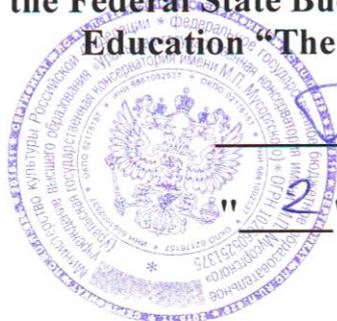


**Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation  
Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution of the Higher Education  
“The Ural State Mussorgsky Conservatory”  
Department of Sound Engineering**

**Approved by:**

**ACTING RECTOR  
of the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution of the Higher  
Education “The Ural State Mussorgsky Conservatory”**



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" *2* " *February* 2026

**RULES  
The International Competition  
of creative work in the field of Electroacoustic Music and Multimedia  
“> SYNC.2026”**

**The preamble**

The International Festival of Electroacoustic Music and Multimedia ">SYNC" was established in 2006 by the Autonomous Non-profit Organization Yekaterinburg Studio of Electroacoustic Music, the Federal State Budgetary Institution of Higher Education “The Ural State M.P. Mussorgsky Conservatory” and the Department of Musical Sound Engineering of the Ural Conservatory.

The festival continues the tradition of holding electronic music festivals and concerts at the Ural Conservatory, including the MIDI-Festival and MIDI-Concerts in 1992, a series of Concerts of electroacoustic music in 1997, the Festival of Modern Electroacoustic Music in 1998, the Festival "10 Years of Electroacoustic Music in the Urals" in 2000, jointly with the Theremin Center (Moscow conservatory) International festivals ALTERMEDUIM.2002 and ALTERMEDUIM.2003, Festival "15 years of electroacoustic music in the Urals" 2005.

Since 2010, this event has been held in the format of an International Festival/Competition. Since its foundation, the International Festival/Competition "SYNC" has been significantly supported by such famous personalities as composers Jon Appleton (USA), Dieter Kaufmann (Austria) and Eduard Artemyev (Russia); musicians and media artists Elizabeth Shimana and Josef Gruendler (Austria), musician and developer of interactive devices Yoichi Nagashima (Japan), pianist and media musician Simon Vincent (Great Britain), and others.

The mission of the Festival/Competition ">SYNC" is to promote the aesthetic ideas of the genre of electroacoustic music in its understanding as the art of sound in a controlled multi-spatial acoustic environment in synthesis with multimedia capabilities.

## **I. General provisions**

### **1. The organizers of the Competition:**

- Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution of Higher Education "Ural State Mussorgsky Conservatory"
- Department of Musical Sound Engineering of the Ural State M.P. Mussorgsky Conservatory

### **2. Goals and objectives of the competition:**

- Identification of talented authors in the field of electroacoustic music and visual arts among students and professionals
- Encouraging young composers, musicians and media artists to master innovative technical means and create aesthetically valuable works of art
- Popularization and promotion of highly artistic projects demonstrating professional mastery of various technologies that meet the aesthetic criteria of electroacoustic music, providing visual components and concert forms of performance
- To develop the creative potential and professional skills of young artists working in the field of electroacoustic music and multimedia

## **3. Time and place of the event**

3.1 The International Competition of Electroacoustic Music and Multimedia ">SYNC" is held every 2 years.

3.2 The Competition is held by the Department of Musical Sound Engineering of the Ural State Mussorgsky Conservatory (Yekaterinburg) from March 1, 2026 to April 19, 2026.

Applications are accepted from March 1 to March 31, 2026

Round 1 — April 1 – April 5, 2026

Round 2 — April 6 – April 15, 2026

The results of the Competition will be announced on April 19, 2026.

## **4. Competition sections, categories and nominations**

### **4.1 The Competition is run in three sections.**

- I. Electroacoustic Music;
- II. Electroacoustic Music and Multimedia;
- III. Original author's development in the field of musical technology (software and hardware)

4.2 Contestants can participate in three age categories:

Category "A" – students of secondary educational institutions, including graduates in 2025;

Category "B" – students and assistant trainees / postgraduates of higher education institutions, including graduates in 2025;

Category "C" – teachers of educational institutions and professionals without limiting the upper age limit.

4.3 The following nominations have been established:

***Section I. Electroacoustic Music.*** It includes four nominations:

- Acousmatic Music;
- Tape music;
- Computer music (sound programming);
- Live Electronic.

***Section II. Electroacoustic Music and Multimedia.*** It includes two nominations:

- Multimedia project – project, recorded on video, in which electroacoustic music is combined with video, computer graphics, scenic motion, etc.;
- Live performance – a project in a scenic embodiment, combining electroacoustic music with multimedia elements (video, computer graphics, VJ, scenic movement).

***Section III. Original author's development in the field of musical technology.***

It includes two nominations:

- program development (software);
- technical development (hardware).

## **5. Conditions of the Competition**

5.1 The competition is held in two rounds

5.2 The competition is open to representatives of any countries and nationalities.

5.3 The competition includes original creative works – musical and multimedia projects, as well as original technical and software developments.

5.4 The jury of the Competition does not consider arrangement, works in genres of electronic popular music, and also works in which music is a background for some visual idea.

5.5 Collective participation is allowed.

5.6 Each participant can participate in several nominations and submit several works in each nomination.

5.7 The contest is held anonymously. In the text of the email and in the application form, the participant must indicate the name, patronymic and surname of the participant, as well as the motto (word / set of symbols) under which the creative work is presented. However, on the cover sheet the participant must indicate only the motto and the name of the competition file.

