



CARMEN MATEU
YOUNG ARTIST EUROPEAN AWARD
Opera and Dance

The Castell de Peralada Private Foundation (hereinafter, the Foundation) announces the fourth edition of the Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award, Opera and Dance, in accordance with the Prize Rules.

The fourth edition of the award is aimed at the OPERA category, specifically the ARTISTIC-EDUCATIONAL PROJECT.

Participants are asked to present a multidisciplinary educational project, suitable for different venues, auditoriums or unique spaces, with a clear focus: THE OPERA IS FOR YOU aimed at teenagers.

This award and its resulting new creation aims to bring the opera genre closer to young people, thereby fostering new audiences for opera and the performing arts as a contemporary creation that connects with younger generations. With the aim of engaging and drawing young audiences from increasingly diverse and complex age groups to theatre, music, dance, and the world of opera through the use of new languages.

This document outlines all the specific aspects related to this call for applications.

1. JURY AND CALL

1.1. Jury

As explained in the Prize Rules, the Jury is comprised of:

- President Isabel Suqué or her representative
- Vice President: Oriol Aguilà
- Members appointed specifically for this call in the development of an educational project, who are:

The President of the Jury will act as spokesperson and will not exercise her right to vote.

The Foundation reserves the right to modify the composition of the current jury if circumstances require it.

1.2. Call

The call for the fourth edition of the Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award, Opera and Dance, in the opera artistic-educational project category, will be announced on 28th April 2025, coinciding with the start of the application period. The first phase of applications will end on 10 July 2025 at 11:59 p.m. (GMT). The 12 selected projects, to be announced at the end of September, will progress to a second phase, where they will need to submit part of the libretto, a sketch of the stage design, and between 3 and 5 minutes of music. The second phase will end on 15 November 2025 at 11:59 p.m. (GMT).

The Foundation is collaborating with Opera Europa (<https://opera-europa.org/es>), the European Festivals Association (www.efa-aeu.eu/en/home) and RESEO (<https://www.reseo.org/>) to promote the award.

2. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS: REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

2.1. Requirements for submitting applications in the opera category, under the artistic-educational project.

Candidates, who must submit their own applications, must meet the following requirements:

- a) Hold the nationality of a European country, understood as the member states of the Council of Europe: Albania, Germany, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Belgium,



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Croatia, Denmark, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Estonia, the Russian Federation, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Lithuania, Ireland, North Macedonia, Malta, Montenegro, Monaco, Norway, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, United Kingdom, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and Cyprus.

- b) Or be citizens of other countries of the world, who are resident and are developing their career in Europe at the time of submitting their application, with Europe being understood as the member states of the Council of Europe.

Be a maximum of 35 years old on the date of application submission. Applications may be submitted individually or as a group. All members must be 35 years old or younger.

Candidates submitting applications must provide the following information/documentation using the form available on the Award's website:

- a) Personal information, contact information and official documentation proving the candidate's age and European nationality or residence.
- b) Documentation proving their training and professional career, including completed or ongoing studies, professional experience, recognitions and awards, etc.
- c) In the first phase, a dossier will be submitted outlining the idea for an educational project of a newly created opera for teenagers, featuring a diverse creative team (composer, set designer, lighting designer, choreographer, librettist, etc.). A multidisciplinary project for unique spaces with a clear focus: **THE OPERA IS FOR YOU**. If one of the 12 projects is selected by the committee of experts, the second phase will involve submitting part of the libretto, a sketch of the stage design, and between 3 and 5 minutes of music. The music may or may not be original.
- d) Letter of motivation written by the candidate.
- e) A written reflection on the role of opera and the performing arts as contemporary creations that connect with young audiences. With the aim of engaging and drawing young audiences from increasingly diverse and complex age groups to theatre, music, dance, and the world of opera through the use of new languages.

The organisation may contact the candidate to request additional material.

2.2. Criteria for Assessing Applications

The award recognises young artists for the excellence of their career, who merit support in the development thereof. In this regard, the following criteria will be taken into account when assessing candidates:

- Excellence in their career
- Innovation: reinventing opera
- Sustainability
- Ease of touring
- Multi-purpose indoor and outdoor spaces (with varying technical capacities), site specific. For example, squares, courtyards, gymnasium, pavilion, etc.
- Recognitions received
- Future projects



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- Involvement of local organisations and communities in the implementation, such as schools, municipal facilities, etc.
- Involvement and participation in their own career
- As optional supplementary documentation, a letter of endorsement and recommendation from a theatre or festival affiliated with Opera Europa or RESEO, or from a festival associated with the EFA (European Festivals Association), will be considered. Similarly, other theatres, auditoriums, or opera programmers outside Europe may also endorse candidates, particularly those European candidates who are developing their careers outside Europe.
- Other complementary endorsements

The organisation may contact the candidate to request additional information or material.

3. AWARD AND CASH PRIZE

3.1 Concept of the award and distribution of the cash prize

The award consists of:

- **This edition of the award will have a total cash prize of €40,000**, subject to the fiscal conditions outlined in the Prize Rules. This amount will be used to create and produce the educational project, including the fees and expenses of the creative team, as well as the production costs for the premiere at the Perelada Festival.
- **It will be distributed as follows:**
 - **50% of the prize (€20,000) will be given directly to the creative team**, according to this payment schedule:
 - (i) **€10,000** at the award ceremony.
 - (ii) **€10,000** at the premiere of the project at the Perelada Festival.
 - **The other 50% of the prize (€20,000) will be used to cover the production costs** to produce the project, including scenery, costumes, performers, copyright and technical specifications. Therefore, the winner will have to submit a detailed budget for the project. The winners and the Foundation will determine the project's production and implementation model.
- The cost per performance of this show cannot exceed €4,000 for each performance and possible touring, including the music, stage, performers, technical, copyright and audiovisual costs.
- Rights transferred to Fundació Castell de Peralada and Festival Perelada S.L.
- An award created by the artist Santi Moix.
- This work will be presented in the 2026 edition of the Perelada Festival or in subsequent programmes, with the possibility of the show touring various locations across the country.

In the event of any discrepancy between this document and the general rules, the terms and conditions set out herein will prevail.

Additional information regarding the Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award, Opera and Dance, can be found in the general rules.