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**Preamble / Initial Situation**

In the past few decades, jazz from Germany has developed into a globally recognized cultural flagship in Germany, which has been recognized and promoted in terms of cultural policy for several years.

Jazz in Germany is more up to date than ever: its actors live and convey cultural diversity in musical practice, in teaching, in cultural management, in sound recording production and in documentation. They are all highly mobile and create networks. They are developing new concepts and formats for the performance, recording and distribution of jazz and improvised music. The purpose of the German Jazz Prize is to recognize this innovative strength in all its facets. Initiated by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and Media (BKM), Prof. Monika Grütters, the Commissioner awards the German Jazz Prize from 2021 onward in accordance with the following provisions and within the framework of the budget available.

**I. Funding Goals**

The German Jazz Prize is intended to

* portray and preserve the diversity of jazz work in and from Germany
* appreciate and strengthen exceptional artistic and innovative creativity as well as in national and international jazz achievements
* support jazz from Germany to achieve even more global recognition
* lead to a stronger anchoring of jazz in society and
* set a visible sign of support of jazz creators. In addition to increased public attention, the award of the German Jazz Prize should also be appropriately financially endowed.

**II. Prize Categories**

The German Jazz Prize is awarded in the following categories:

Main Category 1: Artists

Prize category 1. Vocal

Prize category 2. Woodwind Instruments

Prize category 3. Brass Instruments

Prize category 4. Piano/Keyboards

Prize category 5. Guitar

Prize category 6. Bass

Prize category 7. Drums/Percussion

Prize category 8. Special Instruments

Prize category 9. Artist of the Year

Prize category 10. Band of the Year

Prize category 11. Large Ensemble of the Year

Prize category 12. Wind Instruments International

Prize category 13. Piano/Keyboards International

Prize category 14. String Instruments International

Prize category 15. Drums/Percussion International

Prize category 16. Artist of the Year International

Prize category 17. Band of the Year International

Main Category 2: Recording / Production

Prize category 18: Instrumental Album of the Year

Prize category 19: Vocal Album of the Year

Prize category 20. Debut Album of the Year

Prize category 21. Broadcast Production of the Year

Prize category 22. Instrumental Album of the Year International

Prize category 23. Vocal Album of the Year International

Prize category 24. Debut Album of the Year International

Main Category 3: Live

Prize category 25. Venue of the Year

Prize category 26. Festival of the Year

Main category 4: Composition / Arrangement

Prize category 27. Composition of the Year

Prize category 28. Arrangement of the Year

Main category 5: Special Prizes

Prize category 29. Journalistic Achievement

Prize category 30. Lifetime Achievement

Prize category 31. Special Prize of the Jury

**III. Formal provisions regarding the recipients of the award**

Individuals proposed for a German Jazz Prize in the prize categories 1–11 and 27–31 or who want to apply for an award must fulfil the following criteria at least one day prior to the submission deadline:

1. they are German citizens, or
2. they are citizens of other EU/EEA member states and Switzerland or other non-EU countries, and

2.1. have lived in Germany, i.e., have had their main residence in Germany for at least three years prior to nomination, or can provide evidence of continuous work and activity in Germany during this period, or

2.2. have completed their studies at a German university or other educational institution in Germany with state recognition.

International artists (prize categories 12-17) are those who:

1. do not have the German citizenship, and
2. do not live in Germany or have not lived in Germany for at least three years up to one day prior to the submission deadline.

In the case of group projects, the majority of the participating individuals, i.e., at least half of them, must meet these criteria.

In the case of recordings / productions (prize categories 18-24), the same criteria apply to the participating artists. The decisive factor is not the location of the organization responsible for the production/recording, but the participating artists themselves.

The exception to this is category 21, here the location of the broadcasting company producing the recording is decisive and must be in Germany.

The same artist or the same project cannot be submitted /nominated in national and international categories at the same time.

