

Sounds of Matter

Call for Scores «Sounds of Matter»

MDW Category

The purpose of this call is to encourage composers to find creative new ways to convey scientific ideas through their music. Participants are invited to submit new **solo / duo pieces** with a duration between 3' and 13' minutes, with or without electronics. The pieces have to be inspired on any of the concepts, data or audiovisual material (images, animations, graphs) available online at www.soundsof.net/materials. Selected compositions will be performed in a public concert as part of the "Art & Science" Festival. The best three of them will be awarded **€1500 – €750 – €500** respectively. Applications must be submitted no later than **February 15th, 2018**.

1. Terms of application

1.1 Who can apply?

- Current students of composition at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna (Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien) and alumni who graduated during the three years before the competition deadline.

1.2 Possible instrumentations

You can submit solo or duo works for any instrument(s) of your choice, with or without electronics. No transcriptions or arrangements (except arrangements of the composer's own works) will be eligible. Performer¹ fees will be covered by the competition; it is the applicant's responsibility however, to find the performers and organize the rehearsals.

NOTE: For any works involving additional media (electronics, video, special staging, etc.), please include any relevant technical information. Bear in mind that your piece needs to be realizable to be eligible. If you have any questions concerning equipment availability or other aspects, don't hesitate to email us at soundsofmatter@univie.ac.at.

1.3 Application material

¹ Usual Honorarium for performers at the MDW is €80. Rental, transport or any other possible expenses can be discussed individually (Please address your questions at: soundsofmatter@univie.ac.at)

- 1) Complete the online application form (soundsof.net/mdw). Applicants may submit up to 2 works to the **MDW category**, regardless of their submissions to the other two categories (MAIN and Call4Sounds).
- 2) Submit a short program note about the work (max. 1 page A4, in English) where you explain the connection between your composition and any the materials (*image, idea, animation, concept, dataset etc.*) available at www.soundsof.net/materials that inspired you. The relevance of this connection will be, together with the quality of the music submitted, the primary evaluation criterion. It is therefore in the applicant's best interest that the concept is clear, accurate, and related to one of the seven research lines (*Nano carbon-metal hybrids, Nucleation, Polymers, 2D-Materials, Metallic glass, Ferroic Materials, Diffusion*) presented on the website. Incomplete or vague applications will NOT be considered.
- 3) Submit the score as a **.pdf** file, using the online application form. The works need to follow the following restrictions:
 - Duration should be between 3' and 12' minutes.
 - Works should be new (not published or publicly performed at the moment of submission) and original.
 - If the pieces involve some kind of electronics (fixed media, live electronics) the corresponding *audio files / patches* have to be submitted as well.
 - The score, if hand written, should be scanned and submitted as a *.pdf* file.
 - Ancillary material (performance notes, etc.) must also be submitted as *.pdf*.
- 4) Additional audio/video recordings of the submitted work —if available— are also welcome, since that may support your concept/piece. These recordings are nevertheless not a requirement for application.

All materials should be submitted electronically. If unable to submit a digital application via the provided online form (soundsof.net/mdw), please send us all application materials via e-mail to soundsofmatter@univie.ac.at with the SUBJECT: '**MDW**'. You are strongly encouraged to use Dropbox, Google Drive, or other free cloud storage for any extra materials as they may be too large to send as email attachments. Application deadline will be **February 15th, 2018**. Late applications will not be considered.

2. Evaluation

The purpose of the prize is to encourage composers to quest science, find inspiration in the science world, celebrate scientific advances and build bridges between cutting edge research and state of the art music. Therefore, compositions will be judged based on three equally important criteria:

- Scientific relevance of the connection between your piece and the specific *content* (idea, image, concept, animation, dataset, etc.) explicitly stated in your text.
- Overall musical quality, independently from specific music styles
- Creativity of your approach, originality

3. Nomination

Within two weeks after the submission deadline, an interdisciplinary panel of five judges consisting of composers and physicists will make a selection of the pieces to be performed in the final concert. This selection will be based upon scientific and artistic criteria, and the finalists will be nominated publicly on this website as well as the MDW website.

4. Final concert

The final decision of the Jury will take during the final concert, after all pieces have been performed. This concert will take place in the University of Vienna, on the **3rd of May, 2018** as part of the *"Art & Science" Festival*. The members of the jury will select and announce the three winning compositions of the MDW category, awarded with **€1500 – €750 – €500** respectively.

5. Change of terms

The «Sounds of Matter» composition competition reserves the right to change these terms in the best interest of the project.
