Call for the first

Al-Quds Composition Award

The first Al-Quds Composition Award will be presented by the new Al-Quds University College of Music.

It will be awarded and the winning submission performed during the Autumn Academy of Al-Quds University College, Jerusalem, during October 2012. The Artistic director of the performances will be Anke Rauthmann, director of Berlin International Opera.

This new award aims to encourage the creation of high quality chamber music works which include elements of Oriental and Western European music combined with human voice.

http://music.alquds.edu
Impossible Grace

The music should be inspired by and reflect on the following poem ‘Impossible Grace’ by Meena Alexander:

I
At Herod’s gate
I heap flowers in a crate
Poppies, moist lilies --
It’s dusk, I wait.

II
Wild iris --
The color of your eyes before you were born
That hard winter
And your mother brought you to Damascus gate.

III
My desire silent as a cloud,
It floats through New gate
Over the fists
Of the beardless boy-soldiers.

IV
You stopped for me at Lion’s gate,
Feet wet with dew
From the torn flagstones
Of Jerusalem.

V
Love, I was forced to approach you
Through Dung gate
My hands the color
Of the broken houses of Silwan.

VI
At Zion’s gate I knelt and wept.
An old man, half lame --
He kept house in Raimon’s café,
Led me to the fountain.

VII
At Golden gate
Where rooftops ring with music
I glimpse your face.
You have a coat of many colors -- impossible grace.
Submission Details

Title of the new piece: Impossible Grace
Composition prize: 700 Euros
Deadline of submission: June 30th 2012
Maximum of instruments or voices involved: 4 (human voice is obligatory)

A panel of judges consisting of international composers and contemporary music experts will select the winning composition. The winning composer is expected to attend the rehearsals and award concert. The cost of travel and accommodation will be covered.

Please send the score digitally or by post to:

Petra R. Klose
Al-Quds University College of Music
c/o Künstler und Kulturprojekte
Marc Aurel Strasse 2a/6/8
1010 Vienna – Austria
Mail: petra@alquds.music.edu

The score must contain the composer's name, address, telephone number, e-mail and a brief biographical sketch. If a recording of the work is available, it should accompany the score.

The premiere performance of the winning composition will be presented in two concerts in Jerusalem in October 2012.

For further information please contact:
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