



**Concours international Le Mans Sonore -
Région Pays de la Loire
Sound Design Trophies 2022 –
Valuing the use for the sound**

Context

Le Mans Sonore, the second edition of the International Sound Biennial, will take place in Le Mans from 22 to 30 January 2022 throughout the city. It marks the ambition to give visibility to excellence in acoustics and sound design to make it a cultural event for the general public to promote the region.

As in the first edition, the international Le Mans Sonore - Pays de la Loire Region competition will support creation and research. It will reward the best French and international projects of the year in the field of sound design.

The aim of this competition, which is geared towards Objects & Uses, is to put forward and reward the best sound creations of the year, at international level. The aim is to promote, through a new French prize, applied sound design, i.e. a design that promotes use through sound.

Categories and expected projects

Sound creations designed for the following 4 categories will be taken into account:

1. OBJECTS

- All designs involving sound, whether digital or acoustic.
Examples: transport, communicating object, packaging, household appliances, robotics, IoT, etc.

2. SERVICES

- Sound interface: user interface sonification, information design, 3D sound universe, augmented reality, etc.
- Voice assistant and expressiveness: voice interaction, artificial intelligence, text-to-speech systems (TTS), etc.
- Safety and privacy: automotive AI, etc.

3. LIFE & SOCIETY

- Sound concepts and signage for public spaces
- Concepts and solutions to improve health and well-being
- Sound concepts around inclusion, disability and accessibility
- Intelligent and innovative concepts and solutions that make an important contribution to society and culture
Examples: museography, audioguide, railway stations, hospitals, shopping centres, hospitality and territory, noise pollution, etc.

4. STUDENT AWARD

- Diploma projects or study projects

The projects presented must involve a sound design approach (design for use and user) and have a maximum of 3 years of existence (in relation to the marketing).

They may be of the order of an existing project (industrialised, in service), a research and/or prospective project (laboratory, company, etc.), a prototype in the process of being marketed or finalised.

The following fields are excluded: advertising soundtracks and brand sound communication, film music, sound art, cinema sound effects.

Applications

Criteria for application

The application may be submitted by one person or by several people (in a multidisciplinary team) provided that the project concerns only applied sound design.

The applicant may be a sound designer, musician, researcher, sound engineer, young school graduate, etc. who works as a freelancer, in a design agency, in a company (start-up, SME, group) or in a community, public service, association, etc.

If applicable, the applicant must obtain the agreement of his partners or brands, for example his client, for an existing project.

In the case of a group application, one person will be designated as the team representative (project and application owner).

Content of the expected application file

The applicant must complete the application form available on the Le Mans Sonore website with his/her contact details and the main information about the project. A video of a maximum duration of 3 minutes (**hosted on Youtube, Vimeo, ... in private access**) is also to be sent when submitting the application by filling in the link in the form.

Selection criteria and process

Projects will be judged on the excellence of the prospective analyses and responses to use, with particular emphasis on the creative, innovative, functional, useful and aesthetic aspects, etc., and whose sound ambition is to serve the function.

The general criteria retained by the jury will be as follows:

- Intelligent sound solutions and concepts,
- Innovative and useful aspects,
- Accessibility for all,
- Consideration of sound as a use value.

All candidates will receive a reasoned evaluation from the jury. The winners will be expected at the awards ceremony in January 2022 to be presented with the trophy for their category and to briefly present their achievements.

The selection process is as follows:

- **Deadline for applications: 11 January 2022 at 12:00**
- Qualification of projects and jury: Mid-January 2022
- **Presentation of the winners and award ceremony: 27 January 2022 at 5pm**

Jury

The jury will be composed of experts who will evaluate all submissions. It will award the best projects. As the jury is sovereign, the choice of the winners cannot be contested in any way whatsoever. The composition of the jury will be communicated on the Le Mans Sonore website.

Awards

The winners will receive a trophy designed specifically for this competition and will have their projects displayed on the International Sound Biennial website. There will be only one winner per category. The prizes per category will be announced on the Le Mans Sonore website.

General conditions of the competition

All the authors, persons or companies, involved in the device which is the subject of the application are subject to copyright and are eligible. Candidates may apply individually or as a team.

The award will be presented and received in person at the ceremony in January 2022, during the Le Mans Sonore biennial.

Please ensure that all information (e.g. project name and company name) is correct for the communication.

Participants agree to abide by the rules of the competition.

It is understood that participants agree to all terms and conditions stated once the submission is made.

Entrants confirm that they have obtained the legal authority to enter the competition under the terms and conditions set out above.

Entrants will be held liable for damages to persons and companies if they violate these terms and conditions.

The rules of the competition are governed and interpreted in accordance with French law and are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the French courts.

Participants guarantee that they have obtained the agreement of the respective rights holders, in the event that the work submitted contains elements belonging to other parties, for Le Mans Sonore to use these components in the context of possible publication and communication forms.

Participants grant Le Mans Sonore a right of use, to publish, provide public access on the Internet and make use, tangible or intangible, of the submitted material in print and other digital media.

If you have any questions, you can contact us at the following email address: concours.lms@lemans.fr