

REPERTOIRE 2026

SPIRITUAL & FOLK SONG

Each participating duo must select a program of approximately 40 minutes with songs from a given list of suggested art songs (folksongs and spiritual songs) of composers such as Franz Schubert, Ludwig van Beethoven, Johannes Brahms, Béla Bartók, Benjamin Britten, Harry Thacker Burleigh (American Spirituals), Antonín Dvořák, Paweł Łukaszewski, and many other composers from around the world inclusive a new composition: "Three Spiritual Songs from Silesia" by Hans Leenders.

First Round

From this program, the participating duos must select four songs (maximum duration 15 minutes) for the first round.

1. At least one song by Franz Schubert
2. At least one song from the sacred repertoire
3. At least one folk song

The songs must be sung in the original language and memorized. Transpositions are permitted, as is the selection of individual songs from cycles.



First Prizewinner-Duo 2024
Sarah Gilford (UK) & Ewa Danilewska (PL)

CONTACT

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SPONSORS / PARTNERS



III. INTERNATIONAL

LIED COMPETITION BOLKO VON HOCHBERG

30.5. - 4.6.
2026

GÖRLITZ(GERMANY)
JELENIA GÓRA (POLAND)

Application deadline: 28.2.2026
www.lied-competition-goerlitz.net

TERMS OF PARTICIPATION

The Third International Lied Competition "Bolko von Hochberg" will take place between May 30 and June 4, 2026, in Görlitz, Germany, and Jelenia Góra, Poland. Eligible to participate are professional singers and pianists of any nationality, aged 20 to 40 (born between January 1, 1986, and December 31, 2006) for singers, and 20 years and older for pianists.

The three phases of the competition are as follows:

FIRST ROUND: May 30, 31, and June 1, 2026

Kaufhaus Görlitz in Görlitz, Germany

SEMIFINAL (June 3) and FINAL (June 4, 2026)

Philharmonia Dolnośląska in Jelenia Góra (Poland)

After the first round in Görlitz, the competition will organize the transportation and accommodation of the semifinalists in Jelenia Góra. **All phases of the competition are open to the audience.**

The participation fee is €20 per musician (€40 per duo), payable to the association's account (via an Euro account):

Ars Augusta e.V.
Sparkasse Oberlausitz-Niederschlesien
IBAN: DE54 85 0501 0002 3205 0392
BIC: WELADED1GR

The participation fee is non-refundable. All participants in the first round who request it, will receive detailed feedback from the jury. The participation is at participants' own expense.

To register for the competition, a fully completed registration form must be sent to the following email address: liedcompetition@gmail.com. The registration form can be found on the website of the competition.

Registration deadline: February 28, 2026 (11:59 PM).



Kaufhaus Görlitz

PRIZES

First Prize: Hedwig-Preis 6.000 € (sponsored by Erika-Simon-Stiftung)

Second Prize: 4.000 €

Third Prize: 2.000 €

Prize for the best Lied-pianist: 1.000 €

"Orpheus" Award of Ars Augusta e.V. Society
(Recital in year 2027)

Award of the Foundation "Belle Voci" (Concerts)

Award of the "Museum der Romantik in Dresden" (Concert in Kugelgenhaus in Dresden in 2027).

JURY 2026

René Pape Bass (Germany)

Prof. Alexander Schmalcz Pianist (Germany)

Prof. Ewa Biegas Soprano (Poland)

Prof. Grzegorz Biegas Pianist (Poland)

Dr. Romy Donath Soprano / Musicologist (Germany)

Bartosz Żurakowski Conductor / Cultural manager (Poland)

Reinhard Seeliger Conductor (Germany)

Eleni Triada Müller Soprano / Artistic Director of the Competition (Germany, Poland, Greece)

HISTORY OF THE COMPETITION

The competition was launched in 2022 by the Ars Augusta e.V. cultural society in Görlitz-Zgorzelec with the aim of reconnecting to the old tradition of "Gesangsvereine" and the Silesian Music Festival, one of the oldest singing festivals in Europe. Today, the Silesian region connects three European countries (Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic). The competition aims to build on this historical heritage, the tradition of art singing while simultaneously promoting the younger generation of singers and pianists and the cooperation between the neighboring countries.

The first edition (2022) was dedicated to "Hellas," the second edition to the song on Renaissance poetry ("Orpheus: Spirit of the Renaissance"). Following the third edition on the topic of Sacred Song and Folk Song (2026), the fourth edition (2028) will focus on Franz Schubert and the classical period.

Hans Heinrich XIV, Count **Bolko von Hochberg** (born 1843 in Fürstenstein Castle – died 1926 in Bad Salzbrunn, today Poland) was a member of the important Silesian family of Hochberg. After graduating from the Maria Magdalenen Gymnasium in Breslau and studying law at the universities of Bonn and Berlin, he initially worked as a diplomat, but his love of music was so great that he began composing at a young age. At the age of twenty, he performed his first opera in Schwerin Theater. He composed two operas, numerous songs, chamber music, symphonies, and concertos. His artistic activity and organizational talent quickly gained recognition at the royal court in Berlin, where Emperor Wilhelm I appointed him director of the Royal Theater. From 1876, he also organized the Silesian Music Festivals in Görlitz. He played a major role in promoting artists such as Gerhart Hauptmann, Richard Strauss and others.