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NEWS FROM THE 11TH WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON CHORAL MUSIC

The Barcelona Symposium is well under way. After the success of the call for performances (146 choir applications), the call for lectures has also exceeded our expectations with 165 applications, some including several proposals on different subjects.

The Colors of Peace is the theme of the next IFCM World Symposium on Choral Music. The 'colors' symbolize the pluralism of international choral life. Various choral structures and sounds, educational models, training and management, conducting and composition techniques will be the essence of the concerts, workshops, lectures and roundtables presented during the Symposium. In building a world of 'peace', choral music plays a fundamental role encouraging harmony, listening and mutual respect, joining forces and wills with solidarity and the mingling of different cultures. We want to contribute to this noble goal with the help of the most human expression of music: singing!

Together with a selection of the best choral experts from around the world you'll explore:

- The connection between the past and the present in choral creativity
- How can conductors continue to learn and what is that?
- Who builds the choir and how?
- What additional extra-musical resources are available?

Don't miss it! Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) !

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

We look forward to seeing you in Barcelona
from 22nd to 29th July 2017



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IFCM YOUTH ARTS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Presented by the American Choral Directors Association

August 15 – 31, 2016 Nassau, Bahamas

The world is full of musicians, therefore it is full of music events of many kinds: large, medium, and small scale. In order to be successful these events require that many aspects are organised and managed: production, staging, communications, PR, fundraising, finances, outreach, and many others. The International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM) and the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) have designed a training program specifically for young managers aged 18 to 30, who are motivated to learn and to develop skills in international events management so that they can return to their home countries with the tools needed to organize choir and music festivals and events. More info and application form on America-cantat.org or by email to mcprieto@gmail.com

THANK YOU TO VLADIMIR OPAČIĆ FOR SO MANY YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO THE WORLD YOUTH CHOIR

After 11 years of devotedly serving the World Youth Choir project, Vladimir Opačić has informed the three WYC Patrons (JMI, ECA-EC and IFCM) of his resignation as Manager. Because he had been a WYC singer himself, from 1999 (right after the war in Serbia) to 2004, Vladi has a deep sense of the project's humanity and its impact on the choral world. The essential values that Vladi promoted since 2004 have been largely shared, not only amongst the singers, but also by the organizers of the sessions and by thousands who have attended a World Youth Choir concert. IFCM thanks Vladi for his commitment and work and wishes him continuous success in his new challenges.

Vladimir Opačić can be contacted at his new email address: vladimir.opacic@hotmail.rs



NEWS FROM IFCM FOUNDING MEMBERS

NORDKLANG16 AUGUST 3-7, 2016 IN TURKU, FINLAND

The Nordklang Festival is organized under the umbrella of Nordisk Korforum every three years in one of the Nordic countries. The event brings together singers from all the Nordic countries to sing, learn and network.

Nordklang16 will offer a large variety of workshops for singers of all kinds of choirs.

Among others:

Vocal Jazz — Jesper Holm (for intermediate to difficult level)

"How do we make that marvellous jazz sound in a choir?" Vocal big band, and music inspired by The Singers Unlimited in Jesper Holm's arrangements. The focus will be on the elements that are particular to vocal jazz: Harmonic complexity, swing feeling, jazz phrasing, sound & blend, big band imitation. Get into the groove with the Danish specialist Jesper Holm. Mr. Jesper Holm is educated in both classical and rhythmic choral conducting. He works as a lecturer at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in rhythmic choral conducting and ensemble singing/jazz choir. He is also an avid instructor at many events and festivals in Denmark and abroad. Mr. Holm is a passionate vocal jazz enthusiast. He is the conductor/arranger for the vocal jazz group Touché. The ensemble often participates in Mr. Holm's workshops to demonstrate the intricacies of vocal jazz. Mr. Holm has performed in e.g. the World Symposium on Choral Music and Vocal Jazz Summit, Mainz, and has frequently shared the stage with groups like The Danish Radio Big Band, The Swingle Singers and The Real Group.



