



Contact: Michael Russell  
The Michael Russell Group  
(310) 939-9024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **48 COMPETITORS SELECTED TO COMPETE FOR \$250,000 IN CASH PRIZES AT JOSÉ ITURBI MUSIC COMPETITION PRESENTED BY CUNARD LINE**

LOS ANGELES, June 10, 2008 – 48 competitors have been selected to participate in The 2008 José Iturbi Music Competition at UCLA, it was announced today by Donelle Dadigan, President of the José Iturbi Foundation.

The world's only weeklong competition that adds features of "American Idol" to the world of classical music will take place June 16-21 at UCLA's Schoenberg Hall. The competition offers the highest cash prizes of any classical piano and singing competition worldwide. Competitors range in age from 19 to 32 and hail from more than 20 countries.

The 24 piano competitors are:

Ron Abramski, 29, England/Germany  
Irina Bogdanova, 25, Russia  
Sean Chen, 19, USA  
Hye-Won Cho, 28, Korea/USA  
Tommaso Cogato, 27, Italy  
Gleb Ivanov, 25, Russia/USA  
Mariya Kim, 26, Ukraine/Germany  
Anna Kurasawa, 24, Japan/Germany  
Dmitri Levkovich, 29, Ukraine/Canada  
Anastasia Markina, 29, Russia/USA  
Yevgeniy Milyavskiy, 23, Belarus/USA  
Miroslava Mintcheva, 32, Bulgaria/USA  
Margarita Muzychenko, 22, Russia  
Emi Nakajima, 30, USA  
Junghye Shin, 30, Korea/USA  
Laura Sibella, 24, France  
Stepan Simonian, 26, Russia/Germany  
Konstantin Soukhovetski, 27, Russia/USA  
Chetan Tierra, 24, USA  
Agnieszka Ufniaz, 29, Poland/France  
Xiaofeng Wu, 29, China/USA  
Chun Chieh Yen, 24, Taiwan/USA  
Maor Zur, 27, Israel  
Darrett Zusko, 23, Canada

The 24 vocal competitors are:

Sarah Austin, 30, USA  
Matt Boehler, 31, USA  
Alyson Cambridge, 29, USA  
Jamie Chamberlin, 29, USA  
Andrew Garland, 31, USA  
Daniel Holmes, 30, USA

Christopher Job, 30, USA  
Rhoslyn Jones, 28, Canada/USA  
Alexander Korenkov, 30, Russia/USA  
Jesus Leon, 32, Mexico/USA  
Jamilyn Manning-White, 23, USA  
Kenneth Mattice, 29, USA  
Angela Meade, 30, USA  
Naguanda Nobles, 31, USA  
Martin Nusspaumer, 28, Uruguay/USA  
Ivo Posti, 32, Estonia/The Netherlands  
Joslin Romphf, 30, Canada  
Rodell Rosel, 32, Philippines/USA  
Michael Todd Simpson, 30, USA  
Chistia Starnes, 28, USA  
Noah Stewart, 29, USA  
Nicole Taylor, 28, USA/France  
Amber Wagner, 28, USA  
Christin Wismann, 24, USA

Photos and biographies of the competitors can be viewed at [www.joseiturbifoundation.org](http://www.joseiturbifoundation.org). In addition to Cunard Line, sponsors of the 2008 José Iturbi International Music Competition include Alliance Bank, The Beverly Hilton, Fields Pianos and The Luxe Hotel.

#### About Cunard Line

Cunard Line, operator of the luxury ocean liners Queen Mary 2, QE2 and Queen Victoria has long been synonymous with the quest for new discoveries and the epitome of British refinement since the company's first paddle-wheeled steamer, Britannia, crossed the Atlantic in 1840. Cunard voyages bring together like-minded travelers who relish the Cunard hallmarks of impeccable White Star Service™, fine dining, sophisticated adventure, the legacy of historic voyages and transatlantic travel.

Cunard Line is a proud member of *World's Leading Cruise Lines*. The exclusive alliance also includes Carnival Cruise Lines, Holland America Line, Princess Cruises, Costa Cruises and The Yachts of Seabourn. Sharing a passion to please each guest, and a commitment to quality and value, member lines appeal to a wide range of lifestyles and budgets. Together they offer exciting and enriching cruise vacations to the world's most desirable destinations.