5.8 International applicants are exempt from the participation fee.

5.9 The contestants submit the following materials to the organizing committee of the Competition:

- application form
- cover sheet
- files of creative works
- a copy of the admission fee receipt (format .jpeg)
- photo of the participant (format .jpeg).

All materials are submitted electronically and sent to the following address: [yeams@mail.ru](mailto:yeams@mail.ru) or [yeamsstudio@gmail.com](mailto:yeamsstudio@gmail.com)

Files of creative works are uploaded to cloud resources, which can be accessed via an open link with a validity period of at least 2 months.

The address of the Festival/Competition :

<https://www.uralconsv.org/konkursy/item/2449-sync2026>

6. Requirements for submitted works:

6.1 Creative works should correspond to the criteria of electroacoustic music.

In projects and compositions, the following will be estimated:

- an artistic idea embodied in sound and/or visual imagery;
- the ability to work with sound as the main element of the compositions, creating a multi-layered sound structure;
- the ability to work with a frame as the main element of the video compositions, creating a multi-layered visual structure;
- the ability to develop innovative forms for expressing artistic sound or visual ideas;
- the ability to structure the dramaturgy of the work as a logical interaction and development of sound and visual thematic elements;
- integration of sound and visual elements;
- technical idea, and its embodiment.

In software and technical developments, the technical idea, its implementation and the sound result are evaluated.

6.2 The duration of submitted works must not exceed 15 minutes

6.3 Works may be submitted in stereo, quadraphonic, 5.1 or 8.1 formats

6.4 Format of presentation of works: audio - .wav, 44.1 kHz / 16 bit; video format - .mp4

In multi-channel formats, works must be submitted as separate mono tracks, clearly named according to the channel assignment. In formats 4 or 4.1 – 1 Front Left, 3 Front Right, 5 Rear Right, 7 Rear Left, 9 Subwoofer; in formats 8 or 8.1 – 1 Front Left, 2 Front Center, 3 Front Right, 4 Mid Right, 5 Rear Right, 6 Rear Center, 7 Rear Left, 8 Mid Left, 9 Subwoofer

In the Computer Music nomination, source files (digital scores, session/instrument, patches, etc.) must be attached to the sound result.

In section III. Original author's developments in the field of music technology the application is accompanied by a description of the development, sound result, photo and video.

6.5 The link to the files must be open with the right to download access. A cover sheet is attached to each work.

6.6 Only unpublished works that have not been previously publicly performed may be submitted, the rights to which have not been transferred to any legal entities or individuals for the duration of the competition.

6.7 The authors of compositions and multimedia projects bear full responsibility for the works they submit and guarantee compliance with copyright and other rights of third parties.

6.8 Works submitted to the competition may be rejected on the following grounds:

- non-compliance with the format of the competition or the terms of these Regulations;
- works that contain content inconsistent with applicable legislation, ethical standards, or the principles of the Competition;
- works created using other people's ideas, including copying other people's work;
- works that violate copyrights and other intellectual property rights of third parties.

## 7. Author's rights

7.1 The exclusive copyright to the submitted works remains with the authors.

7.2 Submission of a work to the Competition shall be deemed the author's consent to the possible publication of the work on the Internet, as well as its mention in the press and in any materials related to the Competition, including promotional and informational materials in the media, booklets, catalogues and albums covering the Competition. In all cases, the authorship of each work shall be duly acknowledged. No remuneration is provided for such use.

7.3 If a participant submits a work of which they are not the author, thereby infringing the copyright or other intellectual property rights of third parties, the participant shall be fully liable for all resulting claims and damages. The participant shall compensate the Organizing Committee for any losses, fines, compensation or other expenses arising from such claims.

## 8. Structure of jury, its power, decision-making order

8.1 The jury consists of distinguished professionals in the field of musical art and includes an odd number of members. The jury does not elect a chair.

8.2 The jury has the right at its own discretion:

- to select works for the Competition and reject those that do not meet the established criteria;
- not to award all the awards;
- to divide places and awards;
- to award additional diplomas.

8.3 All jury members have equal voting rights. Decisions of the jury are made by a simple majority vote.

8.4 The decisions of the jury are final and not subject to revision.

9. 9.1 Following the conclusion of the Competition, the jury will announce the winners. In each nomination and age category, three laureates are awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd degrees, and three Diplomas are also granted. By the decision of the jury, the Grand Prix may be awarded, as well as additional diplomas.

9.2 The creative works of the winners of the Competition will be included in the program of the concert of electroacoustic music and multimedia.

## 10. The Organizing Committee of the Competition

- The Organizing Committee ensures the organization and conduct of the Competition:
- verifies submitted entries for compliance with technical requirements (1st round, qualifying),
- determines the number of participants in the competition and monitors the conduct of the Competition,
- forms the Competition jury,
- generates anonymous lists of entries for listening by the members of the Competition jury,
- organizes the process of listening to the Competition entries,
- publishes the results of the Competition on the UGC website,
- carries out the distribution of diplomas and other materials,
- performs other functions in accordance with the Competition regulations.

## 11. Force majeure circumstances

In the event of force majeure circumstances preventing the holding of the Competition (fire, flood, earthquake, strike, war, actions of state authorities or other circumstances beyond the control of the Organizing Committee), the Organizing Committee shall notify the participants within three calendar days of the occurrence of such circumstances.

## 12. Contacts

The Chair of the Organizing Committee of the Competition is Tatiana V. Komarova

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Information – <https://www.uralconsrv.ru>  
<https://muzelectron.ru/>  
<http://yeams.ru>