

# V-ACCORDION FESTIVAL

## THE 1<sup>st</sup> ROLAND V-ACCORDION CONTEST

### Regulations

Roland Europe S.p.A. and Roland Corporation announce the first "ROLAND V-Accordion" international Festival for accordion soloists and accordion bands.

The Festival is divided into two steps:  
National, International

### CATEGORIES

National and International step will have the same categories:

#### SOLO



- **One Accordion player only, without limitation about Pro/Amateur**
- **Minimum required age: 18**
- **Any genre of music is allowed**

#### Ensemble



- **An Accordion band consists of minimum two musicians, maximum four musicians, without limitation about Pro/Amateur**
- **Any formation of the band is possible as long as the group includes minimum one accordion player as principal player. It is also possible to form the band with only accordion players.**
- **Minimum required age: 18**
- **Any genre of music is allowed**

## REQUIREMENTS TO BE A CONTESTANT

### ***SOLO division***

- One accordion player only, without limitation about Pro / Amateur musicians.
- Minimum required age: 18 years.
- Any genre of music is allowed.
- At the National /International Final, the finalists are allowed to use just one V-Accordion, it is not allowed to use any external module. They are allowed to use any V-Accordion onboard Orchestral Sounds in addition to the V-Accordion onboard accordion sounds.
- At the National/International Final, contestants are allowed to use a CD playback (as a backing track). (see page 4 / page 6)
- In case the National Finalists are not the V-Accordion owner, Roland JV shall loan a V-Accordion.
- One V-Accordion per single National Finalist is needed. It is not possible to share one V-Accordion among several contestants (due to the unavailability of onboard data storage).

### ***Ensemble division***

- One Band consists of minimum two musicians, maximum four musicians. No limitation about Pro / Amateur.
- Minimum required age: 18 years.
- Any genre of music is allowed.
- Any formation of the band is possible as long as the group includes minimum one accordion player as a principal player. It is also possible to form the Band with accordion players only.
- Basically any instrument player can be included in the Band except for acoustic bellows instruments.
- No playback (including SMF/Sequence, Music Style, CD, Audio File, Analog Vinyl) is allowed.
- At the National/International Final, the finalists are allowed to use just one V-Accordion, it is not allowed to use any external module. They are allowed to use any V-Accordion onboard Orchestral Sounds in addition to the V-Accordion onboard accordion sounds.
- In case other members than accordion player use acoustic drums or non-Roland electronic drums, they must use Roland V-Drums which the organizer provides at the venue of National Final and International Final. In case other members than accordion player use Bass Amp, Guitar Amp, Piano/digital piano, synthesizer, organ, percussion etc, they must use Roland products that organizer provides at the venue of National Final and International Final.
- In regard to the other instruments such as brass / woodwind / string instruments which can not be replaced by Roland products, the ensemble members are allowed to bring and play their own instruments at the National Final and International Final.



Roland JVs shall organize their domestic festival.

### **Application for the contest**

The accordion players / accordion ensemble groups who want to enter the contest are requested to record their performance onto the video media (DV tape or DVD Video disk) and send to Roland JV who organizes the contest, together with the application form.

At the beginning of their recorded performance, applicants are requested to declare verbally the name and authors of the songs they are going to perform.

All sorts of accordionists will be admitted to compete by playing any kind of instrument of any trademark.

The duration of the performance must be maximum 5 minutes.

### **Pre-Qualification**

The Pre-Selection session is not opened to the public.

Judgement shall be made based on a recorded performance on the VIDEO media.

Each JV shall take care of establishing the number of the jury depending on their own decisions.

At the end of the Pre-Selection the jury will choose the contestants that shall be entitled to compete in the National Final (National Finalists).

Each JV shall take care of establishing the number of National Finalists for each division depending on their own decisions.

It is not mandatory to establish two divisions, in case JV anticipates the big difficulties to have enough number of applicants for two different divisions. In that case JVs can decide to organize the entire National step takes place with only one category.

### **National Final**

Right after the Pre-Qualification is finished, JV shall arrange to loan each contestant (National Finalist) one V-Accordion unit for Solo division or max 4 V-Accordion units for Ensemble division (of course, concerning bands the precise number of V-Accordion depends on how many elements play V-Accordion)

In mid September (two months after the Pre-Qualification) each JV shall organize the National Final.

Every JV shall choose a venue.

National Final is the event opened to the public.

During the day time, sound check and rehearsal is held.

In the evening or afternoon, each National Finalist (Solo and Ensemble) shall play maximum 10 min. on stage in front of audience and jury members.

At the Solo division, National Finalists can choose two possibilities:

- To play only V-Accordion for max. 10 minutes (No limitation about the number of songs)
- To play max. 10 minutes the V-Accordion, they can use a CD playback (audio track) less than 50% of the total duration.

(e.g. If the total duration is 7min., performance with CD Playback should be less than 3.5min.)

Each JV shall take care of establishing the number of the jury depending on their own decisions.

This National Final event shall include attraction programs such as V-Accordion Demonstration part, V-Accordion hands-on, etc. as well.

