

SynthBuilder wins Grand Prize in Second International Music Software Competition

SynthBuilder, the Music Kit DSP/MIDI design application, was awarded the Grand Prize in the Second International Music Software Competition in Bourges, France in May 1997. *SynthBuilder* was written by Nick Porcaro, David Jaffe, Pat Scandalis, Julius Smith, and Tim Stillson, with support from the Stanford Sondius program.

Statement of the Jury

The Second Annual International Music Software Competition was held in June, 1997 at the International Institute for Electroacoustic Music in Bourges, France. The motivation of the competition is to acknowledge the excellent free music software that is available already, and to encourage further development. The competition was open to all developers of freeware and shareware musical applications. Over 30 entries were received from 10 countries of Europe, North and South America, and Asia. The platforms included Macintosh, PC/Windows, NeXTSTEP, Atari, and SGI.

The jury was impressed with the quality of the entries, and the breadth of applications they address. Relative to last year's entries, we were very impressed by the quality and user-friendliness of the entries in the area of real-time signal processing. Another recent development is the appearance of high-quality music software on the Silicon Graphics platform.

The jury had the option of awarding prizes of FF 5000 and nominations worth FF 2500 in each of five categories, and, for the first time, a grand Prize of FF 10000 called the "Golden Max" was introduced into the competition. The winners are listed below, and receive our sincere congratulations.

Jury (in alphabetical order)

Dominique-Georges Begue (France)

James Dashow (Italy)

Philippe Depalle (France)

Hughes Genevois (France)

Francois Giraudon (France)

Alain Mangenot (France)

Stephen Travis Pope (USA)

Todor Todoroff (Belgium)

Awards

Grand Prize "Golden Max": Nick Porcaro, David Jaffe, Pat Scandalis, Julius Smith, and Tim Stillson (USA) for "SynthBuilder" (NeXTSTEP)

Category 1--Non-real-time sound analysis/synthesis
Prize: William Schottstaedt (USA) for "Snd" (SGI)

Category 2--Computer-aided composition and realization

Prize (Ex Aequo): Jean Piche and Alexandre Burton (Canada) for "Cecilia" (SGI)

Prize (Ex Aequo): Bernard Bel (France) for "Bol Processor" (Mac)

Category 3--Real-time sound synthesis and processing

Prize: Dylan Menzies-Gow (UK) for "LAMB" (SGI)

Nomination: Gerhard Behles (Germany) for "Stampede" (SGI)

Category 4--Multimedia software

Prize: Philippe Montemont (France) for "CD Regie" (Macintosh)

Nomination: Arnaud Masson (France) for "Arnold's MIDI Player" (Macintosh)

Category 5--Other applications (games, editing, pedagogy, networking, etc.)

Prize: Tontata (Japan) for "MIDIgraphy" (Macintosh)