Applications in the prize category 25 (Venue of the Year) must be for venues located in Germany.

Applications in the prize category 26 (Festival of the Year) must be festivals that take place predominantly in Germany (based on the number of concerts taking place).

**IV. Endowment & Issue of the Prize Money**

The prizes awarded as part of the German Jazz Prize can be understood as a cultural and political recognition of jazz achievements. All prize categories are each endowed with prize money of at least 10,000 Euros. The prize is issued in the form of prize money.

Prize category 21 is a special case: The prize is given to the broadcaster together with the artists of the broadcast production. In the event of a win, only the respective artists will receive prize money, whereas public broadcasters will not receive any prize money, due to the limited state influence on public broadcasting, while private broadcasters will receive half of the prize money of at least 10,000 euros.

**V. Submission and Selection Criteria**

**V.1 Main Category 1: Artists (curated)**

Worthy of an award in the main category 1 are outstanding artists and achievements in the field of jazz who are characterized by high artistic quality and special creative power and this way contribute to the radiance and recognition of the German jazz scene in all its diversity and reinforce it. The worthiness is to be measured exclusively on the overall artistic work of the last 12 months. International appeal is particularly important for categories 12–17. In principle, achievements from the previous calendar year are awarded.

1. Vocal

The prize in the category **Vocal** is awarded to a jazz singer.

2. Woodwind Instruments

The prize in the category **Woodwind Instruments** is awarded to a musician whose main instrument belongs to the family of woodwind instruments (e.g., saxophone, clarinet, flute).

3. Brass Instruments

The prize in the category **Brass Instruments** is awarded to a musician whose main instrument belongs to the family of brass instruments (e.g., trumpet, trombone, horn, sousaphone).

4. Piano / keyboards

The prize in the category **Piano/Keyboards** is awarded to a musician whose main instrument belongs to the family of keyboard instruments (e.g., piano, keyboard).

5. Guitar

The prize in the category **Guitar** is awarded to a musician whose main instrument is the guitar.

6. Bass

The prize in the category **Bass** is awarded to a musician whose main instrument is the bass.

7. Drums / Percussion

The prize in the category **Drums/Percussion** is awarded to a musician whose main instrument belongs to the family of percussion instruments.

8. Special Instruments

The prize in the category **Special Instruments** is awarded to a musician whose primary instrument is not covered by the prize categories 1-7 (e.g., harp, violin, vibraphone, accordion).

9. Artist of the Year

In this award category, an artist from among all the nominations in the national award categories 1–8, 18–21 and 27–28 will be honored. In addition, each expert jury can propose an artist for this award category who has not already been nominated.

10. Band of the Year

The prize in the category **Band of the Year** is awarded to a group project consisting of up to 9 musicians. To be eligible, a fixed collaboration as a permanent ensemble is required.

11. Large Ensemble of the Year (from 10 people)

The prize in the category **Large Ensemble of the Year** is awarded to a group project consisting of at least 10 musicians. To be eligible, a fixed collaboration as a permanent ensemble is required.

12. Wind Instruments International

The prize in the category **Wind Instruments International** is awarded to an international musician whose main instrument is a wind instrument.

13. Piano/Keyboards International

The prize in the category **Piano/Keyboards International** is awarded to an international musician whose main instrument belongs to the family of keyboard instruments (e.g. piano, keyboard).

14. String Instruments International

The prize in the category **String Instruments International** is awarded to an international musician whose main instrument belongs to the family of string instruments.

15. Drums/Percussion International

The prize in the category **Drums/Percussion International** is awarded to an international musician whose main instrument belongs to the family of percussion instruments.

16. Artist of the Year International

In the category **Artist of the Year International**, an international artist from among all the nominations in the international award categories 12–15 and 22–24 will be honored.

In addition, each expert jury can propose an artist for this award category who has not already been nominated.

17. Band of the Year International

The prize in the category **Band of the Year International** is awarded to an international group project. To be eligible, a fixed collaboration as a permanent ensemble is required.

