

In Chinese - 中文版  
 In English  
 In French - en français  
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## NEWS FROM IFCM

### CHINA INTERNATIONAL CHORUS FESTIVAL AND IFCM WORLD CHORAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

**Beijing, China, 19 July to 25 July 2018**

**The four top choirs invited to the China International Chorus Festival in July have now been selected:**

- From Gabon, **le Chant sur la Lowé**, conducted by Yveline Damas.
- From Hungary, the **Pannon Voices Mixed Choir**, conducted by Adrienne Vinczeffy.
- From New-Zealand, **Viva Voce**, conducted by John Rosser, will be the ambassador of the coming WSCM2020 in Auckland.
- From the USA, the **Houston Children's Choir**, conducted by Steve Rodde.

Also part of the CICF artistic program, the **World Youth Choir**, composed of young singers from all over the world, will rehearse during two weeks in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, before a concert tour that will end at the CICF.

This week, discover **le Chant sur la Lowé!**

The Vocal Group *Le Chant sur la Lowé* was founded by Ms. Yveline Damas in December 1990. Composed of thirty members, the choir aims to develop, popularize and enhance Gabonese musical heritage by singing in every Gabonese language. In Gabon, like in many other African countries, singing is part of the daily life. Songs and dances help with regular activities but also play an important part in the healing process, from a disease's diagnosis to the harvest of the medicinal plants that will cure the patient. Stories and characters from traditional tales are taught through singing in order to encourage harmony. Thanks to a careful selection of costumes, choreographies and musical repertoires, *Le Chant sur la Lowé* works at promoting the cultural heritage of Africa in general and of Gabon in particular, but also performs classical, religious, popular and contemporary songs from Africa and other continents.



**And now the three Master Classes:**

**1. Choral performance - Erik Van Nevel**

Main Points:

- Difference between performance practice and interpretation;
- Method and technique of arrangement and choreography;
- Using certain works to practice.

**2. Brain Gym training of children's choir - Fumiyo Tozaki**

Main Points:

- How to improve the vocal skills for children (teenagers) with Brain Gym;
- How to concentrate on the rehearsals for children with Brain Gym.

**3. Rhythm Training - Cristian Grasses**

Main Points:

- Basic Conducting Techniques for Rhythmic Music;
- Eurhythmics in the Rehearsal and the Performance.

Next month, we'll reveal the names of the speakers at the IFCM World Choral Education Conference. Stay tuned! Contact: [Office@ifcm.net](mailto:Office@ifcm.net)

**INTERNATIONAL CHINA CHORUS FESTIVAL AND IFCM WORLD CHORAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

The 14th China International Chorus Festival and IFCM World Choral Education Conference will be held in Beijing from 19 July to 25 July 2018.

More information: <http://en.cicfbj.cn/> English - <http://www.cicfbj.cn/> Chinese Programme: [http://en.cicfbj.cn/news\\_detail/newsId=112.html](http://en.cicfbj.cn/news_detail/newsId=112.html)

**12<sup>TH</sup> WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON CHORAL MUSIC (WSCM2020): THEME ANNOUNCED**

The organising team is excited to announce the theme of the 12th World Symposium on Choral Music (WSCM2020), to be held in Auckland from 11 to 18 July 2020. Please click [HERE](#) for an explanation of the theme. We believe it is not only evocative of New Zealand but will also resonate with the rest of the world. For those who wish to be considered to perform or give lectures/workshops at WSCM2020, a call for choirs and presenters will be made in March.



**WORLD YOUTH CHOIR SESSION 2018 – INNER MONGOLIA, CHINA**

During the first week of March, the Jury of the World Youth Choir met in Tianjin, China, and selected the singers for the 2018 session. 67 singers from 33 countries have been selected to participate in the session led by Helene Stureborg and Jonathan Velasco, starting in Inner Mongolia on the 4th of July, and ending at the China International Choral festival in Beijing. Congratulations to all the new singers! Thanks to all the singers who auditioned, and to all the recruiters around the choral globe!

<https://www.worldyouthchoir.org/summer-session-2018>

**CONDUCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS UPDATE**

A CWB session just ended in Lomé, Togo. It was organized from March 4 to 10, 2018 under the direction of Thierry Thiébaud, CWB coordinator in Africa, assisted by Sylvain Gameti, President of the Togolese Association of choral composers. 15 participants applied to this session and 35 choristers volunteered to form the choir in residence. The final concert on March 10 was followed by the diploma ceremony. Report by Sylvain Gameti in French and pictures [HERE](#)

**NEWS FROM IFCM FOUNDING MEMBERS****AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION (ACDA)****Commissions**

Tarik O'Regan was awarded the 2018 ACDA Raymond W. Brock Memorial Commission. His work *All Things Common* was premiered at each of ACDA's six regional conferences this spring. About the piece, he notes: *Despite the text's Biblical origins, I wanted to find a theme*

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*which can speak to everyone ... I feel we live in a time of exceptional division, and that we are using our great and wonderful diversity (in every sense) against ourselves towards our demise, rather than embracing it for our greater good .... All Things Common is published by Novello.*

Matthew Hazzard, a graduate student at California State University - Long Beach, won the 2017 ACDA Brock Student Composition Competition for his work *Peace Flows into Me*. The piece was premiered at the ACDA Western Region Conference in March 2018.

