

Press Quotes



"Two things set the Menuhin Competition apart. One is the youth of its competitors: the age limits are 22 for the senior prize, 16 for the junior. The other – and this is where Menuhin's own personality comes in – is its festival-like nature." Erica Jeal, The Guardian

"Named after one of the greatest soloists in history, Yehudi Menuhin, the tournament has a knack for catapulting its prize-winners to international stardom, having launched the careers of concert-hall fillers such as Julia Fischer and Nikolaj Znaider over the decades." Joe Miller, BBC Arts

"The biennial Menuhin Competition has established the careers of many of the world's most renowned players, including Ray Chen, Tasmin Little and Julia Fischer - all of whom sat on this year's jury. Musicians accumulate years of performing experience before entering the contest, despite their young age." Mark Savage, BBC News

"György Pauk, a performer and the Academy's professor of violin, said: 'To be accepted at the Menuhin competition is already a big achievement.'" Dalya Alberge, The Guardian

"The experience is not just about the music. For the 37 girls and seven boys from around the globe taking part in the Menuhin this year, this is an opportunity to meet others who have had similar childhoods to them, and who may very well go on to share the same circuit as their adult careers take off." Joe Miller, BBC Arts

"The great violinist would have been charmed by the Junior Final, held at the Royal Academy of Music...The virtuosic Shpigl proved to be a test of nerves for the finalists - and for the audience." Strings Magazine

"The gala concert that closed the biennial competition showcased the prodigious talents of the two winners, while Julia Fischer – a previous winner – gave a glorious performance of Bartók's first concerto." Erica Jeal, The Guardian

"In the Summer concerto from Vivaldi's Four Seasons, [Yesong Sophie Lee] showed poise right from the slow introduction and led the orchestra with remarkable assurance. She displayed a fine sense of line and had all the colours needed for the tone-painting essential in this music." John Allison, The Daily Telegraph

"Both of the winners will now be catapulted into the classical music stratosphere, playing at several major music festivals over the coming year, including performances with the Konzerthaus Orchestra at the Menuhin Homage in Berlin and a UK tour in July 2016." Mark Savage, BBC News

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Joe Miller, BBC Arts