

Paris, 3 May 2021
Press release

**Ircam and the Orchestre national d'Île-de-France
join forces to launch a new international award for composition:**

Creation of the Élan Award

An international composition competition for an
orchestral work held as part of the ManiFeste festival

in partnership with Radio France, the Maison de la Musique Contemporaine,
the Durand-Salabert-Eschig publishing house / UMPC and Sacem

- **Submission period opens on 1 June 2021 -**
- Award to be presented on 1 July 2022 -
- Creation of the winner's commission in June 2023 -



Artists associated with this edition of the Award:
composer Augusta Read Thomas, pianist Marie-Ange Nguci and conductor Rebecca Tong

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For further information and to apply

www.ulysses-network.eu

Information and conditions from 4 May 2021
Submission period begins on 1 June
and ends on 3 November 2021

“Ircam and the Orchestre national d’Île-de-France, two musical bodies with a strong commitment to promoting contemporary creations and a new generation of artists, are joining forces to create the Élan Award, a new international composition competition for an orchestral work, including the “Île de créations” (the orchestral composition competition created in 2010 by the Orchestre national d’Île-de-France) at the Ircam Academy. The American composer Augusta Read Thomas and pianist Marie-Ange Nguci will chair the first edition in July 2022, held as part of the Ircam ManiFeste festival.”

Fabienne Voisin, Managing Director of the Orchestre national d’Île-de-France

“The orchestra is once again the focus of composers’ imaginations in the 21st century. Its enlargement, particularly through the integration of electronics is time and again new territory. The keen interest shown by young artists in the orchestral composition workshops that we have launched in recent years has pushed us to be more ambitious as we recover from the health crisis.

Through the commitment of our partners, the Élan Award will contribute to fostering a new generation of artists with, on the horizon, a renewal of the musical repertory that we hold dear.

Frank Madlener, Director of Ircam

The young composers shortlisted to compete in the Élan Award will enjoy an exceptional creation support platform that combines the expertise of the two bodies in terms of training on composing a work for orchestra and electronic music. They will be guided in their composition work both by musicians at the Orchestra and by the Ircam’s teams, as well as by guest artists who will join the supervising team each year.

As part of the ManiFeste festival academy, the finalists will attend an orchestral composition workshop and will take part in rehearsals of the piano concertos they have composed for the competition. These will be played by the Orchestre national d’Île-de-France at the Philharmonie de Paris, conducted by Rebecca Tong. Following this public concert, the Élan Award ceremony will be held, endowed by Radio France and the Maison de la Musique Contemporaine. The winning composition will be played on France Musique radio station during Anne Montaron’s programme “Création mondiale” and the score will be published by Durand-Salabert-Eschig / UMPC.

The winner will also receive a commission from Ircam and the Orchestre national d’Île-de-France to compose a new work for solo instrument, orchestra and electronic music, which will be created during the following year’s ManiFeste festival. During the winner’s training in electronic music, they will receive teaching and advice from Ircam’s computer music producers.

The compositions of the Élan Award finalists and of the winner will be performed during the Orchestra’s seasons, on tour in the Île-de-France region around Paris and in other regions across France to guarantee their very broad dissemination.

A genuine springboard for the careers of young composers, the Élan Award is designed to promote their outreach and provide them with professional support over several years.



In the studios with Ircam’s teaching teams (photo Ircam, Mikhail Malt)

Timeline of the 2022 Élan Award

1 June - 3 November 2021

Submission period for compositions, for international composers born after 1 January 1990. The application is based on the composition of the two first movements of a concerto for piano and orchestra.

25 November 2021

Announcement of the 4 shortlisted finalists.

December 2021

Master classes led by the composer Augusta Read Thomas, pianist Marie-Ange Nguci and the musicians of the Orchestra.

27 June - 1 July 2022

Composition workshop as part of the 2022 ManiFeste Academy, rehearsals of the finalists' concertos.