## **2018 Symposium on Research in Choral Singing**

**September 14-15, 2018**

**Evanston, Illinois, USA**

The intent of this event is to advance knowledge and practice with respect to choral singing, choir sound, choral pedagogy, and related areas such as equity and inclusion. The Call for Proposals is currently open. Additional information [HERE](#)

## **Relevance: North Dakota State University's Third Choral Symposium,**

**co-sponsored by ACDA**

**October 11-13, 2018**

**Fargo, North Dakota, USA**

Inclusion \* Social Justice \* Transformation \* Diversity \* Inspiration \* Community. Featuring Craig Hella Johnson conducting *Conspire* in *Considering Matthew Shepard*. Concerts and interest sessions. Deadline for proposals: April 1, 2018 (send to Dr. Jo Ann Miller at [jo.miller@ndsu.edu](mailto:jo.miller@ndsu.edu)). <http://ndsu.edu/music>

## **ACDA National Conference is February 27 - March 2, 2019, in Kansas City, Missouri, USA.**

Auditions for Performing Choirs and Proposals for Interest Sessions are currently being accepted. Additional information [HERE](#)



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

### Conductors and composers programme at the EUROPA CANTAT Festival XX 27 July - 5 August 2018 | Tallinn, Estonia

The programme is open to conductors and composers with common and separate offers, and partly also offers interesting sessions for music teachers and managers.

You will have the opportunity to meet your colleagues and exchange repertoire, tips and tricks, listen to music or look at scores together.

On several days you can also join a "Study Tour" visiting a number of selected atelier rehearsals under the guidance of Rainer Held (CH).

Participation in the **conductors and composers programme (CCP)** is possible for conductors from participating choirs as well as individual participants. You can participate in the full programme or pick individual offers you are interested in.

If you just want to **get a taste of the festival for one or more days**, you can buy one-day tickets and even register on the morning of your participation

The detailed programme for each day will be published in late spring 2018.

More info >> [www.ectallinn2018.ee](http://www.ectallinn2018.ee)

If you have any question please contact [info@ectallinn2018.ee](mailto:info@ectallinn2018.ee)



## NEWS FROM IFCM MEMBERS

### OBITUARY JOSÉ ANTONIO ABREU (1939-2018)

We are saddened by the loss of **Jose Antonio Abreu** who passed away last Sunday. Jose Antonio Abreu was a musician, politician and economist who created a network of more than 1,500 orchestras and choirs for young people in Venezuela, known as "El Maestro" in his home country. Abreu started the project in 1975, and his internationally-acclaimed "El Sistema" ("The System") has grown to include more than 900,000 children, taught by 10,000 teachers throughout Venezuela.

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His innovative teaching model, which boasts replicas in 50 countries, has earned him a number of prestigious awards, including from UNESCO and the Royal Swedish Academy of Music.

In addition to his landmark music program, Abreu also played a role in Venezuelan politics: he was a legislator and also served as culture minister during president Carlos Andres Perez's second term.

Thank you for making this world a better place!



## NEWS FROM CARUS-VERLAG

### New CARUS magazine 1/2018

Twice a year the CARUS Magazine keeps you informed with interesting topics around choral music today. Hot off the press is the new CARUS Magazine 1/2018 with lots of articles about choral music. You're in for a surprise! [>>> Read online](#)



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR CHORAL MUSIC monthly electronic newsletter

<http://ifcm.net/>

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**NEWS FROM LA FENIARCO****10th European Seminar for Choral Composers, Aosta (Italy), 15-22 July 2018**

Three workshops on choral composing (original, arranging for pop and composing for children's choir) with Z. Randall Stroepe (USA), Alessandro Cadario (Italy) and Eva Ugalde (Spain). A choir-in-residence will perform the new compositions in real time. Applications deadline 15 Apr 2018.

