

SPAIN IS CROWNED WITH THE HIGHEST AWARD OF THE LLOBET CONTEST

- Once again, a representative from the Canary Islands, Airam de Vera from Gran Canaria, won first prize. The previous one was Luis Alejandro García from Tenerife in 2017
- The organizing committee distinguished Friends of the Guitar of Valencia with the Honorary Award, for their career with more than 70 years of history and 637 concerts to date

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Photos: Oriol Miralles [@oriol_miralles_photo](#)

After two years of health restrictions that limited mobility worldwide, this nineteenth edition has returned to its usual presence at the **Municipal Conservatory of Music of Barcelona**, official venue of the event. This year we have once again had an exciting and high-level edition, with nine participants from six nationalities, Argentina, Chile, France, Mexico, Portugal and Spain.

In the different phases of the contest, the participants executed the lofty works proposed with great mastery and excellence. The first qualifier presented with its own sound perspective the “*Leonesa*”, a popular song so exquisitely harmonized by the illustrious guitarist **Miquel Llobet**, and “*Catalanesca*”, a sardana, a characteristic dance of Catalonia written by the Catalan cellist **Gaspar Cassadó**, to whom we wanted to render tribute on the 125th anniversary of his birth. The second Semifinal phase, they performed the refreshing “*Danza Brasileira*” by the Argentine master **Jorge Morel**, along with the inspiring pictorial “*Actor’s Mask*” del compositor rusby the Russian composer **Konstantin Vassiliev**, a work awarded first prize at the **2021 Llobet Composition Contest** and inspired by the work of the same title by **Paul Klee**. The final phase was performed by the finalists with the **Terrassa 48 Chamber Orchestra Quartet**, who sharpened their musical skills with the suggestive “*Fantasia per chitarra e quartetto d’archi*” by the Italian master composer and guitarist **Eros Roselli** and the hypnotic “*Landscape*” by





Australian composer **Robert Davidson**.

The Final began under the leadership and presentation of the actor **Jaume Comas**, who after thanking the institutions and organizations that annually support this event, highlighting our official sponsor **AGBAR** and the necessary public support from the **Barcelona City Council** and the **Generalitat de Catalunya**. The first part began giving way to the finalists and protagonists of the night. The first intervention was in charge of **Filipe Neves**, representative of Portugal, who interpreted the Fantasia of the master Roselli. Next, the young Mexican **José Daniel Salceda**, who interpreted Davidson's Landscape. And it ended with the finalist representative from the Canary Islands, **Airam de Vera**, que va tornar a interpretar la Fantàsia de Roselli. Fifteen minutes of pause was the time that the attending public invested to decide and cast their vote in the polls for the finalist that they liked the most. The second part was in charge of the Terrassa 48 Quartet formed by **Aleix Puig** and **Judith Ortega** on violins, **Albert Romero** on viola and **Marçal Ayats** on cello, who performed works by Catalan composers such as the recently deceased **Jordi Cervelló**, **Narcís Bonet**, **Carme Karr** and **Aleix Puig** himself, first violin of the quartet. Meanwhile, the members of the Jury made up of **Paola Requena**, **Maite Rubio** and **Dioni Chico**, guitarists and accordionist respectively, had

the difficult task of deciding the order of winners for this edition.

In an afternoon full of nerves and expectation, finally the master of ceremonies Comas was claiming the Jury, the grantors and protagonists on stage. Without delay, Comas presented the **Audience Award** and requested someone present in the room to announce the winner, which went unanimously to the Spanish representative, **Airam de Vera**. This was followed by the endearing Honorary Award "A lifetime for the Guitar", delivered by the Vice President of the **Cercle Guitarrístic a Catalunya**, **Jordi Codina**, whose honor fell on the **Amigos de la Guitarra de Valencia**, collected by the president of the entity Mr.

Juan Grecos, who illustrated a few words about the history of the entity. It was time for the jury's deliberation, starting with the special prizes. The **CAT Award** for the best classified Catalan performer went to **Bruna Escolà** and the **Llobet Award** for the best interpretation of the work by Miquel Llobet went to **José Daniel Salceda** received by Paola Requena, who was in charge of announcing the names of the winners in ascending order. **Third Prize** for the Portuguese **Filipe Neves**, the coordinator of the **José Luis Lopategui Youth Contest**, **María José Santos**, presented the award. **Second Prize** for the Mexican **José Daniel Salceda**, awarded by **Lito Iglesias**, Director of the **Barcelona Municipal Conservatory of**



Music, and **First Prize** and winner of the nineteenth edition of the Llobet Competition went to the representative of La Aldea de San Nicolás, on the island of Gran Canaria, **Airam de Vera**. The highest award was presented by maestro **Eulogio Dávalos**, Founder of the **Miquel Llobet Barcelona International Guitar Competition**.

As every year and to close this edition, the host of the program summoned the attendees to the next twentieth edition that will take place from November 2 to 5, 2023.

+ info: [2022 LLOBET CONTEST](#)

