

The Arrows of St Sebastian - Award



Dear chessfriends, I was very glad to receive 36 arrows from 13 composers :

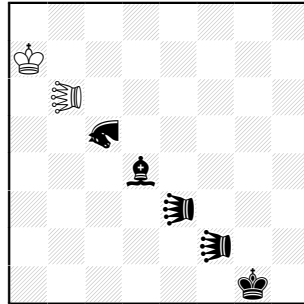
Stephan Dietrich, Maryan Kerhuel, Ralf Kraetschmer, Rainer Kuhn, Ingemar Lind, Juraj Lorinc, Karol Mlynka, Dieter Muller, Cornell Pacurar, Adrian Storisteanu, Pierre Tritten, Paul Raican, Jaroslav Stun.

I decided to divide the tourney in two sections. **Section A**, the most numerous for the problems using fairy piece(s) or/and condition(s) and **Section B** for the "orthodox" problems.

Here is my award :

Section A:

Jaroslav STUN
The Arrows of St Sebastian
Julia's Fairies 2016
1° Prix



h#4 (2+5) C+

- b) ♞c5
- c) ♞c5
- d) ♞b6
- e) ♞d4
- f) ♞d4

♞ = Moose with colour changing hurdle
♞ = Scylla
♞ = Bishop-Eagle
♞ = Equihopper with colour changing hurdle
♞ = Grasshopper with colour changing hurdle

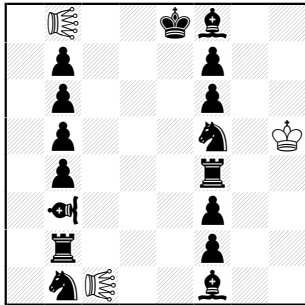
- a)
 - 1.Fg7 SCd4(ECBc5) 2.Rh1 SCh8(FBg7) 3.SCb6(ECNc5) Fe5 4.ECg2(SCBf2) Fh2‡
- b)
 - 1.Ff6 SCg6(FBf6) 2.SCd4(SCBe3) Fxd4 3.Ce4 SCe5(CBe4)+ 4.Rh1 Cg3‡
- c)
 - 1.Fe5 SCd4(CNc5) 2.Ce4 SCf4(CBe4) 3.Rh1 SCd2(SCBe3) 4.Fh2 Cxf2‡
- d)
 - 1.ECe4(FBd4) Ech2(ECBe4) 2.Rh1 Fe5 3.SCg1(SCBf2) ECd6(FNe5) 4.Fg3 SCh4(FBg3)‡

- e)
 - 1.SCf3 SCd4(ECBc5) 2.SCf4(SCBf3) SCg4(SCBf4) 3.SCg3(SCNf3) SCg2(SCBg3)+ 4.Rf1 SCf2(SCBf3)‡
- f)
 - 1.FAb4 SCd4(ECBc5) 2.Rh1 SCA4(FABb4) 3.SCg1(SCBf2) ECg2(SCNf2) 4.SCh2(ECNg2) SCA8‡

Original presentation on the diagonal a7-g1. And multiple changes of pieces of the arrow in the different twins (orthodox or fairy pieces) The use of three colour changing hoppers is particularly remarkable.

In a) mate by the Grasshopper, in b) by the Knight, all the pieces participating to the mate become white, in c) mate by the Knight which first become black then white ! d) mate by the Grasshopper, the Equihopper playing the hurdle. In e) mate given by the Moose and at last in f) mate by the Grasshopper in a8 with black King on the opposite corner in jail on a little black square. White King is necessary in variation c) & d) to avoid a dual and in f) to allow the mating move SCA8‡ The only weakness is that it is not necessary in variations a) b) e). Anyway for the great originality and complexity of this problem, I deserve 1st Prize.

