

Press release

## Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel



### *Pianists from the Music Chapel Win Half of the Prizes at the Queen Elisabeth Competition*

**Nikola Meeuwsen wins 1st Prize, Valère Burnon takes 3rd Prize, Arthur Hinnewinkel wins 4th Prize, and Mirabelle Kajenjeri is named Laureate.**

Brussels, 01/06/2025 – After an impressive final week at Bozar, the long-awaited results of the Queen Elisabeth Competition have been announced. Gilles Ledure, Chairman of the Jury, had the honour of revealing the results – with the Music Chapel's Artists in residence delivering a remarkable sweep of the top prizes: they take home no less than half (three out of six) of the top prizes.

The awarded Artists in residence are:

- **Nikola Meeuwsen: 1st Prize** – INTERNATIONAL QUEEN ELISABETH GRAND PRIZE Queen Mathilde Prize
- **Valère Burnon: 3rd Prize** – Count de Launoit Prize + RTBF and VRT **Audience Prizes**
- **Arthur Hinnewinkel: 4th Prize** – PRIZE OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE BELGIAN COMMUNITIES. This year awarded by the Government of the Flemish-speaking Community of Belgium
- **Mirabelle Kajenjeri – Laureate**, supported by the National Lottery

Their musical excellence, technical mastery, and artistic depth moved both jury and audience. These results highlight the exceptional quality of training at the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel, where a unique pedagogical approach is at the heart of its mission.

An impressive achievement: three podium finishes and four finalists from a single institution.

The Music Chapel congratulates its four finalists on this extraordinary accomplishment and expresses deep gratitude to its Masters in residence of the piano section, Frank Braley and Avedis Kouyoumdjian, for their unwavering dedication. The Music Chapel also warmly thanks its committed patrons, sponsors, and loyal audience – the beating heart of this international center for musical excellence.

These four outstanding young artists are now ready to continue their journey on major international stages... and of course, during the upcoming concert season of the Music Chapel in Waterloo.

**« It's hard to comprehend – it feels like a dream... »**

Nikola Meeuwsen – Artist in residence at the Music Chapel and 1<sup>st</sup> Prize Winner

## PRESS INFO

To an interview with our CEO or one of our Artists in residence, or reserve press tickets, please contact:

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*The Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel, a public interest foundation, is a world-renowned center of excellence for artistic training, reserved for young musical talents of the highest caliber in the disciplines of piano, violin, viola, cello, chamber music and voice, forming the musical elite of tomorrow. The Music Chapel develops an artistic project for each musician, enabling them to progress their careers. The Music Chapel operates through its network of artists – nearly 78 young Artists in Residence and Associate Artists representing over 30 nationalities, 9 Masters in Residence, guest masters and many other guest artists throughout the year – as well as over 300 concerts open to the public in Belgium and abroad.*

More information and calendar: <https://musicchapel.org/>

**Muziekkapel Koningin Elisabeth**, *stichting van openbaar nut*

**Onder het Erevoorzitterschap van Hare Majesteit Koningin Paola**

**Chapelle Musicale Reine Elisabeth**, *fondation d'utilité publique*

**Sous la Présidence d'Honneur de Sa Majesté la Reine Paola**

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