

News Release

Winners of the The Arts & Letters Club of Toronto's Emerging Canadian Composers Competition announced



Following performances on December 8 by The Ezra Duo of works for viola and piano by the three finalists, the Arts & Letters Club is pleased to announce the results:

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First prize of \$1,000 to **Luis Ramirez** from Mississauga, for his work ***Azure***.

This is a complex and layered work of four movements. It conjures up a fast-paced road trip over the Manitoban prairies, driving swiftly through its seasons, colors, and scenery.

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Second prize of \$600 to **Simon Alami** from Montreal, for his work ***Tea with Debussy & Pärt in Casablanca***.

The work imagines an intimate gathering over Moroccan tea with Arvo Pärt and Claude Debussy. One can hear traces of the styles of the two composers set within a musical conversation that captures the liveliness of Moroccan discussions.

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Third prize of \$400 to **Fiona Marchetto** from Calgary, but now living in Montreal, for her work ***Thunderstorm***.

The work is based on a poem of the same name by Emily Dickinson. It is effective in capturing the lead up from winds to the thunder and then to the lightning of a violent storm.

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Jurying the competition were Lawrence Cherney, David Jaeger and Alexina Louie.

A recording of the performances, can be heard on the Club's YouTube Channel:

<https://youtu.be/uVtCyqIUpDI>

The Arts & Letters Club is proud to have played a part in supporting these important new voices on the Canadian music scene.