**V. 2 Main Category 2: Recording/Production**

Worthy of an award in main category 2 are productions (meaning music recordings) that are of outstanding sound quality and demonstrate the extraordinary artistic and innovative creativity of the artists involved. International appeal is particularly important for categories 22–24.

18. Instrumental Album of the Year

The prize in the category **Instrumental Album of the Year** is awarded to a jazz production in which the instrumental element is in the foreground.

19. Vocal Album of the Year

The prize in the category **Vocal Album of the Year** is awarded to a jazz production in which the vocal element is in the forefront.

20. Debut Album of the Year

The prize in the category **Debut Album of the Year** is awarded to a jazz production that is a debut release of the musician/group.

21. Broadcast Production of the Year

The prize in the category **Broadcast Production of the Year** is awarded to an audio or audio-visual production in the field of jazz, that has been realized and published by a broadcasting organization. The prize is given to the broadcaster together with the artists of the broadcast production.

22. Instrumental Album of the Year International

The prize in the category **Instrumental Album of the Year International** is awarded to an international jazz production in which the instrumental element is in the foreground.

23. Vocal Album of the Year International

The prize in the category **Vocal Album of the Year International** is awarded to an international jazz production in which the vocal element is in the forefront.

24. Debut Album of the Year International

The prize in the category **Debut Album of the Year International**is awarded to an international jazz production which is the debut album/production of an artist or group.

**V.3 Main Category 3: Live**

25. Venue of the Year

In this prize category, venues for jazz are awarded, that are characterised by a high-quality, artistically demanding and innovative program that furthermore give jazz as a contemporary art a place to evolve and develop.

This also includes series of concerts at venues that usually do not exclusively stage jazz and improvised music. In addition, particularly good working conditions for artists can play a role in the evaluation process.

26. Festival of the Year

The prize in the category **Festival of the Year** is awarded to festivals with a focus on jazz, which are distinguished by high-quality, artistically

demanding and innovative programming. In addition, special event formats and focal points should be put into consideration in the assessment process.

**V.4 Main Category 4: Composition / Arrangement**

In prize categories 27 and 28, composers and arrangers in the jazz area who are characterized by originality, innovation and the technical as well as musical quality of the composition or arrangement are honored.

27. Composition of the Year

The prize in the category **Composition of the Year** is awarded to an original jazz composition, that stands out for its originality, innovation, and the technical as well as musical quality of the composition.

28. Arrangement of the Year

The prize in the category **Arrangement of the Year** is awarded to an original jazz arrangement, whereby arrangement is to be understood as a new version of an already existing composition, usually for a different instrumentation than the original arrangement.

**V.5 Main Category 5: Special Prizes**

29. Journalistic Achievement

In the prize category **Journalistic Achievement,** a journalistic achievement in the field of jazz (i.e., contribution on TV, radio, print or online journalism such as blogs, podcasts, vlogs) from the previous year is awarded, which is characterized by a particularly knowledgeable, sharp analytical or sensitive presentation of the (musical) events in the field of jazz in the previous year.

Special formats and journalistic efforts to inspire a wider audience for jazz should also be taken into consideration here. Journalistic contributions in the field of photography can also be considered.

30. Lifetime Achievement

The prize in the category **Lifetime Achievement** honours individuals for their outstanding achievements and long-term service, which have made an important contribution to the development of jazz in Germany.

31. Special Prize of the Jury

The prize in the category **Special Prize of the Jury** is awarded to artists, performers, events or achievements (if possible, with reference to the previous year) from the field of jazz, who the jury considers to be particularly worthy of recognition, but who have not already been considered in another prize category.

**VI. Procedure & Submission Requirements**

**VI.1 Curated Categories**

For prize categories 1 to 17 and prize category 25, proposals for award winners will only be submitted by the appointed expert juries. For categories 30 and 31, proposals for award winners will be submitted by both the appointed expert juries as well as the main jury of the German Jazz Prize.