Juraj LORINC
The Arrows of St Sebastian
(section A)
Julia's Fairies 2016
2° Prix

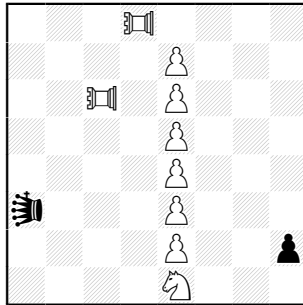


sd=14 (3+16) C+
 3.1.1.1
 ♖=Arch-Bishop
 ♗=Locust

1.LO×f4-g5 2.Kg4 3.K×f5
 4.K×f6 5.LO×b5-a5
 6.LO×b4-c3 7.LO×f3-g3
 8.LO×b3-a3 9.LO×b2-c1
 10.LO×b1-a1 11.LO×f1-g1
 12.LO×f2-e3 13.LO×b6-a7
 14.LO×b7-c7=
 1.LO×b1-a1 2.LO×b2-c3
 3.LO×b3-a3 4.LOa×f3-g3
 5.LO×f4-e5 6.LO×b5-a5
 7.LO×b6-c7 8.LO×b7-a7
 9.LO×f2-g1 10.LO×f1-e1
 11.LO×b4-a5 12.LO×f5-g5
 13.LO×f6-e7 14.LO×f7-g7=
 1.LO×f1-g1 2.LO×f2-e3
 3.LO×b3-a3 4.LO×b2-c1
 5.LO×b1-a1 6.LO×f6-g7
 7.LO×f7-e7 8.LO×b4-a3
 9.LOa×f3-g3 10.LO×f4-e5
 11.LO×f5-g5 12.LO×b5-a5
 13.LO×b6-c7 14.LO×b7-a7=

Three solutions and three different ways for Locust b1 to "destroy" the two arrows with lot of play and reach a stalemate where Bf8 will be pinned. Note white King intervention in first variation. No repetition of moves but it is an easier stipulation and more classical idea than first prize.

Karol MLYNKA
The Arrows of St Sebastian
(section A)
Julia's Fairies 2016
3° Prix



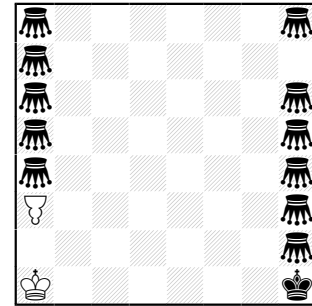
hs=3 (9+2) C+
 2.1.1.1
 ♔=Royal Piece
 ♗=Locust
 ♖=Rook-Locust

1.e8=Q h1=R 2.Qd7 R×e1
 3.Qd6+ LOK×d6-e7=
 1.e8=S h1=B 2.Sd6 LOK×d6-e7
 3.Sg2 B×g2=

With the obligation to make an arrow, to realize an AUW is a kind of task. In the first variation the motivation of the promotion in Queen is clear : to give it to the royal Locust in d6 via d7. The promotion in Rook is necessary. In Queen, black would have 3...Qe1-b4 to counter the check. In the second variation, the Knight of promotion is given in only two moves also in d6, then promotion in Bishop is necessary this time to force the capture of white Knight by "zugzwang".

Honory Mention :

Cornel PACURAR
Adrian STORISTEANU
The Arrows of St Sebastian
Julia's Fairies 2016
1° Honory Mention



sd==11 (2+12) C+
 Circe Parachute
 ♗=Grasshopper
 ♙=Berolina Pawn

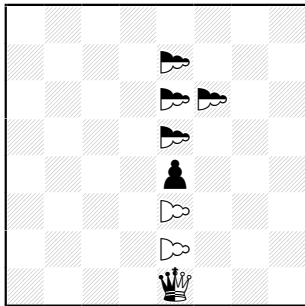
1.BPa3xa4[+bGa1]
 2.BPa4xa5[+bGa1]
 3.BPa5xa6[+bGa1]
 4.BPa6xa7[+bGa1].

