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## **Apollo announces winning composer of its International Commissioning Contest: ERBERK ERYILMAZ**

**20** X **2020**

Apollo Chamber Players is pleased to announce the winner of its inaugural International Commissioning Contest, Turkish-born composer **Erberk Eryilmaz**. The contest, part of the organization's 20x2020 commissioning project, drew an incredible response: **254 submissions from 30 countries**, including representation from **36 US states**. (Illustrative maps on page 2.) With assistance from its advisory panel, comprised of faculty composers from Rice University and University of Houston, Apollo narrowed the entries to 25 semi-finalists, 8 finalists and one winning work, Mr. Eryilmaz's *Miniatures Set No. 4*. (See website for advisor and finalist list.) "It was amazing and gratifying to hear the level of inventiveness displayed by each of the various composers, and their deeply personal and engagingly idiosyncratic approaches towards folk influence," reflects competition judge Dr. Art Gottschalk, professor of composition at Rice University.



**Erberk Eryilmaz**

The winning composer is awarded a \$3,000 commissioning contract to write a new string quartet work based on Hungarian and Roma folk music idioms.

"We are thrilled that Mr. Eryilmaz was selected among such a large and talented pool of composers," remarks Matthew J. Detrick, artistic director. "His interests and inspirations as a composer dovetail nicely with the mission of Apollo Chamber Players." Says Mr. Eryilmaz: "I am excited to be selected as winner of the commissioning competition and look forward to writing for the group." He adds, "Coming to the States encouraged me to learn more about my (Turkish) culture and the music of my culture...I hope to bring the philosophy of Turkish music to Western music." Mr. Eryilmaz is currently pursuing an artist diploma degree at Carnegie Mellon University, a student of Reza Vali; he came to the US in 2006 at the age of 17 to study at the Hartt School with Stephen Gryc.

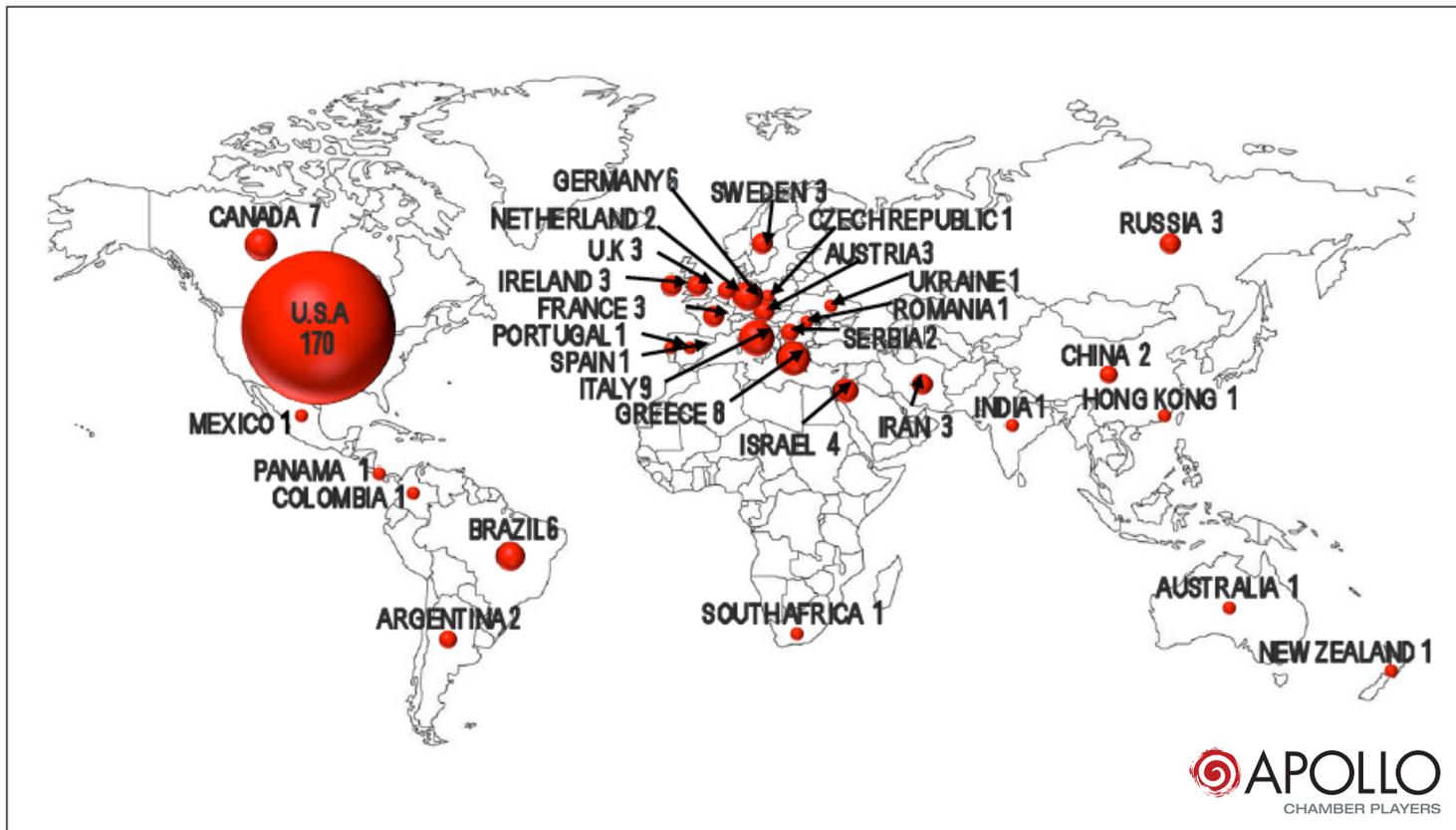


The world premiere of the new work will headline the organization's season-finale concert, *Hungarian Folk Lyricism*, on May 1, 2015 at Rice University. Program also features Bartok's String Quartet No. 3, Beethoven's String Quartet Op. 18 No. 4, and Dana Wilson's *Hungarian Folk Songs* (2008).

More information at [apollochamberplayers.org](http://apollochamberplayers.org)

# TOTAL SUBMISSIONS: 254

## INTERNATIONAL SUBMISSIONS (By Country): 84



## NATIONAL SUBMISSIONS (By State): 170

