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NEWS FROM THE 11TH WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON CHORAL MUSIC

We present four new selected choirs of the 11th World Symposium on Choral Music that will be held in Barcelona, on July 22-29, 2017. More choirs will be presented in the next newsletter...

THE ROSE ENSEMBLE — USA

Founded in 1996 by Artistic/Executive Director Jordan Sramek, The Rose Ensemble is dedicated to uniting virtuosic vocal artistry with scholarly research to create musical performances and educational programs that connect audiences to compelling stories of human history, culture, and spirituality from around the world. Now in its twentieth season, The Rose Ensemble has achieved an international reputation as a premiere American early-music ensemble and innovator in the field. The Rose Ensemble regularly partners with regional arts groups and institutions such as The Minneapolis Institute of Arts, The Walker Center, and the Minnesota History Center to create programs that have garnered critical acclaim.



TAJIMI CHOIR — Japan



Tajimi Choir was established in 1972. They welcomed Yoko Tsuge as their conductor in 1978, and Nobuaki Tanaka as their musical director in 1986, who have both enjoyed a high reputation as Japanese contemporary chorus performers at home and abroad. The choir's activities are eclectic. Among them, they focus on commissioned works with eminent composers (nine first public performances in the past 15 years). They have participated in international choir exchange and, so far, have travelled to Singapore, the United States of America, Australia, South Korea and Taiwan.

RIGA CATHEDRAL GIRLS' CHOIR TIARA — Latvia

Is one of the most vivid musical groups in the concert life of Latvia. Since the foundation of Riga Dom Cathedral Choir School (1994), when there were many boys and only few girls studying, the choir has grown and changed considerably. Currently the choir gathers more than 100 singers, aged 9-16. The choir was founded in 1997, at first performing in the services of Riga Cathedral and other churches in the capital. From 1997-2000 the conductor of the choir was Gunta Birziņa, since 2000 it has been lead by Aira Birziņa. In 2013 the choir was renamed as Riga Cathedral Girls' Choir TIARA. The repertoire of the girls' choir is very wide, including arrangements of Latvian folk songs and original choir compositions, sacred and secular classics, romantic and contemporary music.



WESTMINSTER CHOIR COLLEGE OF RIDER UNIVERSITY — USA



The Westminster Choir, conducted by Joe Miller, is composed of students at Westminster Choir College, a division of Rider University's Westminster College of the Arts. It has been the chorus in residence for the prestigious Spoleto Festival USA since 1977, performing both in concert and as the opera chorus. The ensemble's 2015-2016 season included a concert tour of the Eastern United States, performances and broadcasts in Princeton and the annual residency at the Spoleto Festival. Its performance of John Adams 'El Niño, at the 2014 Festival was praised by The New York Times as "...Meticulously prepared, the chorus was remarkable for its precision, unanimity and power." The Westminster Choir has made three

recordings with Joe Miller.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR CHORAL MUSIC monthly electronic newsletter

WE WAIT FOR YOU!

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WSCM11 Website: <http://www.wscm11.cat/>

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WORLD YOUTH CHOIR 2016

The World Youth Choir (WYC) is a remarkable educational and social experience at the highest artistic level, aimed at talented young singers between the ages of 17 and 26, from all over the world.



© Shannon Romba

Impressions by Karl Amando A. San Jose

"I will take this to mean that the "target beneficiary" of this project are the singers and the audience we share the music with. Personally, I learned so much from everyone around me about their music, their cultures, their lives, and their ideas. I left the WYC completely different. I now have a great connection to people from all over the world, a greater concern for the issues they face daily, and a deep sensitivity to each new person I now meet. I believe it's the same for everybody else in the choir. And I believe, by the last concert, we were able to communicate this great "global consciousness" through our music. Specifically for the instances when we performed for Muslim

refugees in Germany, seeing the joy and wonder painted on their faces after hearing kids from different cultures and countries sing their songs in Arabic was the most special part of our interactions with the audience. (...)

Grab all opportunities that will lead you to interact with other choirs, musicians, cultures, and music from different parts of the world. I never thought that it was such an important thing until I got there and saw and experienced many things together with different people of the world. It's important because it break barriers that separate different races and social classes. It's important because you then learn compassion and love for all kinds of people, not just the ones who are familiar with. It's important because music, despite differences in cultures and races, bridge us all through deep emotional connections brought about by simply singing together. I found all throughout my years of experience with choirs, singing unites people's hearts and minds; all hearts beat as one, all breaths taken together. Imagine a world with such unity of spirit as a choir has."

THE 12TH IFCM WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON CHORAL MUSIC 2020 GOES TO . . . NEW ZEALAND!

After a successful bid by the **New Zealand Choral Federation**, the **International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM)** is very excited to announce that the world's most prestigious, non-competitive, choral event will take place in Auckland in 2020.

The lengthy and detailed application process to determine the winning bid spanned the past 12 months with extensive examination by the IFCM of all details of the city, the venues, levels of support, and, most importantly, the generosity and energy of the national choral community to mount such a large undertaking.

Spearheaded by the New Zealand Choral Federation, choral music is very much alive and well in New Zealand and supports a community of singers, conductors, and composers that, per capita, rivals the best choral centers of the world.

