

## **International Competition for Carillon Composition LIER, Belgium**

Podiumacademie Lier, the Lier carillon association and the city of Lier are organizing an International Competition for Carillon Composition.



### **Competition rules**

1. This is a competition for a carillon solo composition of 5 to 10 minutes, for a carillon of 4 octaves, in mean-tone tuning, with range G - B flat - c1 - d - chromatic - d5 (pedal G - B flat - c1 - d - chromatic - g2). Bass bell: approx. 8 tons with striking tone E. The compositions are of a high degree of difficulty, both technically and musically.

Videos carillon of the Sint-Gammarus church (meantone tuning)

Slow playing, to discover the timbre of the meantone carillon of Lier:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bel68jmSjrE>

Example of a rhythmically challenging composition:

<https://youtu.be/-q7hRcGy2wc>

Video "What is a carillon?"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ouq1vuFRJSQ>

2. The composition must be emailed in PDF format to Thomas Buys, secretary of the jury (email address: [thomas.buys@lier.be](mailto:thomas.buys@lier.be)) no later than October 15, 2025. The PDF must not contain the name of the composer. Any explanations are written in English, with Italian names for the interpretation indications. The secretary will send a confirmation of receipt.

3. Participants who are not familiar with composing for carillon can find tips and guidelines via the links on this page:

<https://beiaardlier.be/composing.pdf>

4. Each candidate may submit only one work. The submitted compositions may not have been published or played for public.

5. The secretary of the jury checks whether the entries meet the formal requirements mentioned above and provides feedback on this by e-mail to the sender. If necessary, the sender can make adjustments within a period of 7 calendar days. The secretary assigns a number to the accepted entries and forwards them to the jury members, without mentioning the name of the composer. The secretary of the jury has no voting rights and ensures the anonymity of the participants.

6. The jury consists of:

- Koen Van Assche (B), city carillonneur of Lier, Antwerp, Turnhout and Herentals; teacher at “Podiumacademie Lier”; teacher at Royal Carillon School “Jef Denyn”, Mechelen
- Jasper Depraetere (B), assistant city carillonneur of Lier; city carillonneur of Mol; teacher at Royal Carillon School “Jef Denyn”, Mechelen
- Wannes Vanderhoeven (B), teacher of music theory at “Podiumacademie Lier”; teacher at Royal Carillon School “Jef Denyn”, Mechelen; teacher at city conservatory of Mechelen
- Peter Pazmany (B), teacher of music theory at “Podiumacademie Lier”, composer
- dr. Katarzyna Kwiecien-Dlugosz (Poland), composer, Head of the Department of Composition and Music Theory at the University of Zielona Góra (Poland).
- Julie Zhu (USA), composer and carillonneur, Assistant Professor of Performing Arts Technology at the University of Michigan (USA)

Secretary Thomas Buys, representing the city of Lier

7. The jury members award points 10, 7, 5, 3 and 1 to the five best works for them and send these to the secretary of the jury no later than 1 December 2025. The jury adds up the scores to a total score. The total score determines the outcome of the competition, with ranking of the three highest scoring entries. Afterwards, the participants will be given insight into the composition of the total score upon request, but without disclosure of which jury member awarded which scores.

8. The following prizes will be awarded to the three highest-ranked compositions:

1st prize: 2.000 euros

2nd prize: 500 euros

3rd prize: 250 euros

In the event of a tie, the composers of the equally ranked compositions (1-2 or 2-3) will each receive the average of the two sums of money.

The composition that received the 1st prize will be considered the compulsory work for the interpretation competition that will be held in Lier in 2026. In the event of a tie between 1-2, the jury will decide which will be the compulsory work. The jury reserves the right not to award a prize if the work does not meet their expectations.

9. After the competition, the composers of the three highest-ranked entries will submit their score with the author's name and the title in the original language to the secretary of the jury via PDF.

10. The names of the composers of the awarded compositions will be announced online via news reports and social media after the end of the composition competition, on 15 December 2025. The composers involved agreed not to pass on the composition to anyone until after it has been published by the competition organizers, with the composition being withdrawn as an awarded work if it appears that the composer has not adhered to this confidentiality.

11. The organization of the competition is responsible for the publication (online, via pdf, made available free of charge) of the awarded compositions, on 1 February 2026. The composers involved agree to transfer the publication rights to the organization of the competition. The awarded compositions may not be further published without the express permission of the organizers of this competition.