Folk Music for Choir — Ilona Korhonen (for easy to intermediate level)

Folk singer and choral conductor Ilona Korhonen will lead you into the sounds of folk singing from around the Baltic Sea. If your idea of folk music is folk costumes, folk dances and romantic folk song arrangements, this is not the group for you. But if you want to find out how we can bring the ideals, style and texts of folk singing into vibrant modern performances, this might just be your thing! Ilona Korhonen is a female musician, dedicated to the bone to folk music, and involved in all kinds of music, mostly vocal. Ms. Korhonen is familiar with many aspects of a musician's work: composing, ensemble playing, producing, singing, teaching, researching and working as a consultant. Before turning completely to folk music, Ms. Korhonen studied at the Sibelius Academy Department of Music Education to become a secondary school and upper secondary school music teacher and did plenty of studies in choir conducting and pedagogy. In 2007, she was accepted to study at the Department of Folk Music, and she became Master of Music in 2003. The subject of Ms. Korhonen's doctoral dissertation, accepted with honours in the summer 2012, was Ingrian runo-singing, focusing on solo runo-singing. Another field Ms. Korhonen has studied extensively is polyphony and choir singing in its many forms. As a part of her doctoral dissertation, she composed and performed an hour-long female choir piece based on Ingrian polyphony, "Tarkka pää, tania mieli", with her own ensemble.

Registration on <http://www.nordklang.fi>



THE EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION - EUROPA CANTAT

VOICE project chosen by the European Union as success story!

The European Cooperation project "VOICE - Vision on Innovation for Choral Music in Europe" has been selected by the European Commission as a "Success Story": "Success stories" are finalised projects that have distinguished themselves by their impact, contribution to policy-making, innovative results and/or creative approach and can be a source of inspiration for others. The choice of [the] project as a success story was made on the basis of a selection process according to rigorous criteria regarding the quality, relevance and results of [the] project. Read more about these great news in the full Press Release [HERE](#)

FAYHA CHOIR, NOMINATED BY ECA-EC, WINS IMC MUSIC RIGHTS AWARD

We are proud to report that the Fayha choir, member of ECA-EC and IFCM, has been selected as the laureate of the 2015 IMC Music Rights Awards. The award was handed over in Rabat, Morocco, on November 11th 2015, during the opening concert of the music market "Visa for Music".

The Fayha was nominated by ECA-EC because of the extensive social work the choir has been doing over the last years, especially in the field of singing with refugee children, but also setting up school choirs, bringing Muslim and Christian young people peacefully together in one choir, offering learning opportunities to young people in the region and last but not least, organizing the first International Lebanese Choir festival for the promotion of peace and understanding. The jury of the Music Rights Awards of the [International Music Council](#), chaired by Gary Ingle (USA), recognized the extraordinary work the Fayha Choir has been doing for many years in Lebanon, often under difficult circumstances, promoting choral music as an art form but also as a social tool.

Find the full Press Release [here](#).

AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION — ACDA

There are two exciting events that ACDA will be a part of in the coming year.

The first will be the seven division conferences taking place in February and March of 2016. These conferences will feature highlights such as Voces8, a vocal ensemble from England that "[Voces8] is now established as one of the most versatile and best-loved singing groups", world renowned composer Ola Gjeilo (who is the composer in residence for



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Voces8) and many amazing choral and orchestral ensembles performing the works of Bach, Verdi and Howell to name just a few. These division conferences will take place in Chicago (Central), Boston (Eastern), Sioux Falls (North Central), Seattle (Northwestern), Chattanooga (Southern), Kansas City (Southwestern) and Pasadena (Western). Registration is available on <http://acda.org/page.asp?page=divisions>