Now 5.BPa7xa8=R[+bGa1]? takes too long, for example:
 6.Ra8xh8[+bGh1]
 7.Rh8xh6[+bGh1]
 8.Rh6xh5[+bGh1]
 9.Rh5xh4[+bGh1]
 10.Rh4xh3[+bGh1]
 11.Rh3xh2[+bGh1]
 12.Rh2xh1[+bGh1] ==.
 So :
 5.BPa7-b8=Q!
 6.Qb8xh2[+bGh1]
 7.Qh2xh3[+bGh1]
 8.Qh3xh4[+bGh1]
 9.Qh4xh5[+bGh1]
 10.Qh5xh6[+bGh1]
 11.Qh6xh1[+bGh1] ==.
 C+ Popeye (v4.73)

Two vertical arrows on "a" & "h" files. One weakness is that black Grasshoppers are only here to be captured. But the problem uses a very interesting idea in Circe Parachute (or rebirth Circe parachute) : at the end both Kings are rendered immobile

by the Grasshoppers parachuted on top of them. In turn, these Grasshoppers themselves (standing on top of the piles) are immobile because the lack of hurdles - hence the final stalemates.

Jaroslav STUN
The Arrows of St Sebastian
(section A)
Julia's Fairies 2016
2° Honory Mention



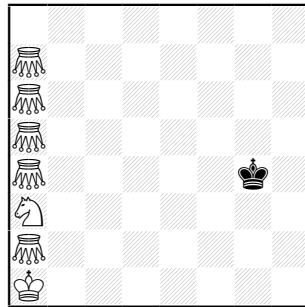
h#5 (2+1+5) C+
 2.1.1.1
 Sentinels in neutral Pawn
 White plays only in check or to reach the goal
 e1 = Royal Piece
 ♞♟ = Berolina Pawn

1.QnKh4 2.QnKh5(+h4)
 3.QnKg4(+h5)+ QnKg7(+g4)
 4.QnKh6(+g7)+ g8=Qn 5.g5
 h×g5‡
 1.QnKg3 2.QnKh2(+g3)+
 QnKh6(+h2) 3.QnKg5(+h6)+
 QnKg8(+g5) 4.h1=Qn 5.Qn×h6
 QnKf7‡

"With the help of computer" got an interesting idea : How to checkmate the royal neutral Queen e1 ?
 The condition Sentinels in neutral pawns creates two different jails on the right side of the board.

Commendations:
(unclassified)

Stephan DIETRICH
The Arrows of St Sebastian
(section A)
Julia's Fairies 2016
Commendation



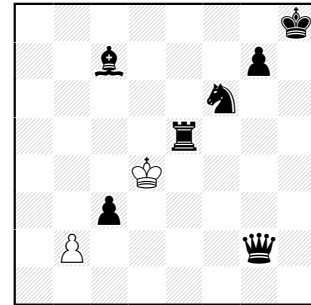
sd#19 (7+1) C+
 ABC
 ♟ = Grasshopper

1.Kb2 2.Gc2 3.Sb5 4.Gd1 5.Gc5
 6.Ga8 7.Gd4 8.Kb3 9.Kc4
 10.Sc3 11.Se2 12.Gf2 13.Kd3
 14.Ge3 15.Gf3 16.Gg2 17.Ke4
 18.Gf4 19.Sg3‡

The white arrow is on the a file but at the end with the effect of the ABC condition, all white pieces will be around black King.

The author has also a version with one white Grasshopper more in a8 in sd#20 with a lightly different solution :
 1.Kb1 2.Sb5 3.Gc6 4.Gc5 5.Gd6
 6.Gd4 7.Ga1 8.Ge5 9.Kc1
 10.Sc3 11.Kd1 12.Se4 13.Gf5
 14.Gf3 15.Ke2 16.Gf2 17.Gg1
 18.Gf4 19.Kf1 20.Sg3‡

