

The S | t | r | a | d

Morassi makes history at Wieniawski competition

For the first time in the history of the ninth Henryk Wieniawski International Violin Making Competition, the jury has awarded the Grand Prix. The winning violin (pictured), made by Simeone Morassi from Italy, was considered to be outstanding in terms of its sound quality and workmanship and Morassi received a prize of US \$10,000. The competition, which takes place every five years, was held at the Museum of Musical Instruments in Poznań from 11 to 18 May. It attracted violin makers from 17 countries with a total of 121 violins.

The instruments went through a series of sound tests, which included tests with a piano in a small room and one with a symphony orchestra in a concert hall. The tests were performed by Bartosz Bryla, a past laureate of the Henryk Wieniawski International Violin Competition, pianist Andrzej Tatarski, and the State Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Renard Czajkowski.

Morassi also took second prize with another violin. Other prize winners included: Krzysztof Mróz of Poland (first prize); Giovanni Morassi from Italy and Mróz (joint third prize); Gao Tong from China and Mieczyslaw Nowobilski of Poland (joint fourth prize).