More info [www.feniarco.it](http://www.feniarco.it) - [info@feniarco.it](mailto:info@feniarco.it)

**NEWS FROM CHORAL CANADA**

Join us for Canada's choral conference and festival Podium on the EDGE: Singing from Sea to Sea to Sea, June 29 - July 3, 2018! Brilliant choral concerts by 40 Canadian and international choirs, stimulating presentations by 68 presenters and clinicians, fantastic workshops, inspiring keynote presentations, social networking opportunities, and amazing cultural events in the unique St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador...the oldest city, and the most easterly point in North America! Learn more and register at [www.podiumconference.ca](http://www.podiumconference.ca)

**THE VCM FOUNDATION WINS BEST CLASSICAL MUSIC INITIATIVE 2018**

In partnership with United Learning and composer & arranger Alexander L'Estrange, VCM Foundation was awarded Best Classical Music Education Initiative 2018 at the UK Music Teacher Awards. 'Wassail', a new work now published by Faber and commissioned by United Learning was performed in London and Manchester in November 2017. The VCM Foundation team delivered the majority of the workshops in United Learning Schools, and formed the professional choir for the two concerts, which included nearly 1,000 children from schools all across the UK. Congratulations!

**AMERICA CANTAT 9****Panama, 12-21 April 2019**

A 10 day program with singers, directors and choirs from all over the world for the 1st time on the shores of the Pacific Ocean in the beautiful city of Panama, 2019 Ibero American Cultural Capital of the World in celebration of its 500 year foundation anniversary.

Contact: [info@acpanama19.org](mailto:info@acpanama19.org)

Website: <http://www.acpanama19.org/>

**ADVERTISE YOUR CHORAL EVENT TO THE WORLD in the ICB and on our websites**

Advertisement spaces are now available on <http://ifcm.net/> and <http://icb.ifcm.net> as well as 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!

**WHAT'S GOING ON IN OUR CHORAL WORLD IN APRIL AND MAY 2018**

1 Apr : Gotham SINGS! New York City, USA - [www.sechristtravel.com](http://www.sechristtravel.com)

4-8 Apr : Istra Music Festival 2018, Pore, Croatia - <https://www.mrf-musicfestivals.com/>

- 4-8 Apr : Voices for Peace, Assisi, Italy - [www.interkultur.com](http://www.interkultur.com)
- 4-8 Apr : Verona International Choral Competition, Verona, Italy - [www.music-contact.com](http://www.music-contact.com)
- 5-8 Apr : ON STAGE with Interkultur in Verona, Italy - <http://onstage.interkultur.com/>
- 5-8 Apr : 4th International Children's & Youth Chorus Festival 'StimmenKlangRaum', Weimar, Germany - [www.schola-cantorum-weimar.de](http://www.schola-cantorum-weimar.de)
- 5-8 Apr : International Choir Festival and Competition of Lithuanian Music Patriarch Juozas Naujalis, Kaunas, Lithuania - <http://www.lituanicantat.lt/>
- 8 Apr: Wind Songs, a DCINY Concert, Carnegie Hall, New-York, USA - <https://www.carnegiehall.org/events>
- 12-14 Apr : 6th International Choral Competition for Children's Choirs "Il Garda in Coro", Malcesine sul Garda, Verona, Italy - [www.ilgardaincoro.it](http://www.ilgardaincoro.it)
- 15 Apr: The music of Eric Whitacre, a DCINY Concert, Carnegie Hall, New-York, USA - <https://www.carnegiehall.org/events>
- 15 Apr : Dreamweaver, a DCINY Concert, Carnegie Hall, New-York, USA - <https://www.carnegiehall.org/events>
- 15-21 Apr : Music at Gargonza, Tuscany, Italy - [www.lacock.org](http://www.lacock.org)
- 17-19 Apr : 2nd Michelangelo International Music Festival, Florence, Italy - [www.florencechoral.com](http://www.florencechoral.com)
- 18-22 Apr : 64th Cork International Choral Festival, Ireland - [www.corkchoral.ie](http://www.corkchoral.ie)
- 21 Apr: European Grand Prix for Choral Singing 2018, Maribor, Slovenia - <http://www.egpchoral.com/>
- 20-21 Apr : Young Voices in Harmony Festival with Henry Leck, Pleasanton, California, USA - <http://cantabella.org/>
- 22 Apr: The King's Singers: 50th Anniversary Celebration, a DCINY Concert, Carnegie Hall, New-York, USA - <https://www.carnegiehall.org/events>
- 26-29 Apr : Slovakia Cantat, Bratislava, Slovak Republic - [www.choral-music.sk](http://www.choral-music.sk)
- 26-29 Apr : 8th International Messiah Choir Festival, Salzburg, Austria - <https://messiah-chorfestival-salzburg.jimdo.com/english/home/>
- 26-27 Apr : Workshop on Digital Communication with a Focus on Social Media, Bonn, Germany - <http://www.europeanchoralassociation.org/>
- 27 Apr-2 May : 66th European Music Festival for Young People, Neerpelt, Belgium - [www.emj.be](http://www.emj.be)
- 27-29 Apr : 8th World Choir Festival on Musicals, Thessalonik, Greece - [www.xorodiakorais.com](http://www.xorodiakorais.com)
- 28 Apr-2 May : 16th Venezia in Musica, International Choir Competition and Festival, Venice and Caorle, Italy - [www.meeting-music.com](http://www.meeting-music.com)
- 29 Apr-2 May : World of Choirs, Montecatini Terme, Toscana, Italy - [www.fiestalonia.net](http://www.fiestalonia.net)
- 2-6 May : 14th International Choir Competition & Festival Bad Ischl, Austria - [www.interkultur.com](http://www.interkultur.com)
- 3-6 May : 6th Queen of the Adriatic Sea Choral Festival and Competition, Cattolica, Italy - [www.queenchoralfestival.org](http://www.queenchoralfestival.org)
- 3-6 May : Sansev Istanbul International Choirs Festival, Istanbul, Turkey - [www.sansevfest.com](http://www.sansevfest.com)
- 3-6 May : 8th Kaunas Cantat International Choir Festival and Competition, Kaunas, Lithuania - <http://www.lituanicantat.lt/>
- 6-9 May : ON STAGE with Interkultur in Stockholm, Sweden - <http://onstage.interkultur.com/>
- 6-11 May : Sea Sun Festival & Competition, Costa Brava, Spain - [www.fiestalonia.net](http://www.fiestalonia.net)
- 7-14 May : International Choir Festival on the Sea of Galilee, Israel