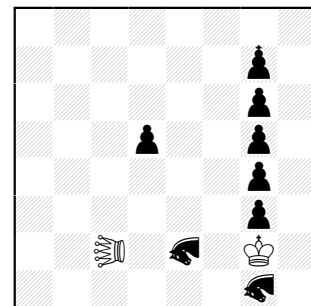
Pierre TRITTEN
The Arrows of St Sebastian
(section A)
Julia's Fairies 2016
Recommandé



sd#14 (2+7) C+
 PWC
 ♟ = Grasshopper

1.b×c3(b2) 2.c4 3.c5 4.Kc4
 5.Kb5 6.Ka6 7.c6 8.Kb7
 9.K×c7(Bb7) 10.Kd8 11.c7
 12.c8=Q 13.Qg4 14.Q×g7(g4)‡
 White Excelsior where the white Pawn is used two times as a "screen" to allow white King to process till d8
 First in c5, to cut black Kook line, then in c6 to cut Queen line. The final mating move creates also a "screen" in g4 to allow a typical PWC mate.

Karol MLYNKA
The Arrows of St Sebastian
(section A)
Julia's Fairies 2016
Commendation



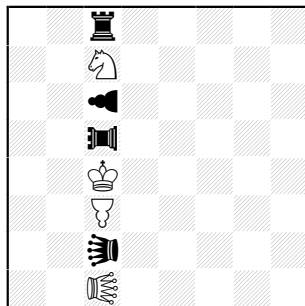
h#2 (2+8) C+
 2.1.1.1
 Anticirce
 ♞ = Royal Piece
 ♞ = Rose
 ♞ = Locust

1.R0h3 LOe2-f2[wLOf2->e8]
2.R0f8 LOf8-g8[wLg8->f8]#

1.R0e8 LOg6-h7[wLOh7->g8]+
2.rPg6 LOe8-d8[wLd8->e8]#

Two mates on a royal g7 Pawn by the Locust. Not so exciting as it is not very mobile but white Locust is also not mobile without something to capture. The second variation is interesting as the royal Pawn advances on step. The problem is C+ Popeye but C- Winchloe. In Popeye, in Anticircce, the capturing Locust rebirths on the file of the captured piece but in Winchloe it is on the file of the arrival square of the Locust.

Maryan KERHUEL
The Arrows of St Sebastian
(section A)
Julia's Fairies 2016
Commendation



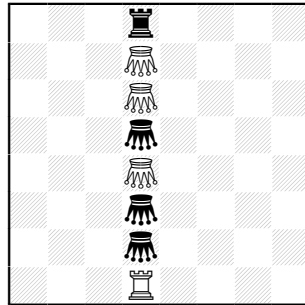
h==5 (4+4) C+

- ♁ = Locust
- ♁ = Rook-Locust
- ♁ = Complete Pawn
- ♁ = Berolina Pawn
- ♁ = Lion

1.b5+ Kd4 2.c4 Sd5 3.RLxd5-e5
cxc4 4.Rxc4+ Lixc4 5.LOxc4-
c5+ Kd5==

A very exotic arrow (like a totem?) with an interesting stipulation and five different fairy pieces. The final picture is pure.

Cornel PACURAR
Adrian STORISTEANU
The Arrows of St Sebastian
Commendation



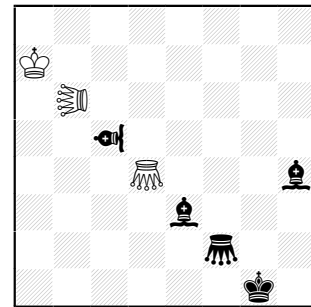
h==4 (4+4) C+

Circe Parachute
♁♁ = Grasshopper

1.Gd3xd1[+wRh1]
Gd4xd1[+bGd1]
2.Gd2xd6[+wGd8] Rh1-h7
3.Gd5xd7[+wGd8]
Rh7xd7[+bGd1]
4.Gd6xd8[+wGd8]
Rd7xd1[+bGd1] ==

The same idea in h==n than seen in the 1rst HM with a rundlauf of white Rook d1 (d1-h1-h7-d7-d1)

