

# Clarinetnotes

## VIROVITICA INTERNATIONAL MUSIC MEETING (VIMM) 2019

by Kristine Dizon and Radovan Cavallin

The Virovitica International Music Meeting (VIMM) took place in Virovitica, Croatia, from January 3 to 6, 2019, at the Jan Vlačimsky Music School. There were over 34 participants involved from Croatia and Slovenia. Master classes were taught by Radovan Cavallin (Croatia), Davor Reba (Croatia), Slavko Kovacic (Slovenia) and António Saiote (Portugal). On January 6, there was an annual international competition that included two categories: University/Professional level and Primary/High School level.

### UNIVERSITY AND PROFESSIONAL LEVEL WINNERS

First Prize – Božan Bejo  
 Second Prize – Monika Popović,  
 Tihana Car  
 Third Prize – Ana Gujić, Tana Michl,  
 Antonio Uremović

### COMBINED PRIMARY AND HIGH SCHOOL WINNERS

First Prize – Ana Marija Klasan

Second Prize – Roko Lovrić, Veronika Maros, Andrija Novoselec  
 Third Prize – Lovro Lubina, Lovro Pavić, Neža Žalec, Nela Bosnjak  
 Special prize to the youngest candidate: Filip Krznarić

The final concert featured Tomaz Kmetc (Slovenia) conducting the clarinet choir with the faculty as soloists. VIMM was sponsored by Selmer, D'Addario, Silverstein Works, Emiliano's Taller, Play Nick, Sound Tech and Barkley Brazil Mouthpieces.



Participants and Faculty of VIMM 2019

## 2018 "EXPRESSION IN CLARINET PERFORMANCE" CONFERENCE

by Barbara Borowicz

The international "Expression in Clarinet Performance" conference took place November 22-25, 2018, at the Academy of Music in Krakow, Poland. Guest instrumentalists and composers from

Poland and abroad included Stephan Vermeersch (Belgium), Gabor Varga (Hungary), Nicolas Bacri (France), Irvin Venyš (Czech Republic), Kristine Dizon (United States), Radovan Cavallin (Spain), Francisco José Fernández Vicedo (Spain), Jan Jakub Bokun (Poland) and Marcel

Chyrzyński (Poland). The artistic director of the conference was clarinetist Barbara Borowicz.

The goal of the conference was to pay special attention to expression in clarinet performance. A number of panels and lectures were held throughout the



2018 "Expression in Clarinet Performance" Conference performers

conference, the first of which occurred on November 23. Bokun gave a lecture discussing harmonies and dissonances in Krzysztof Penderecki's music, which coincided with the 85<sup>th</sup> birthday of the composer. Borowicz followed with a lecture about Marcel Chyżyński, his inspirations and characteristics of his clarinet pieces. Vicedo closed the day's lectures with an introduction to the evolution of the Spanish clarinet school with a focus on the emotional aspects of musicality.

The next day, Dizon, Varga and Veniš provided thoughtful discussion about how to identify and understand expression in musical pieces and how musical notation communicates expression. Cavallin gave a lecture on the role of the clarinetist in the process of building expression in orchestral repertoire. Vermeersch spoke about the musician's brain, how the efficiency of its work supports the process of instrumental practice, and how it helps musicians improve public performances. French composer Bacri also gave a lecture about his music with emphasis on his clarinet works.

There were three concerts performed during the conference. The first concert featured Duo Bokun-Kościuszko, with Bokun on clarinet and Jakub Kościuszko on guitar. The duo gave the world premiere of two pieces by Polish composer Łukasz Woś: *Souvenir from Halamba* and *Scherzino*. The next concert took place on November 23, and in continued celebration of Penderecki,

Borowicz and pianist Anna Miernik performed the work *Three Miniatures* for clarinet and piano. The concert continued with all invited guests presenting works in

different styles, showing tone and technical clarinet capabilities as well as various expressive means.

The final day of the conference had two concerts. The first featured beautiful Spanish music, shown in two contrasting styles of 20<sup>th</sup>-century clarinet literature, performed by Vicedo and pianist Dominika Peszko. The final concert was comprised of pieces by great Krakow composer Chyżyński, interpreted by guests from abroad, and compositions by Bacri, which were presented by clarinetists from Krakow. The group of Polish performers consisted of lecturers, graduates and students of the Krakow Academy of Music: cellist Jan Kalinowski; pianists Marek Szlezer, Agnieszka Riess, Anna Miernik; clarinetists Janusz Antonik, Barbara Borowicz, Tomasz Sowa, Oleh Malovichko, Izabela Żurczak, Sara Ślęmp and Jarosław Sroka.

## KEY CHANGES AND CLOSING CHORDS

*Compiled by Jessica Harrie*

### KEY CHANGES

**Dario Brignoli** won the audition for principal clarinet of the Grant Park Music Festival Orchestra.

**Andy Jong-Hyun Cho** won the audition for principal clarinet of the Princeton Symphony Orchestra.

**Kei Funaguma** won the recent audition for principal clarinet of the Osaka Philharmonic.

**Brandon Pace** and **Mary Fortino** won the U.S. Navy Fleet Band audition.

**Trevor O'Riordan** won the second clarinet audition for the Grant Park Music Festival Orchestra.

**Luis Rossi** was appointed visiting professor of clarinet at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music.

**Michael Wayne**, second clarinetist of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, has been hired as the new associate professor of clarinet at the Eastman School of Music.

### CLOSING CHORDS

Clarinetist and longtime professor at Truman State University **Richard "Dick" Weerts** (1928-2019) passed away on March 31, at the age of 90. A tribute will occur in an upcoming issue of *The Clarinet*.



Richard Weerts

*Information in this column is gathered from the Clarinet Jobs Facebook Group and submissions to [clarinetnews@gmail.com](mailto:clarinetnews@gmail.com).*