The second event, one in which ACDA has partnered with the Organización America Cantat, is the **America Cantat VIII** festival to be held from August 21-31, 2016 in the Bahamas. This festival is the premier cultural music festival of the Americas, and is the only non-competitive choir festival to unite, singers, conductors, and festival choirs from North, Central and South America in a ten-day cultural and musical immersion program. America Cantat is modeled after its sister festival, Europa Cantat. These festivals, in conjunction with Africa Cantat and Asia Pacific Cantat, constitute a worldwide movement of promoting peace and understanding through intercultural and artistic events. Performances at the festival will feature some of the best vocal ensembles that the Americas have to offer. For more information about the **America Cantat VIII** festival, visit <http://america-cantat-8.org/>

IN BRIEF – MEMBER NEWS

NEWS FROM CHORAL CANADA

You are invited! Canada's biennial choral conference & festival "**PODIUM**" will take place May 18-22, 2016, in Edmonton, Alberta. Choral musicians from across Canada and around the world will gather for 4.5 days of choral performances and professional development sessions.

The Festival includes more than a dozen public concerts featuring an exceptional roster of choirs from across Canada and beyond. Podium "After Hours" performances will highlight contemporary a cappella groups and vocal jazz ensembles.

Interest sessions at Podium are for choir directors and choral administrators, and encompass a wide range of topics including repertoire, conducting technique, performance approach, and use of technology. Podium delegates will have the opportunity to choose from 25 interest sessions.

Registration is open! Visit <http://www.podiumconference.ca>.



13TH CHINA INTERNATIONAL CHORUS FESTIVAL, 26 JULY - 4 AUGUST 2016, BEIJING, CHINA

Come to Beijing, Listen to the Songs of the World

Opening Ceremony and concert in the Great Hall of the People, IFCM Choral Education Conference, judge panel meeting, 5-day competition in 12 categories, choral exchange program, high level performances, new choral work concert, master classes, workshops, training camp, choral club, choral public and charitable events, concert tours, sightseeing (Great Wall, Temple of Heaven, Palace Museum), Square performances, Closing and Award Ceremony. Contact: cicfbjf@163.com - More info [HERE](#)

RIP Jonathan Harvey

Celebrated British composer Jonathan Harvey died, aged 73, on December 6. His publisher, Faber Music, confirmed that Harvey, who had been suffering from motor-neurone disease for some time, died peacefully in Sussex, UK. "His impact as a composer has been profound and international in its scope. The spirituality of his music also pervaded his personality; no one who met him came away without commenting on his gentleness, generosity and breadth of imagination ... Music simply poured out of him, naturally and organically. In every sense he was a superior human being and one that it has been a privilege to know, as much as it has been a delight to treasure his music." Sally Cavender, vice-chairman of Faber Music.

<http://www.theguardian.com/music/tomserviceblog/2012/sep/17/jonathan-harvey-contemporary-music-guide>

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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!

SHARE YOUR IMPORTANT CHORAL NEWS WITH THE WORLD!

The IFCMeNEWS wants to hear what's new in your country so that it can be shared with our global community. If you have news or photographs of international interest, please visit the IFCM web site to see the new guidelines for contributions to the IFCMeNEWS. Submissions are free to IFCM members!

ADVERTISE YOUR CHORAL EVENT TO THE WORLD ON IFCMeNEWS

The IFCMeNEWS is now distributed to over 100,000 choral leaders around the world. What better way to connect with the international global community than advertising your choral event or product on IFCMeNEWS. Limited advertising spaces are available in the IFCMeNEWS each month at very reasonable rates. Contact the IFCM office for more information.

WHAT'S ON IN OUR CHORAL WORLD IN JANUARY 2016

7 Jan : Anders Wall & Allmänna Sångens Composition Award, Uppsala, Sweden - www.allmannasangen.se

18-21 : 23rd Choral Conductor Summer School, Melbourne, Australia - www.choralconductors.org.au

26-31 : 9th International Youth Barbershop Chorus Festival, Reno, Nevada, USA - www.barbershop.org

28-30 : London A Cappella Festival 2016, London, United Kingdom - www.londonacappellafestival.co.uk/

