Indre). The event will mark the 60th anniversary of the Nohant Festival Chopin, which, since its inception in 1966, has welcomed the greatest international pianists.

From June 1 to October 17, 2025

### Video Pre-selections

Candidates will be asked to record a program featuring a 4-part Bach Fugue from the Well-Tempered Clavier, the first movement from a Mozart Sonata (except Sonatas K. 282, K. 331), an Étude by Chopin (to be chosen from a list), and the finale of one of Chopin's two concertos, accompanied by a second piano. At the end of these pre-selections, 24 candidates will be chosen for the competition rounds in Nohant.

August 16 to 18, 2026

### First Elimination Round

Candidates must perform three pieces: an Étude (to be chosen from a list), a Nocturne (to be chosen from a list), and either one of the Scherzi (No. 3 Op. 39 or No. 4 Op. 54) or one of the Ballades (No. 3 Op. 47 or No. 4 Op. 52). The Nocturne may be performed on an 1844 Pleyel piano.

August 19 and 20, 2026

### Second Qualifying Round

Candidates may choose to perform either the complete 24 Préludes Op. 28 or a program of four pieces from three different categories according to a set list, without repeating a piece from the first elimination round. Some pieces may be played on an 1844 Pleyel piano.

August 21 and 22, 2026

### Final in Two Parts

**Recital:** Candidates must perform one of the Sonatas (No. 2 Op. 35 or No. 3 Op. 58), a cycle of Mazurkas (from Op. 50, Op. 56, Op. 59, Op. 63), a Polonaise (Op. 44 or Op. 53), and a Nocturne to be chosen from a list, different from the one played in the first elimination round. The Mazurka cycle and/or the Nocturne may be performed on an 1844 Pleyel piano

**Concerto with Orchestra:** Candidates may choose either Concerto No. 1 or Concerto No. 2, performed with the Orchestre de Chambre Royal de Wallonie under the direction of Vahan Mardirossian.

August 23, 2026

### Gala Concert

The competition will conclude on the afternoon of August 23, 2026, with an exceptional concert where the winners will perform and receive their awards.



## Application Procedures and Selection of Candidates

The competition is open to pianists born between 1996 and 2010. Registration will take place online from June 1 to October 17, 2025. At the end of the pre-selection process, 24 international candidates will be selected to take part in the public rounds at the George Sand estate in Nohant from August 15 to 23, 2026. The list of the 24 successful candidates will be unveiled in March 2026 at the Salle Cortot in Paris, during the launch concert of the 60th Nohant Festival Chopin.



## An International Jury

For this first edition, we have assembled an exceptional jury of some of the world's most eminent pianists and educators in the musical world. Coming from different piano traditions, they share a deep affinity with Chopin's work. Among them are former winners of the Warsaw Chopin Competition, such as Akiko Ebi, Kevin Kenner, and Ewa Poblocka, who are regular jury members of the Warsaw Chopin Competition, as well as leading figures in Chopin interpretation and piano pedagogy, including Bruno Rigutto, Yves Henry, Rena Shereshevskaya, and Danwen Wei. Their expertise and high standards will guarantee competition at the highest level.



Akiko EBI  
President of the Chopin Society  
of Japan



Yves HENRY  
Conservatoire National Supérieur  
de Musique et de Danse de Paris



Kevin KENNER  
Frost School of Music  
Miami University



Ewa POBLOCKA  
Bydgoszcz Academy  
of Music



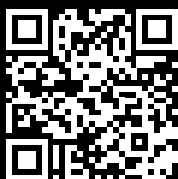
Bruno RIGUTTO  
École Normale de Musique  
de Paris Alfred Cortot



Rena SHERESHEVSKAYA  
École Normale de Musique  
de Paris Alfred Cortot



Danwen WEI  
Central Conservatory  
of Beijing



**ONLINE REGISTRATION**  
JUNE 1 – OCTOBER 17, 2025

**CONTACT**

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Created jointly by the Centre des Monuments Nationaux, the Nohant Festival Chopin, and Pianos Pleyel.

CENTRE DES  
MONUMENTS NATIONAUX

**nohant**  
FESTIVAL  
*Chopin*  
Un romantisme nature

**PLEYEL**  
Depuis 1807 à Paris