Recommendations:

In case the total number of applicants is large and several National Finalists are chosen, the National contest event can be organized in two or more days.

Each JV can do the National contest without having the divisions but they can choose only one soloist and one band (with maximum 4 elements).

# INTERNATIONAL

The **International Final** shall be organized by Roland Europe.  
It will take place in the Music Academy "G.Rossini" of Pesaro - Marche region - Italy.  
Every JV can send only one winner from solo division and one winner from ensemble division.

## **09<sup>th</sup> November 2007 – The Challenge(Pre-Final)**

On 09th November 2007 the selection by the jury will be made:

- in the morning (09:00 - 12:00) solo division finalists shall compete;
- in the afternoon (14:00 - 18:00) ensemble division finalists shall compete.

The International Final is the event opened to the public.

The performance of each finalist (solo/ensemble) may last no longer than 10 minutes.  
Top 3 finalists at each division (3 soloists + 3 ensembles) will be chosen and announced around 19:00 on 9th November, without specifying their precise ranking.

At the solo division, finalists can choose two possibilities:

- To play only V-Accordion for max. 10 minutes;
- To play max. 10 minutes the V-Accordion, they can use a CD playback (audio track) less than 50% of the total duration.  
(e.g. Total duration 10min., performance with CD Playback should be less than 5min.)

## **10<sup>th</sup> November 2007 – The Final Round**

At the final Round TOP3 performances may perform max. 6 minutes; all the other finalists perform max. 4 minutes.

At the solo division, Top 3 finalists can choose two possibilities:

- To play only V-Accordion for max. 10 minutes;
- To play max. 10 minutes the V-Accordion, they can use a CD playback (audio track) less than 50% of the total duration.  
(e.g. If the total duration is 7min., performance with CD Playback should be less than 3.5min.)

At the solo division, non-Top 3 finalists can play either V-Accordion only or V-Accordion with CD backing as they like, as long as total duration is less than 3min.

The final Round shall take place at 21:00.

All musicians will play according to the above mentioned duration, and overall duration is approx. 2.5 hours.

1st, 2nd, 3rd ranking winners for each division will be announced.

This International Final event shall include the attraction programs such as V-Accordion Demonstration part, V-Accordion hands-on, etc. as well.

## CRITERIA OF JUDGEMENT

- a) **Technical skill**
- b) **Musical Interpretation**
- c) **Creativity/Imagination**
- d) **Specific skill in exploiting the whole potential of V-Accordion**  
We mean the ability to play V-Accordion by using all the sound expression possibilities contained in this instrument.
- e) **Originality**
- f) **Communication ability**  
We mean the ability of musicians to communicate without words, by expressing and conveying abstract emotional messages by playing their music and musical instrument.

Each one of the above skill /ability can be assessed by assigning a mark from 1 (lowest mark) to 6 (highest mark).

The sum of all marks will determine the overall points (full mark =36 points) and the final judgement of contestants.

## JURY

At this Contest, we expect many different types of musicians with different musical background (Classic, Folk, Pop, Tango / Acoustic, Electronic, etc.) shall compete with each other. Accordingly the selection of jury members shall be carefully made. Especially the jury members should have versatile musical knowledge. For example, we cannot say simply an excellent acoustic accordion player is a good jury member, if he does not have any good understanding about electronic musical instruments.

Therefore, the following types of people are expected to be the jury members of this contest:

- Accordionists
- Musicians with a very wide and flexible view
- Musical Press people
- JV President

## **GENERAL RULES CONCERNING ALL CONTESTANTS FOR THE NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL CONTEST**

- 1) The jury has the right not to award any prize whenever candidates do not prove to have enough artistic skills.  
No judgement may be expressed by any jury member who is acquainted with one or more contestants because of:
  - family ties
  - educational relations (up to two years before the contest)
- 2) None of contestants may come equal first for the first three places. The judgement expressed by the jury is final and irrevocable.
- 3) Any possible use of auditions and of the final concert for TV or radio broadcast purposes shall not make contestants eligible for any fee.
- 4) Applying for the contest means accepting these regulations without conditions.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1) Every Roland JV shall form the Festival Staff Team to solve any organization issue.
- 2) The Festival Staff Team of every Roland JV shall provide all necessary materials for the contest to take place (advertising materials, printed regulations, prizes, mark sheets, support to contestants in finding accommodations and restaurants, accommodation for the jury, etc.);
- 3) Every JV shall choose a proper venue for the contest
- 4) Every Festival Staff Team of every JV shall decide the rule / procedure how to apply for the Pre-Qualification (see Application Form at the end of this document) and the related deadline;
- 5) Right after each National Final, each JV shall fill in the "Information Sheet of International Finalists" form (to be supplied by RES to JVs) for every National Winner and send them to Akio Oda of Roland Europe S.p.A.
- 6) Each JV will take care of establishing the number of the jury members depending on their own decisions in the National contest (Pre-Qualification and National Final).
- 7) RES and R'dam shall establish the Observer Team, who is responsible to help the smooth organizations of National and International Finals.
- 8) Roland Europe shall take care of establishing the number of the jury members in the International Final.