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Mariinsky Orchestra/Gergiev review – Tchaikovsky competition winners show their strengths

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Valery Gergiev's embrace of the International Tchaikovsky competition has been a terrific shot in the arm for the global profile of the renowned four-yearly Moscow contest that boasts a glittering roll-call of earlier winners including Van Cliburn, Viktoria Mullova and Deborah Voigt.

[...]

The 20-year-old Romanian cellist Andrei Ionuț Ioniță may have been the youngest of the winners in the concert but he also gave the clearest evidence of a fully individual musical personality. His account of Haydn's C major concerto showed a musician with a sparkling technique and the priceless ability to respond to what is going on around him while he is displaying it.