

**The German Lute Society** (Deutsche Lautengesellschaft e.V.) is pleased to announce its **Second International Lute Competition**, dedicated exclusively to the music of John Dowland. The competition will take place in **Weimar**, Germany, as part of the German Lute Society Festival.

- Eligibility: Open to lutenist born on or after January 1, 1996.
- Previous first-prize winners of a German Lute Society competition are not eligible to apply for the subsequent edition.
- Instruments: Double-strung Renaissance lutes (a single first string permitted).
- 'Live' Finals date: May 15, 2026
- Prize-Winners' Concert: May 16, 2026

### **Jury**

- Nigel North (England) Chairman
- Claire Antonini (France)
- Jakob Lindberg (Sweden)
- Lynda Sayce (England)
- Bor Zuljan (Slovenia)

### **Prizes**

Place	Award	Recital (May 16)
1st Prize	€1000	30-minute recital
2nd Prize	€750	25-minute recital
3rd Prize	€500	20-minute recital

#### **Additional Awards:**

- Prize-winners featured in publications of the German Lute Society and The Lute Society (UK).
- Gift certificates from co-sponsors: Aquila Corde Armoniche, The French Lute Society, The Lute Society (UK), Le Luth Doré, and Holzenburg Verlag.
- Honorable Mention certificates for all finalists not awarded a prize.
- Free digital membership to the German Lute Society (2026) for all applicants.

### **Application Procedure (First Round – Video Entry)**

Deadline: February 15, 2026

Submit by email to [vorstand@lautengesellschaft.de](mailto:vorstand@lautengesellschaft.de) including:

- Home address and mobile phone number
- Link to application video
- Scanned ID (showing date of birth)
- Application fee: €50 (transfer to Deutsche Lautengesellschaft, Frankfurt am Main, Germany) - IBAN: DE22 6835 1865 0007 1311 39, SWIFT-BIC: SOLADES1MGL

### **Competition Rounds**

#### **FIRST ROUND – VIDEO ENTRY**

- Duration: 15–20 minutes
- Recording conditions: single take per piece, fixed camera angle, no edits or artificial reverb; face and hands visible; audio and video recorded simultaneously
- Upload to YouTube, provide link in application
- Jury results announced by March 15, 2026 (up to 8 finalists invited to Weimar)

**Obligatory piece:** Sir John Smith his Almain (Variatie of Lute-lessons, London 1610)

**Additional repertoire:** From The Collected Lute Music of John Dowland (ed. Poulton & Lam, Faber Music) – Nos. 1–46, 48–54, 56–59, 61–70, 79, 93, 96, 98–100

FINAL ROUND – ‘LIVE’ IN WEIMAR (May 15, 2026)

- Duration: 25–30 minutes
- Must include 10–15 minutes not performed in the video round (other repeats allowed)
- Open to the public

**Obligatory piece:** Sir John Langton his Pavan (Variatie of Lute-lessons, London 1610)

**Additional repertoire:** From The Collected Lute Music of John Dowland (ed. Poulton & Lam, Faber Music) – Nos. 1–46, 48–54, 56–59, 61–70, 79, 93, 96, 98–100

**Prize-Winners' Concert**

May 16, 2026, during the German Lute Society Festival

Jury decisions are final (feedback may be requested)

Finalists are responsible for their own travel and accommodation

We warmly welcome talented lute players from around the world to Weimar in 2026!

Peter Croton

President of the German Lute Society

Initiator and Director of the Lute Competition