Situated on New Zealand's North Island, and ranked in 2014 as the 3rd "Most Livable City" in the world, Auckland is the most populated city outside of Australia in Oceania with good air links and easy access from major centers around the world. This picturesque harbor city boasts a rich and diverse cultural life of music, art and song that is built on a history of traditional and contemporary life.

The international choral community through the IFCM congratulates the New Zealand Choral Federation on their winning bid and wishes them every success and support in their preparations for this unique event in 2020.

NEWS FROM IFCM FOUNDING MEMBERS

A COEUR JOIE FRANCE AND THE EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION - EUROPA CANTAT (ECA-EC) PRESENT:

8th Europa Cantat Junior Festival, Lyon, France – July 13-20, 2017

This famous festival for children and youth choirs will take place in Lyon, France for the first time. Lyon is the town where the French choral federation A Coeur Joie is based. Choral music has a special place in the cultural life of the city, with many children and adult choirs of all kinds. Concerts, ateliers and nice activities are waiting for you!

Registration deadline: January 31st, 2017

More information: <http://europacantatjunior.fr/en/>



THE EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION - EUROPA CANTAT (ECA-EC)

sing me in

collective singing in the integration process of young migrants

Sing Me In - new project receives support from Erasmus+ Youth

The European Choral Association - Europa Cantat is the coordinator of the project [Sing Me In - Collective Singing in the Integration Process of Young Migrants](#) which has been granted support from the EU Erasmus+ Youth Programme as a Strategic Partnership.

Sing Me In aims at providing children and youth choir conductors and music teachers all over Europe with pedagogical approaches and tools that allow collective singing activities to play a positive role in the integration process of young people in risk of exclusion.

[Download a more detailed project description](#)

Sing Me In will run from October 2016 to September 2018 and will be supported by the EU Erasmus Plus project with a grant of over 240.000 EUR.

Sing Me In is coordinated by the [European Choral Association - Europa Cantat](#) (DE) in partnership with: [Estonian Choral Association](#) (EE), [Sulasol](#) (FI), [Ung i Kor](#) (NO), [ZIMIHC](#) (NL), [Koor&Stem](#) (BE), [A Coeur Joie](#) (FR), [Musica International](#) (FR), [Moviment Coral Català](#) (ES), [Koro Kulturu Dernegi](#) (TR) and [Fayha Choir](#) (LB)

Website: www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org/sing-me-in

Find more on our [website](#). Follow us on [facebook](#) and [twitter](#).

AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION — ACDA



Bahamas National Youth Choir at Opening Ceremonies

AMERICA CANTAT 8 closed on August 31 in Nassau, Bahamas. Over 500 people, representing 16 countries across 4 continents, joined together to learn and perform the rich and varied choral music of the Americas over 10 days. This was the first time the America Cantat festival had taken place in an English-speaking country, and the first time The Bahamas had hosted an international choral festival. A partnership among the American Choral Directors Association, Organización America Cantat, and the Ministry of Tourism of The Bahamas, allowed this festival to continue its 24 year history of cultural and artistic exchange; participants and festival leaders alike were overwhelmingly excited at the success of the eighth iteration of America Cantat. Through performances (both scheduled and impromptu), workshops led by world-class choral conductors, common singing sessions, and social gatherings,

participants found a common language while celebrating diversity. ACDA Executive Director Tim Sharp said of the event, "I'm thrilled that ACDA was able to introduce this unique festival to our membership. Through this event and future endeavors I hope to continue to strengthen our relationship with our American neighbors."

America Cantat 9 is scheduled for April 2019 in Panama; for more information about how to get involved, email Organización America Cantat at AmericaCantat@gmail.com.

ACDA's 2017 National Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA — March 8-11, 2017

Join us for ACDA's 2017 National Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota March 8-11 and a Welcome to Minneapolis event on Tuesday, March 7th! Registration and Hotel booking begins in October. We hope to see you there!

Info: <http://acda.org/page.asp?page=national>

IN BRIEF — MEMBER NEWS

LA FENIARCO, THE ITALIAN FEDERATION FOR CHORAL MUSIC

MITO is a large music event that takes place both in Milan and in Turin in September and that, up to now, has been reserved to classical instrumental music. But "Among the innovations for MITO 2016, the most important is the invasion of choral music in the Festival", announced the MITO Artistic Director Nicola Campogrande, "and this is a massive invasion reaching all districts of both Milan and Turin."

In Milan the choral invasion took place on September 10, with 11 parallel concerts, each performed by two choral ensembles. The event was then repeated in Turin on September 11, again with 11 concerts by two choirs each. All in all 44 choral ensembles have performed for this event.



MITO, Piazza del Duomo, Milan



MITO, Piazza San Carlo, Turin

Both days were closed by two open singing assemblies, at the Piazza del Duomo in Milan and at the Piazza San Carlo in Turin, attended by several thousand participants, choristers and public who sung together under the direction of Michael Gohl and the leading of the Italian Youth Choir. The event was organized with the collaboration of **FENIARCO**, the Italian Federation for Choral Music. More info on:

<http://www.mitosettembremusica.it/en/home-en.html>

VOCALMENTE

Last month in Fossano, an historical town in Piemonte (Italy) the A Cappella Festival "Vocalmente" took place. The joy of singing and the act of sharing are at the very core of what drives the VOCALMENTE Family. We shared this joy with the people of Fossano, with the people of Piemonte, of Italy – and connected with the vocal family around the world.