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- [www.music-contact.com](http://www.music-contact.com)

8-13 May : 11th European Festival of Youth Choirs, Basel, Switzerland - [www.ejcf.ch](http://www.ejcf.ch)

9-13 May : Helsingborg International Choir Competition, Sweden - [www.interkultur.com](http://www.interkultur.com)

9-13 May : 19th International Festival of Choral Singing Nancy Voix du Monde, France -

[www.chantchoral.org](http://www.chantchoral.org)

9-13 May : Canta en Andalucía, Sevilla, Spain - [www.cantaenandalucia.com/](http://www.cantaenandalucia.com/)

10-14 May : CantaRode International Choral Festival & Competition, Kerkrade, The Netherlands - [www.cantarode.nl](http://www.cantarode.nl)

10-13 May : 21st Statys Šimkus Choir Competition, Klaipėda, Lithuania -

<https://www.aukuras.org/simkus>

10-13 May : 16th International Student Choirs' Festival Young Voices 2018, Nizhny Novgorod City, Russian Federation - <https://mgolosa.ru/?p=1270&lang=en>

12-14 May : 2nd Lorenzo de Medici International Music Festival, Florence, Italy -

[www.florencechoral.com](http://www.florencechoral.com)

14-19 May : Singing in Venice, Italy - [www.lacock.org](http://www.lacock.org)

17-21 May : 15th International Choral Festival London, United Kingdom -

[www.maldiviaggi.com](http://www.maldiviaggi.com)

17-20 May : 1st Birštonas Cantat International Choir and Orchestra Festival and Competition, Birštonas, Lithuania - <http://www.lituaniacantat.lt/>

18-22 May : 3rd International Choral Celebration and Laurea Mundi, Budapest, Hungary -

[www.meeting-music.com](http://www.meeting-music.com)

18-23 May : Musica Sacra International Festival, Marktobendorf, Germany -

[www.modfestivals.org](http://www.modfestivals.org)

20 May-17 June : 7th Varna International Opera Academy, Bulgaria -

[www.varnainternational.com](http://www.varnainternational.com)

22-27 May : International Choir Festival Corearte Senior 2018, Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, Spain - [www.corearte.es](http://www.corearte.es)

23-27 May : Istanbul International Chorus Competition and Festival, Istanbul, Turkey -

[www.istanbulchorus.com](http://www.istanbulchorus.com)

24-27 May : ON STAGE with Interkultur in Florence, Italy - <http://onstage.interkultur.com/>

24-28 May : Cantate Croatia International Choir Festival, Croatia - [www.music-contact.com](http://www.music-contact.com)

25-27 May : 61th International Festival of Choral Art Jihlava 2018, Czech Republic -

[www.nipos-mk.cz](http://www.nipos-mk.cz)

25-27 May : Namur en Choeurs International Choral Festival, Namur, Belgium -

<http://www.namurenchoeurs.be/>

25-26 May : 19th Fort Worden Children's Choir Festival, Port Townsend, USA -

[www.fortwordenfestival.com](http://www.fortwordenfestival.com)

27 May : Gotham SINGS! New York City, USA - [www.sechristtravel.com](http://www.sechristtravel.com)

30 May-3 June : Sing'n'Joy Vienna 2018 4th Choir Festival & 31th International Franz Schubert Choir Competition, Austria - [www.interkultur.com](http://www.interkultur.com)