1 July 2022

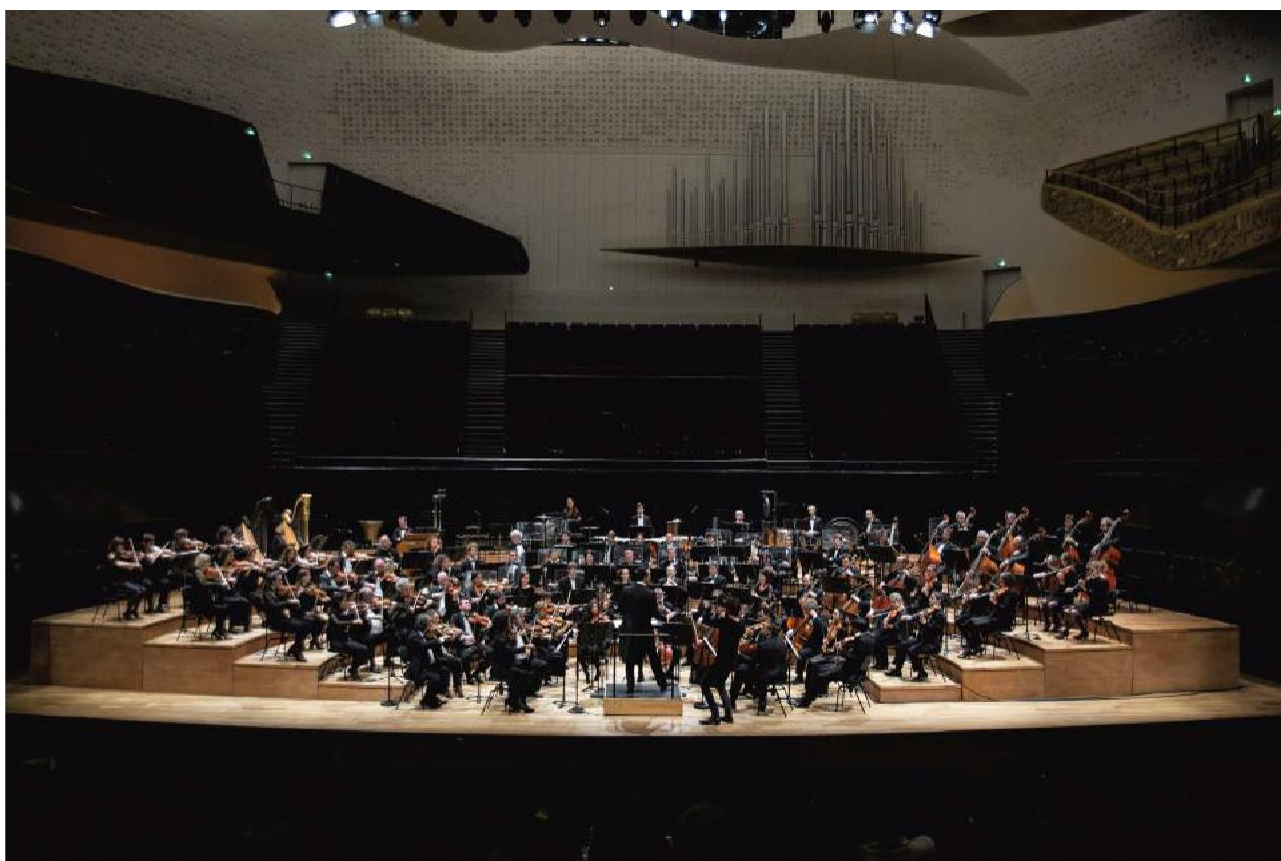
Competition final, during a public concert at the Philharmonie de Paris conducted by Rebecca Tong, and award ceremony.

June 2023

Creation of the work commissioned from the 2022 winner during the 2023 ManiFeste festival.

2023-2024 and subsequent seasons

The creations of the Award finalists and the winner will be performed during a French tour.



The Orchestre national d'Île-de-France at the Philharmonie de Paris (photo ONDIF, Christophe Urbain)