Voices were carried into the city of Fossano and beyond. The Festival was firmly rooted in everyday work of the Fondazione Fossano Musica. The school has been for many years at the forefront of promoting contemporary vocal music: through masterclasses & workshops with internationally renowned teachers, with their choirs, and through employing teachers that share its vision and values.

More info on: www.vocalmente.net



ADVERTISE YOUR CHORAL EVENT TO THE WORLD on the ICB, the IFCMeNEWS, www.ifcm.net, <http://icb.ifcm.net/>

Advertisement spaces are now available on www.IFCM.net and ICB.IFCM.net as well as in the monthly IFCMeNEWS and in the quarterly ICB and eICB. Rates and dimensions are on the [Reserve A Space form](#)

Take advantage of the excellent usage statistics of our websites and media to promote your choral events!

VOLUNTEERS

Do you want to join with others around the globe in volunteer work for the IFCM? The IFCM is currently compiling a database of people such as you who wish to have their name included for consideration for assistance in various choral projects throughout the world, as they are required. The process is simple. Just send a CV, a photo, and any suggestion of ways you might be able to help us to leonardifra@yahoo.it. Please write "Volunteer's database" in the subject line of your email, and preferably send your material in English.

Remember the IFCM slogan "Volunteers connecting our choral world" - come and join us in our work!

WHAT'S ON IN OUR CHORAL WORLD IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2016

- 6-9 Oct: Bratislava Cantat II, Slovak Republic – www.choral-music.sk
- 6-9 Oct: Song & the City International Choir Festival, Berlin, Germany – www.musicultur.com/en/trips/reisen/chorfestival-berlin.html
- 8-12 Oct: 2nd Beira Interior International Choir Festival and Competition, Fundão, Portugal – www.meeting-music.com
- 11-15 Oct: 9th International Choral Festival Mario Baeza, Valparaíso, Chile – alacc.chile@gmail.com
- 12-16 Oct: Corfu International Festival and Choir Competition, Greece – www.interkultur.com
- 13-17 Oct: Lago di Garda Music Festival, Italy – www.mrf-musicfestivals.com
- 13-16 Oct: International Choir Festival Nice 2016, France – www.musicultur.com
- 13-16 Oct: 11th International Choral Festival Nice, France – www.destinations-choeurs.fr
- 14-16 Oct: 9th International Choral Festival Cuidad de Tomares, Sevilla, Spain – <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Polif%C3%B3nica-Tomares/1536284796586447>
- 17-23 Oct: International Choir Festival Corearte Barcelona 2016, Spain – www.corearte.es
- 18-21 Oct: 12th Busan Choral Festival & Competition, South Korea – www.busanchoral.com
- 19-23 Oct: Canta al mar 2016 International Choral Festival, Calella, Barcelona, Spain – www.interkultur.com
- 19-23 Oct: 1st Lanna International Choir Competition, Chiang Mai, Thailand – www.interkultur.com
- 19-23 Oct: Codichoral 2016, Derry, Ireland – www.codichoral.com
- 19-23 Oct: International Festival of Choirs Cantus Angeli, Salerno, Italy – www.cantusangeli.com
- 21-25 Oct: Cantate Barcelona, Spain – www.music-contact.com
- 21-23 Oct: John Paul II International Choir Festival of Sacred Music Mundus Cantat, Gdansk, Poland – www.munduscantat.pl
- 21-26 Oct: Second Annual Retreat Come All Ye, Port Rexton, Canada – www.growingthevoices.com
- 27-31 Oct: International Festival of Choirs and Orchestras in Vienna, Austria – www.mrf-musicfestivals.com
- 27-30 Oct: Prague Cantat, Czech Republic – www.musicultur.com
- 28-30 Oct: 12th International Warsaw Choir Festival Varsovia Cantat, Poland – www.varsoviacantat.pl
- 3-6 Nov: Cantate Dresden, Germany – www.musicandfriends.net/html/cantate_dresden1.html
- 4-7 Nov: International Budgetary Festival/Competition The Place of Holiday, Spain – www.fiestalonia.net

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10-13 Nov : ON STAGE with Interkultur in Prague, Czech Republic - <http://onstage.interkultur.com/>

11-13 Nov : Sligo International Choral Festival, Ireland - www.sligochoralfest.com/

13-19 Nov : International Choir Festival Corearte Brazil 2016, Caxias do Sul, Brazil - www.corearte.es

20-24 Nov : The Golden State Choral Trophy 2016, Monterey, California, USA - www.interkultur.com

24-28 Nov, 1-5, 8-12, 15-19 Dec : Vienna Advent Sing, Austria - www.music-contact.com

29 Nov-2 Dec : 7th Winter Choral Festival, Hong Kong China - www.winterchoralfestival.com

