

PLÁCIDO DOMINGO'S OPERALIA

THE WORLD OPERA COMPETITION

Proudly presented by



Tuesday, July 19th. to Sunday, July 24th., 2016 Guadalajara, Mexico

Plácido Domingo's Operalia, The World Opera Competition was founded in 1993 by Plácido Domingo to discover and honor the best new, young opera singers of today. His goal is to attract singers from around the world and have them audition and compete before a most distinguished panel of judges conformed by established international opera impresarios. Above and beyond the biggest money prize ever awarded to the finalists of a competition of this nature, it is Plácido Domingo's firm commitment to build and support the career of any and all worthy contestants through his own personal guidance, consideration and recommendation.

Under the artistic guidance of Plácido Domingo, his Operalia competition is open to singers of all voice types, **between the ages of 18 and 32 years old** and who are ready to perform on the world's great opera stages. Hosted in a different international city every year, Plácido Domingo's Operalia Twenty Fourth Edition will take place for the first time in Guadalajara, Mexico, from Tuesday, July 19th through to Sunday, July 24th, 2016 at the Teatro Degollado. There is no fee to enter the competition. The 40 applicants selected to participate in Plácido Domingo's Operalia 2016 will receive round trip travel arrangements to Guadalajara, Mexico and accommodations in this city by the Competition's organizing committee.

All contestants must have 4 opera arias prepared in their original language. They may add, if they wish, 2 Zarzuela arias in order to compete in the Zarzuela section of the competition. Pianists / Accompanists will be readily available to the contestants during the competition.

Plácido Domingo's Operalia 2016 will take place over several rounds. These are:

1. Preliminary Selection by Electronic Application only through:

<https://app.decisiondesk.com/clients/operalia16/apply> **between November 15th. 2015 and February 8th. 2016**

It is highly recommended to apply well before the deadline and not on February 8th, as the system might be overloaded and applications might not go through.

Applications can only be submitted through <https://app.decisiondesk.com/clients/operalia16/apply>

Applicants must create an account in our official portal on the site through the following link:
<https://app.decisiondesk.com/clients/operalia16/apply>

Once you create an account on <https://app.decisiondesk.com/clients/operalia16/apply> you will be asked to fill out an application and upload the following documents and recordings:

- a) Application Form
- b) A scanned copy of current passport
- c) A professional biography and resume in English (PDF format, 1 page maximum)
- d) A personal Headshot photograph (Minimum size 4x6, Resolution 300 dpi, Format JPEG)

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e) **Video Recordings** of 2 opera arias of the applicant's choice (applicants may also upload 1 Zarzuela aria if they choose to compete in Zarzuela category)

Requirements for video recordings include:

- **Only video recordings will be accepted *****
- Only high quality and recent video recordings (within the last year) will be accepted
- Opera arias must be from 2 different operas
- Arias are required to be performed in their original language
- Only live piano or orchestra accompaniment will be accepted (pre-recorded orchestra "karaoke" accompaniment will not be accepted)
- Only 2 opera arias will be accepted

The applications will be reviewed by a panel of three judges who will select the 40 contestants to be invited to participate in Plácido Domingo's Operalia 2016 in Guadalajara, Mexico. (The panel will choose also 10 alternate contestants who may substitute the first chosen contestants in case they cannot perform. These alternate contestants should remain available if necessary.) Both the first chosen contestants and the alternate contestants will be notified by e-mail.

2. Quarterfinals Round - Live Auditions accompanied by piano – Tuesday, July 19th. & Wednesday, July 20th., 2016

The 40 selected contestants must have prepared 4 opera arias in their original language. They may optionally prepare 2 Zarzuela arias. In this first round, each contestant will sing 2 arias from among the 4 arias prepared. The first aria will be chosen by the contestant and the second aria will be chosen for the contestants by the official jury. The Zarzuela aria will also be requested by the Jury in case the contestants have chosen to participate in this category. The Jury will audition 20 contestants on July 19th and 20 others on July 20th. On the evening of July 20th. the Jury will select the 20 contestants that will advance to the next round.

3. Semifinals Round – Live Auditions accompanied by piano – Thursday, July 21st., 2016

20 semi-finalists will each sing 1 aria selected from among the prepared arias, chosen for them by the official Jury, and 1 optional Zarzuela aria. The Jury will then select the 10 contestants that will advance to the final round.

4. Final Round – Live Auditions accompanied by full orchestra – Sunday, July 24th., 2016

The 10 finalists will each choose 1 aria to sing from among the prepared arias and 1 optional Zarzuela aria. Under the leadership of Plácido Domingo, a most distinguished panel of judges conformed by established international Opera Impresarios, Casting Directors and General Managers from the world's great opera houses will select the winners of the Plácido Domingo's Operalia 2016 Competition.

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Prizes:

The prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

- First Prize: Best Female Singer - US\$30,000.00
- First Prize: Best Male Singer - US\$30,000.00
- Second Prize: Female Singer - US\$20,000.00
- Second Prize: Male Singer - US\$20,000.00
- Third Prize: Female Singer - US\$10,000.00
- Third Prize: Male Singer - US\$10,000.00
- Birgit Nilsson Prize: Female Singer - US\$15,000.00
- Birgit Nilsson Prize: Male Singer - US\$15,000.00
(These will be given to singers interpreting arias within the German Repertoire of Richard Strauss and Richard Wagner)
- The Pepita Embil de Domingo Zarzuela Prize for the Best Female Singer of Zarzuela – US\$10,000.00
- The Plácido Domingo Zarzuela Prize for the Best Male Singer of Zarzuela – US\$10,000.00
- The Prize of the Audience for the best Female Singer – Rolex Wristwatch
- The Prize of the Audience for the best Male Singer – Rolex Wristwatch
(Voted and chosen by the audience attending the Final Competition and offered by Rolex, Operalia's Official Sponsor)
- The CulturArte de Puerto Rico Prize - US\$10,000.00

Tied winners may also receive a prize.

Total Amount in Prizes: US\$180,000.00 + Two Rolex Wristwatches

ANY QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions regarding the application process, please send an email to: info@operaliacompetition.com

**Please send your Electronic Application
through the following link: <https://app.decisiondesk.com/clients/operalia16/apply>**

MINIMUM AGE: 18

MAXIMUM AGE: 32

(Applicants must be between the ages of 18 and 32 years old by the date of July 24th 2016)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 8th., 2016