Jaroslav STUN
The Arrows of St Sebastian
Julia's Fairies 2016
Commendation



h≠4 (3+5) C+

2.1.1.1

b) ♔h4→b2

♁ = Moose with colour changing hurdle

♁♁ = Grasshopper

♁ = Grasshopper with colour changing hurdle

a)

1.Ff6 SCg6(FBf6) 2.ECd3(SNd4)
SCc2(ECBd3) 3.Sd2+
ECxf2(FBe3) 4.Sg2 ECg7(FNf6)‡
1.ECe4(SNd4)+ SCxe3(SBd4)+
2.Rg2 SCe5(ECBe4) 3.Fg3 ECg1
4.Rh3 ECf4(FBg3)‡

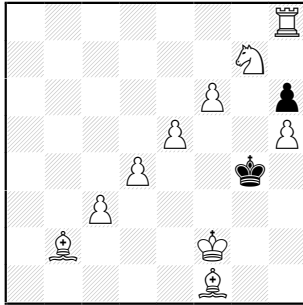
b)

1.Fexd4 SCb1(FBb2) 2.Fe5
SCh1 3.ECg2(SBf2) Fd4 4.Fh2
SCh3(FBh2)‡
1.Rh2 Sxf2 2.Fxf2 SCb1(FBb2)
3.ECg2(FBf2) Fbd4 4.Rh1 Fg1‡

Presentation in diagonal with twins, two solutions and two colour changing hoppers. No repetition of moves but there is a problem : white King is only here to realize the shape.

Section B:

Ralf KRAETSCHMER
The Arrows of St Sebastian
(section B)
Julia's Fairies 2016
1° Prix



sh#29 (10+2) C+

1.Kf4 2.Ke4 3.Kd5 4.Kc6 5.Kb6
 6.Ka5 7.Ka4 8.Kb3 9.Kxb2
 10.Kxc3 11.Kxd4 12.Kxe5
 13.Kxf6 14.Kxg7 15.Kf6 16.Kg5
 17.Kxh5 18.Kg4 19.h5 20.h4
 21.h3 22.h2 23.h1=B 24.Bg2
 25.Bxf1 26.Bd3 27.Bh7 28.Kh3
 29.Kh2 Rxh7#

How to capture white h5 Pawn to free black Pawn ?

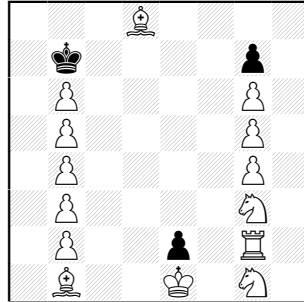
Black King has to begin a long widening road, first to destroy the arrow till Knight g7 which protects h5.

Then come back to g5, capture of the Pawn and unexpected promotion in...Bishop to be able to capture first Bishop f1 which control the key square h3. Then the final manoeuvre Bd3-h7 at long at last allows black King to reach h3 then h2 to be mated.

This simple construction in only 12 pieces gives a complex sequence and the only prize of this section.

Honory Mention :

Ralf KRAETSCHMER
The Arrows of St Sebastian
Julia's Fairies 2016
1° Honory Mention

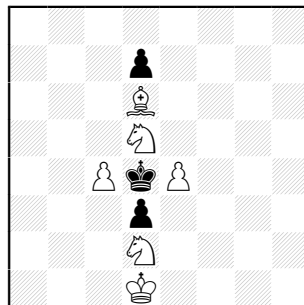


sh#19 (14+3) C+

1.Kc8 2.Kxd8 3.Kc8 4.Kb7
 5.Kxb6 6.Kxb5 7.Kxb4 8.Kxb3
 9.Kxb2 10.Kxb1 11.Kc2 12.Kd3
 13.Ke3 14.Kf4 15.Kxg5 16.Kxg6
 17.Kg5 18.Kh4 19.g5 Sf5#

Two vertical arrows are proudly on the board. A rundlauf of black King will be necessary to capture first white Bishop d8 then destroy completely the arrow on the left so to be able to capture Pawn g5 and g6 on the right arrow. then black King is putted in jail in h5 by g7 and mate is achieved by Sf5#. A nice sh#n but not so original as the first prize.

