



EUROPEAN GUITAR
FESTIVAL COLLABORATIVE



PRESS RELEASE

EuroStrings – the European Guitar Festival Collaborative

is pleased to announce the

28th INTERNATIONAL GUITAR FESTIVAL

CITY of MOTTOLA 2020

Online 3–13 September 2020

including the

26th International Guitar Competition of Musical Performance for Guitar –

City of Mottola

1–12 September 2020

ONLINE

The competition is open to guitarists of

all nationalities

born after 1 January 1985

Entry Deadline: **20 August 2020**

The *long list* of Prizes includes:

First Prize

- €3500
- ‘City of Mottola’ Prize €1500
- ‘Lions Club Massafra-Mottola Le Cripte’ Prize €1500
- ‘Musique et Memoire’ Prize €500 Prize dedicated to Roland Dyens and Maria Grazia Agrusti-Durante
- ‘EuroStrings – European Guitar Festival Collaborative’ Prize The winner of our Competition will be part of the EuroStrings Artist project, which provides for a concert tour in the 17 European Guitar Festivals of the EuroStrings Platform.
- ‘Savarez Prize’
- ‘dotGuitar Prize’ Recording contract with dotGuitar WebLabel for the distribution of a CD for guitar on major digital distribution channels worldwide.

Second Prize

- ‘City of Mottola’ Prize €1000 – ‘Savarez Prize’

Third Prize

- ‘City of Mottola’ Prize €500 – ‘Savarez Prize’



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26th International Guitar Competition of Musical Performance for Guitar – City of Mottola

will be in **three rounds**:

1. **Preliminary round** – with **recorded video**;
2. **Semifinal round** – with **recorded video**;
3. **Final round** – Live Streaming on **YouTube and Facebook**
on **Saturday 12 September 2020 at 19.00**.

The **jury of international artists** includes

President **Roberto Aussel**, Argentina
Hubert Käppel, Germany
Carlo Marchione, Italy
Anabel Montesinos, Spain
Mak Grgic, Croatia

The **set pieces for each round** and **video recording requirements** are available at:

www.mottolafestival.com/en/competitions/international-competition

EuroStrings Artists

featured at

28th International Guitar Festival – City of Mottola 2020

Silvio Bilić, Croatia,
Dávid Fellegi, Hungary
Cassie Martin, France
Bruno Pino Mateos, Spain
Lovro Peretić, Croatia

and

Mateusz Kowalski, Poland

winner of the 2019 Second EuroStrings Guitar Competition

As part of winning First Prize, **Mateusz Kowalski** has since embarked on an international concert tour in Europe, America and Asia, where he is being received with critical acclaim. *Classical Guitar Magazine* describes him as a ‘spectacular’ musician with ‘truly breathtaking’ interpretations. Mateusz Kowalski has been winning prizes in international guitar competitions over the past few years and is now emerging as a star on the international concert platform.

Born in Koszalin, Poland in 1995, Mateusz started learning guitar at the age of seven. He went on to study with Ryszard Bałuszko at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw, where he graduated with honours. Since



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October 2019, he has been teaching at The Frederic Chopin University of Music in Warsaw. He was awarded a scholarship winner by the Polish KFnRD and Ministry of Culture and National Heritage programme 'Young Poland'. Mateusz recorded his debut CD, *Mateusz Kowalski Classical Guitarist*, in 2018 with the Polish label CD Accord, distributed by NAXOS.

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About the EuroStrings Artists

EuroStrings Artists are a group of young professional guitarists, who are the laureates of the international competitions organised by the 17 EuroStrings Platform member guitar festivals. They are invited to take part in the year-long carefully curated EuroStrings Exchange Programme, which is delivered through the EuroStrings Curriculum.

Silvio Bilić started playing guitar at the age of eight. In 2017, he enrolled at the Arts Academy of Split where he studied with Maroje Brčić. He has been active in guitar competitions since 2008. He has won 20 First Prizes as a soloist and 12 First Prizes as a member of chamber ensembles, at many national and international competitions. In 2014, 2017 and 2019, he was awarded the ‘Oscar of Knowledge’ by the Croatian Ministry of Science, Education and Sports for winning the First Prize at the National Competition both as a soloist and as a member of chamber ensembles. He has participated in masterclasses with Hubert Käppel, Carlo Marchione, Aniello Desiderio, Pavel Steidl, Łukasz Kuropaczewski, Goran Krivokapić and Darko Petrinjak. He often works in collaboration with well-known Croatian actors at various cultural events.

