

**PRESS RELEASE**

15 February 2020

## **Ozan Coşkun** **Winner of the Second EuroStrings Composition Contest**



The young **Turkish composer and guitarist Ozan Coşkun** has won the **Second EuroStrings Composition Contest** with his composition for solo classical guitar called *Two Phantasmas*.

As well as the monetary prize of €1500, First Prize offers many performances of the music by EuroStrings Artists. Ozan Coşkun's composition, *Two Phantasmas*, will be a *compulsory piece* in the Final of the 3rd EuroStrings Competition, to be held during the International Guitar Festival José Tomás in Petrer, Spain in July 2020; in addition, EuroStrings Artists will perform *Two Phantasmas* at a minimum of six EuroStrings festivals in this coming year, with the winner of the 3rd EuroStrings Competition will include *Two Phantasmas* in their concert tours in Europe, China and America.

Ozan Coşkun began composing about seven years ago. Although he often performs his own compositions in concert, as he is still in his undergraduate music education, he has not had any works published. Coşkun's inspiration for *Two Phantasmas* derives from the medical term for "phantsma", that is, the first phase of the dream, as Coşkun explains, "the composition explores the emotional transitions and I tried to reflect the uncertainty of the events at that stage of a dream."

This year's Contest was held in two rounds, with **12 contestants** in the Semi-Final round from **9 countries**. The **Jury** consisted of two internationally renowned composers and guitarists: **Sérgio Assad** and **Professor Stephen Goss**, as well as the French guitarist and composer, **Nicolas Kahn**, winner of the 2019 EuroStrings Composition Contest.

The **EuroStrings Composition Contest** was established in 2019 as an annual competition to encourage emerging composers of any age to write for the classical guitar, in order to build quality contemporary repertoire for the instrument. It is **open to young composers up to 35 years of age** with **either European citizenship** or who are **based and active in EU countries/territory** (this also includes European countries which are not a part of the EU, but are geographically considered part of Europe). The submitted composition must be composed for the six-stringed classical guitar and should not be a published work, or previously have received an award.

**Full details** are available at: <https://eurostrings.eu/eurostrings-composition-contest-for-classical-guitar/>

**EuroStrings** is the first platform of European guitar festivals, led by Zagreb Guitar Festival and ever expanding with an initial 14 festival members in 2018 and reaching **17 festival members in 2020**. The project is co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union and is the first guitar project ever to receive such funding. **EuroStrings also has partners in the USA and China**, making it a truly global project. Each festival member also stages an international guitar competition.

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