Dieter MULLER
The Arrows of St Sebastian
(section B)
Julia's Fairies
2° Honory Mention



#7 (6+3) C+

1.Sb4! blocus

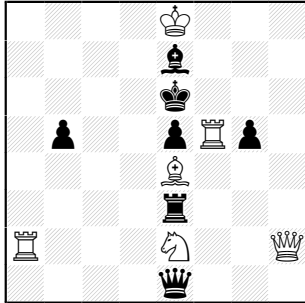
1...Kc3 2.Bc5 [3.Kc1 [4.Sa2#
 4.Sd5#]] Kb2 3.Sd5 d6 4.Bb4
 Ka1 5.Kc1 [6.Sc3 [7.Sb3#]]
 4...Ka2 5.Kc1 [6.Sc3+ Ka1
 7.Sb3#] 2...d6 3.Sd5+ Kb2
 4.Bb4 Ka1 5.Kc1 [6.Sc3
 [7.Sb3#]] 4...Ka2 5.Kc1 [6.Sc3+
 Ka1 7.Sb3#] 1...Ke3 2.Bg3 Kd4
 3.Sa6 Ke3 4.c5 Kd4 5.Bf4 d6
 6.cxd6 Kc3 7.Be5# 5...d5
 6.cxd6 e.p. Kc3 7.Be5#
 4...d6 5.cxd6 Kd4 6.Bf4 Kc3
 7.Be5# 4...d5 5.cxd6 e.p. Kd4
 6.Bf4 Kc3 7.Be5# 3...d6 4.Bxd6
 [5.Bf4 Kc3 6.Be5#] Ke3 5.Bg3
 Kd4 6.Bf4 Kc3 7.Be5# 3...d5
 4.exd5 [5.Bf4 Kc3 6.Be5#] Ke3
 5.d6 Kd4 6.Bf4 Kc3 7.Be5#
 4.cxd5 [5.Bf4 Kc3 6.Be5#] Ke3
 5.d6 Kd4 6.Bf4 Kc3 7.Be5#
 2...d6 3.Sa6 Kd4 4.Bxd6 [5.Bf4
 Kc3 6.Be5#] Ke3 5.Bg3 Kd4
 6.Bf4 Kc3 7.Be5#
 2...d5 3.exd5/cxd5 [4.Sa6 Kd4
 5.Bf4 Kc3 6.Be5#] Kd4 4.Sa6
 [5.Bf4 Kc3 6.Be5#] Ke3 5.d6
 Kd4 6.Bf4 Kc3 7.Be5#

1.Sc7! blocus

1...Ke3 2.Bg3 Kd4 3.Sa6 Ke3
 4.c5 Kd4 5.Bf4 d6 6.cxd6 Kc3
 7.Be5# 5...d5 6.cxd6 e.p. Kc3
 7.Be5# 4...d6 5.cxd6 Kd4 6.Bf4
 Kc3 7.Be5# 4...d5 5.cxd6 e.p.
 Kd4 6.Bf4 Kc3 7.Be5# 3...d6
 4.Bxd6 [5.Bf4 Kc3 6.Be5#] Ke3
 5.Bg3 Kd4 6.Bf4 Kc3 7.Be5#
 3...d5 4.exd5 [5.Bf4 Kc3
 6.Be5#] Ke3 5.d6 Kd4 6.Bf4 Kc3
 7.Be5# 4.cxd5 [5.Bf4 Kc3
 6.Be5#] Ke3 5.d6 Kd4 6.Bf4 Kc3
 7.Be5# 2...d5
 3.exd5/cxd5 [4.Sa6 Kd4 5.Bf4
 Kc3 6.Be5#] Kd4 4.Sa6 [5.Bf4
 Kc3 6.Be5#] Ke3 5.d6 Kd4 6.Bf4
 Kc3 7.Be5#

A symmetrical position with two asymmetrical solutions. Despite the mini duals in the variations with 2...d5 it deserves a mention.

