

The Anthony Baines Memorial Prize 2013

The Galpin Society confers the fifteenth
Anthony Baines Memorial Prize on

Eszter Fontana

Eszter Fontana has followed an exemplary career devoted to organological scholarship and instrument museums. As a young scholar and curator she worked at the highest level despite the privations of life in Eastern Europe. Both in the musical instrument department of the Hungarian National Museum and in the University of Leipzig she fought hard for the future of her collections and colleagues. This struggle has been an undercurrent to her career. In the refurbished Grassi Museum she has created arguably the finest new museum of instruments of the last decade: a great collection beautifully displayed and interpreted. She has been outstanding in her international collaborations, sparing no effort in making organologists and other visitors welcome in Budapest and later Leipzig. She has thrown herself energetically into many international projects. She was an inspirational President of CIMCIM from 1998 to 2004. Eszter has always given encouragement and opportunity to the next generation, stepping aside to let them take credit for co-operative ventures. Her devotion to organology is an example to us all.