**VI.2 Submission Categories**

The other prize categories (18–24 and 26–29) are so-called submission categories, for which music creators who meet the formal provisions and selection criteria can apply independently. The submission deadlines and information on the application process will be published on the website of the German Jazz Prize. All applications received for the respective category by a deadline published on the website of the German Jazz Prize will be assessed. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

Entry Requirements for the Prize Categories 18–24

Musicians with productions in which they are involved, producers responsible for the productions as well as labels, publishers, broadcasters, managements and promoters are eligible to submit applications. A brief written statement as to why the production should be considered, must be included in the application.

Music recordings with a length of at least 30 minutes, that have been made available to the public in the context of a commercial release (verifiable via an EAN code), as well as two reviews that have been published in independent media, should be submitted.

The productions submitted for a review must be made available online to the jury, together with covers/ artworks, that have been used for the sale of the recorded products.

For category 21, in deviation from the previous provisions, an audio or audio-visual recording must be submitted, and the broadcast date of the production must be specified.

You can submit productions that have appeared or will appear after the submission phase of the previous award period and at the latest by the end of the current submission period or (in the case of category 21) were or will be broadcast.

Submission requirements for prize category 26

The organizers of festivals in Germany that present a total of at least six concerts on at least two consecutive days are entitled to submit applications.

The application includes a brief general description of the festival, a short description of the concept as well as the program of the festival submitted for assessment.

In view of the pandemic-related restrictions in the live music scene during the evaluation period, festivals that were either hybrid or exclusively digital are eligible for this edition of the German Jazz Prize as well.

Submission Requirements for Prize Categories 27 and 28

The composers and arrangers themselves as well as music publishers are entitled to submit applications. The composition/arrangement must have been published in the last year.

The composition/arrangement may have been published either through performance or recording or through a media publication. The notation of the composition or arrangement and a professional recording of the composition/arrangement must be submitted. The submission of the notation must be in detailed form. This includes scores, detailed playing instructions, flow charts and lead sheets. Sketches and purely graphic notations are not sufficient. A signed declaration that the work has not been published before the last 12 months must also be submitted.

Submission requirements for prize category 29

The authors of the work themselves, the media publishing house of the contribution as well as listeners and readers are entitled to submit applications. Individuals who are not primarily employed as journalists are entitled to submit applications as well.

Submissions should include the work itself, details about the format and date of publication as well as a short biography of the author. (In case of group works short biographies of all authors are required). Additionally, a short-written statement as to why the work should be considered, must be submitted.

**VI.3 Special Categories**

The winner in category 25 will be determined by online voting among the members of the German Jazz-Union.

In prize category 9, an artist from among all the nominations in the national prize categories 1–8, 18–21 and 27–28 will be honored. In addition, each expert jury can propose an artist who has not already been nominated for this award category. In prize category 16, an international artist from among all the nominations in the international prize categories 12–15 and 22–24 will be honored. Additionally, each expert jury can propose an artist who has not already been nominated for this award category.

**VI.4 General Provision for All Submissions**

In principle, artistic freedom applies, but applications that deal with unconstitutional, illegal, racist, sexist, inhuman or other discriminatory content are excluded from participation in the German Jazz Prize.

**VII. Data protection**

Initiative Musik gGmbH ensures technically and organizationally that the applicable data protection regulations are complied by itself and by any third parties that are commissioned to process personal data as part of the application process or the implementation of the German Jazz Prize. The processing of personal data takes place in accordance with the European General Data Protection Regulation (EU GDPR) and the Federal Data Protection Act (BDSG).

For the submission categories, a declaration on data protection is part of the application process, in the context of which the applicant - insofar as this is required by law - consents to the processing of his / her personal data.

The provisions laid down in the jury statutes apply to the curated categories.

Berlin, June 23, 2022