

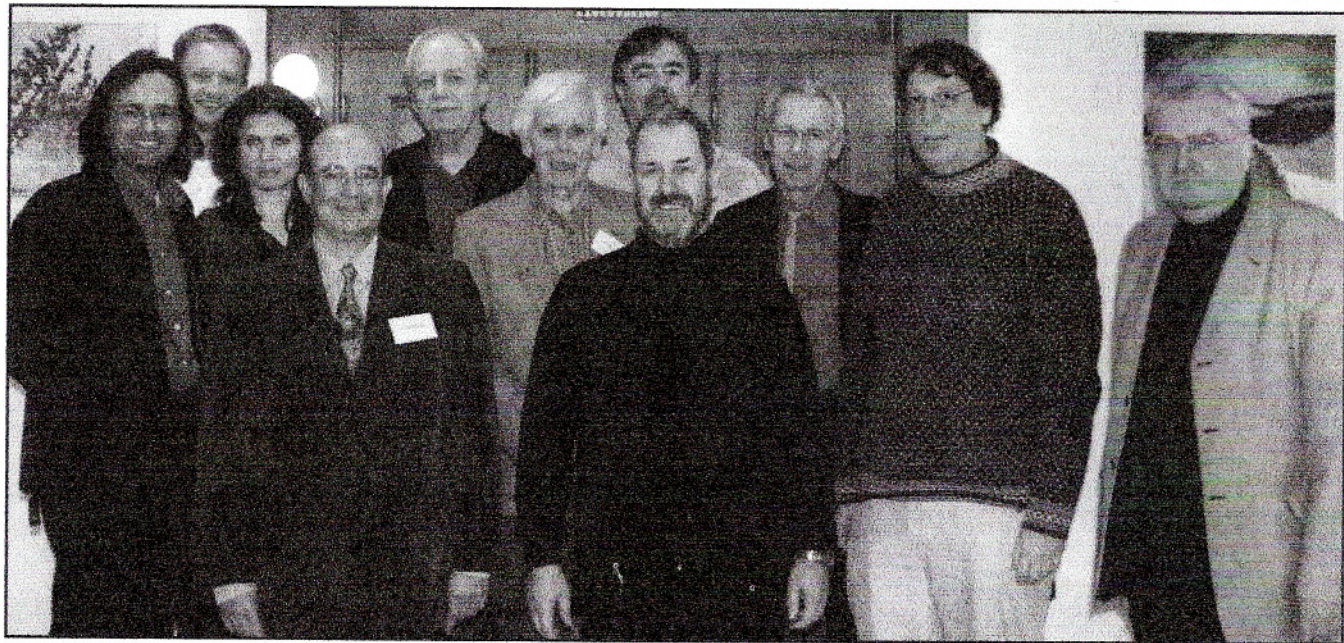
Classical Guitar - October 2008

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# **RUST 2008**

## **16 - 20 March 2008**

By COLIN COOPER



*The Jury: Gabriel Guillén extreme left.*

In second place was Karoline Kumst, from Weimar, Germany, whose well-developed technique was put entirely at the service of the music, making Mertz's *Concertino* a musical experience and not simply a guitaristic one. This young woman has what it takes to reach the top, and I hope she receives the encouragement she needs in what could become a career of brilliance. Some minor faults in phrasing and emphasis were unerringly spotted in her masterclass with Giovanni Grano the next day, and I hope that his wisdom will have made a permanent impression on her. In fact, Grano's class was excellent throughout, combining an impressive knowledge of musical style with the keenest of ears and the ability to impart sensible practical advice. To



Eric Madriguera and Juan José Sáenz.

polish generally to be considered for a prize; Ben Carmona, who can play with wonderful colour and expression but not always on the concert platform; and Zsuzsanna Kökeny, Hungary, always neat and compact but needing more presence and projection. Her choice of Duarte's *Suite Piemontese* was, like Bonk's, enterprising, and I hope that more contestants in this annual competition will not settle for the obvious options of *Sua Cosa* and the *English Suite*. I liked her performance very much, as it happened, and it would have been my nomination for the Duarte