Born in 1995 in Pécs, Hungary, **Dávid Fellegi** started studying the guitar at the age of eight. After winning a number of competitions, he studied at the High School of Arts of Pécs with Tamás Straub, where he also showed an interest in composition. In 2014, he commenced his studies at the Franz Liszt Academy of Music with András Csáki and József Eötvös, completing both his Bachelor’s degree with honours and his Masters. Dávid’s interests cover both classical and jazz music. As a composer, he won First Prize and the ‘Special Prize for Best Composition’ at the 2019 International Guitar Contest of Szeged. Dávid premièred his own *Sonata Fantasy* for solo guitar in November 2018; and the Venti Chiavi Guitar Trio premièred his *Mixations* in October 2016.

Cassie Martin started playing the guitar at the age of five. By the age of nine, she started to win prizes in competitions. More recently, she won First Prize at: the International Guitar Competition in Béarn, at the Roland Dyens-Révélation International Competition *Classical Guitar Magazine* in 2018, and at the International Competition in Carry-le-Rouet. In 2018, she worked with Sérgio Assad and played Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco’s *Guitar Concerto No. 1*, conducted by Xavier Delette with the youth orchestra

of the Conservatoire, in at concert at the CRR in Paris. Presently, she divides her time between the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Dance in Paris, where she studies with Olivier Chassain, and performing, which is her absolute pleasure, with repertoire ranging from early to contemporary music.

Bruno Pino Mateos was born in Salamanca in 1997. He studied at the Conservatorio Superior de Música in Salamanca, and then he continued his studies at the Conservatorio Superior de Castilla y León. Bruno Pino Mateos has performed at the Teatro Liceo de Salamanca and at the festivals of Coria, Amarante and Petrer. Among his numerous awards, he received First Prize at: the V International Guitar Festival of Guimarães 2018; the International Guitar Festival José Tomás Villa de Petrer Competition in the Youth category; the XIX International Guitar Competition Ciudad de Coria in the youth category; and the II Alhambra International Guitar Competition for Young People, Valencia.

Lovro Peretić was born in Zagreb in 1995 and started studying guitar with Xhevdet Sahatxhija. Later, he graduated from the Academy of Music in Zagreb, where he studied with Darko Petrinjak and spent one year in a student exchange programme at L’École Supérieure Musique et Danse Hauts-de-France, Lille with Judicaël Perroy. He has won First Prize in many national and international competitions. He represented Croatia in many important festivals such as the Vladimir Spivakov International Foundation’s festival in Moscow and the European Union of Music Competitions for Youth’s Young Hearts for Music in Austria and Germany. He also regularly performs in various chamber music groups including his duo with violinist Katarina Kutnar and in the guitar trio Evocación. He has performed as a soloist with the Croatian Radio and Television Symphony Orchestra, Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra, and Zagreb Soloists,



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among others. Lovro was awarded the Dean's and Rector's prizes of the University of Zagreb.

For full **EuroStrings Artists profiles**, visit: <https://eurostrings.eu/young-stars/eurostrings-artists-of-2019-2020/>

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About International Guitar Festival and Competition – City of Mottola 2020

- **Masterclasses** will be given by **Roberto Aussel, Hubert Käppel, Carlo Marchione, Anabel Montesinos** and **Mateusz Kowalski** (3–13 September 2020) and will be broadcast live on the popular channels.

For the **complete programme**, see www.mottolafestival.com/

EuroStrings is proud to be a part of the **International Guitar Festival and Competition – City of Mottola 2020** from **1–13 September 2020**. EuroStrings is a **platform of European guitar festivals**, led by Zagreb Guitar Festival. As the **first such platform** to be established, it is ever expanding: having started with an initial 14 member festivals in 2018, it now has **17 member festivals 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 America and China**, making it a truly **global project**.

Contact

Mottola Guitar Festival

website: www.mottolafestival.com

Interviews

Michele Libraro, Artistic Director
Accademia della Chitarra
Via Vito Sansonetti, 64
74017 Mottola (TA), Italy
Tel. 099 886 7361 / 346 226 4572
email: info@mottolafestival.com

EuroStrings

Artistic Director: Mak Grgić

For more information and photographs, please contact:

Larisa Lieberman

email: internationalpr@eurostrings.eu

mak@eurostrings.eu

PR Queries: Larisa Lieberman, email:

internationalpr@eurostrings.eu

Comms Queries, email:

communication@eurostrings.eu

Website: <https://eurostrings.eu>

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