Dieter MULLER
The Arrows of St Sebastian
(section B)
Julia's Fairies 2016
3° Honory Mention

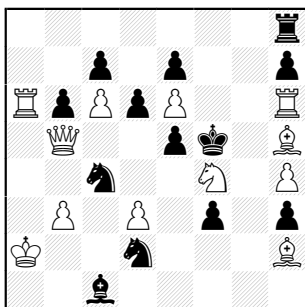


s±9 (6+7) C+

1.Ra6+ Bd6 2.Sd4+ exd4
 3.Qa2+ Rb3 4.Rxd6+ Kxd6
 5.Qa6+ Kc7 6.Qb7+ Kd6 7.Rd5+
 Ke6 8.Bf5+ Kf6 9.Qe7+ Qxe7#

This problem could be intitulated "how to wake up black Queen d1 ?!"
 The process used is somewhat "brutal but efficient". A serie of checks and active sacrifices following the hierarchy : Knight then Rook and at last Queen in e7 to force the mate of white King !

Ralf KRAETSCHMER
The Arrows of St Sebastian
(section B)
Julia's Fairies 2016
Special Honory Mention



±5 (12+13) C+

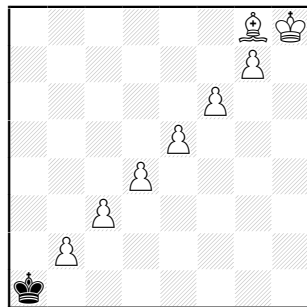
1.Sd5! [2.Sxe7#]
 1...Re8 2.Ra8 [3.Rxe8 [4.Sxe7#;
 4.Rf8#]] Sb1 3.Sxe7+ Rxe7
 4.Rf8+ Rf7 5.Rxf7#

2...Sf1 3.Sxe7+ Rxe7 4.Rf8+ Rf7
 5.Rxf7# 2...Sxb3 3.Sxe7+ Rxe7
 4.Rf8+ Rf7 5.Rxf7# 2...Se4
 3.dxe4+ Kxe4 4.Qxc4+ Kf5
 5.Bg4#/5.Qg4# 2...Rxa8+ 3.Qa4
 [4.Sxe7#] Rxa4+ 4.bxa4 ~
 5.Sxe7# (the thematical variation) 3...Re8 4.Bg4+ Kxg4
 5.Se3#

Here, the arrow on the h file is something like a "luck of construction" but it was included in the award as it shows the theme Lepuschütz : A specific attack/plan would be successful if black had not time to defend; So White allows a check and the plan is successful as an answer to this check (definition by Hans-Peter Rehm). It is a pity that there is a dual 5.Bg4#/Qg4# in one variation.

Commendations:
(unclassified)

Rainer KUHN
The Arrows of St Sebastian
(section A)
Julia's Fairies 2016
Commendation



sh=8 (8+1) C+
 Anti Take & Make

1.Kxb2(b4) 2.Kxc3(c4)
 3.Kxd4(d5) 4.Kxc4(c5) 5.Kd4
 6.Kxe5(e6) 7.Kxf6(f7) 8.Ke7
 f8=R=

The double step of b pawn at the begining. In case of 1.Rxb2(b3) it would be impossible for black King to reach c4 on move 4.

White King is not absolutely necessary in h8 but the author made the choice of orthodoxy.

Congratulations to the winners Ralf Kraetschmer & Jaroslav Stun who sent me 5 (!) arrows each. All the composers with Prizes + the 2° HM of section B will receive the chocolates of Clichy Delices as soon as possible !

Thank you to all

Sebastien Luce
 luceechecs@gmail.com

Clichy the 12 fev. 2016