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Cork International Choral Festival

66TH CORK INTERNATIONAL CHORAL FESTIVAL | 28TH APRIL - 2ND MAY 2021

Cork International Choral Festival
28th April - 2nd May 2021

www.corkchoral.ie
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BOOKING INFORMATION

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Cork International Choral Festival

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INTRODUCTION

Lord Mayor's Foreword



Is cúis mór áthas dom fáilte croíúil a chuir romhaibh anseo le haghaidh an Cór Fhéile Idirnáisiúnta Chorcaí 2021.

The Cork International Choral Festival, now in its 66th edition, has continued to grow and progress as Cork's oldest Festival and one of the most prestigious of its type across the world. I am delighted to send my best wishes to all those participating in this year's first virtual edition of the festival.

The Festival has always been recognised for the friendly embrace it offers its visitors and participants alike, with an impressively diverse programme of concerts and educational offerings and many fringe activities, ensuring that Cork continues to be a destination for music lovers from all over the world. I am pleased that the Cork International Choral Festival took this unprecedented situation as an opportunity to actively reimagine the festival, following in the courageous footsteps of other events and cultural organisations who have already initiated this radical transformation of the arts and the cultural sector.

The COVID-19 pandemic has turned our world upside down: although this year we will not see cafés, restaurants, pubs and public amenities come alive with choral groups bringing their voices to our wonderful city, we still have the opportunity to enjoy the finest musical excellence across the world.

I would like to take the opportunity to recognise and compliment the organisers of the Festival for their hard work, dedication and commitment, ensuring that this wonderful event continue to happen despite the pandemic, all the while, positioning Cork at the centre of choral music in Europe.

In addition, I'd like to thank the many volunteers, supporters and patrons for their continued support of the Festival, without whom, this Festival would not be possible. The Cork International Choral Festival is one that truly belongs to the city. It has immersed itself effortlessly into the fabric of our heritage and has become an annual cultural highlight in our diaries.

I look forward to seeing you all online.

Gúim gach rath oraibh leis an chlár seo agaibh.

Cllr Joe Kavanagh

Ardmhéara Chorcaí

Lord Mayor of Cork

INTRODUCTION

Artistic Director's Introduction



Last year I prepared my first festival introduction and of course it was never published and the cancellation was announced instead. This has now become my first welcome to you all, and it is to a very different 66th Cork International Choral Festival. We all know just how much the international choral community has been impacted by over a year of vocal restrictions as part of the response to the global pandemic. Whilst the very necessary short term priority is to control the virus and to vaccinate in colossal numbers, the longer term impact of silent concert halls and rehearsal spaces is only just starting to be felt.

We have taken a positive approach in our response and we are holding an online festival in 2021. It opens on Wednesday evening with a specially commissioned poem and video presentation on the theme of A Singing City written by Cork poet Billy Ramsell and read by Elmarie Tallon. Thursday will feature a specially prepared documentary about the group Anúna made by their founder director and composer Michael McGlynn. Chamber Choir Ireland will give no fewer than three world premieres on Friday night which will contrast with a programme of Bach and Before on Saturday, performed by

the early music ensemble Resurgam. Finally on Sunday the Berlin based group ONAIR will display the very best of a cappella gymnastics to close the Festival.

In addition to these evening events are a multitude of choral videos created by enterprising choirs from around the world who have not allowed themselves to be silenced fully. A large number of these form our competitive element this year but some are from choirs, both local and international, who simply wanted to send their choral greetings to Cork at this extraordinary time, and as a substitute for travelling in person.

We are grateful to the many supporting bodies including the Arts Council, Cork City Council, Cork County Council and Fáilte Ireland who provide much needed financial grant aid. In addition Ibec are supporting our newly established Workplace Choir of the Year Competition and the Ó Riada family continues to support the Festival in this the 50th anniversary year of the death of Sean Ó Riada. Our appreciation also goes to our many other sponsors who contribute to making the Festival such a success.

Elaine Fitzgerald (Festival Manager) and Michela Del Tin (Festival Administrator) work so hard throughout the year and they have helped me settle into the post without interrupting their own dedication and efforts.

You are most welcome, whatever part of the world that you are listening from, and we hope that you will consider joining us in person whenever we are able to meet again!

Peter Stobart
Artistic Director

INTRODUCTION

Festival President's Introduction

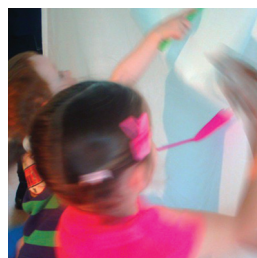


Beirim fíor chaoin fáilte romhaibh go léir ag an 66ú Cór Fhéile Idirnáisiúnta Chorcaí 2021. A heartfelt welcome to you all to this year's online festival. None of us could possibly foresee when I delivered my closing address at the 2019 festival and looked forward to meeting all our participants, audiences, and friends in 2020 that the intervening period would bring about such changes in our lives. A festival planned for 2020 cancelled just over a month prior to its commencement, and the necessity to reimagine the 2021 festival due to the unanticipated continual and long-term impact Covid 19 has had on all our lives and activities. Community, social, family, business, artistic, recreational, travel, and personal lives have been impacted in a major way. It is however important to know that we are not alone - the imposition of restrictions related to Covid 19, has impacted in a major way on choral life not just nationally, but over the whole world. Through my position as a Board Member of CFN – The Choral Festival Network, I have been in constant contact with many colleagues and friends throughout the world and we all share updates, insights, and ideas on how to maintain and develop our work into the future. While certain alternative approaches have been tried, in reality since March 2020 choirs have been unable to assemble and rehearse, festivals have been cancelled, and postponed (some to be postponed yet again). Many festivals have, like us, had to reinvent themselves in rethinking a vision for the development of choral music to continue their work and communicate with their audiences.

It is particularly heartening that we have a festival this year, and great credit is due to the Festival's Board, its organisational and administrative team and its Artistic Director who, like so many others, have been home-based for the last 12 months, in planning an interesting and inclusive festival. Although this year we will not see the city and county come alive with live performances of choral music as in previous festivals, our audiences will still have the opportunity of experiencing 4 online Gala Concerts featuring superb choirs/vocal ensembles, listen to three World premieres performed by Chamber Choir Ireland, experience the performances of over 33 international choirs representing many countries in an a cappella video competition, an equivalent competition for national choirs, the introduction of an Ibec sponsored initiative for Workplace choirs, coupled with a supporting online programme of workshops, pre-concert talks, and masterclasses, and experience visually some exceptional archival footage of the festival and our city and county. I look forward to the reading by our much-loved Elmarie Mawe of a newly commissioned poem by Billy Ramsell entitled A Singing City in praise of the city and its love of song.

This year's festival is different in almost every way, but it still retains one common feature. We will not be meeting up with our long-time friends from Ireland and further afield, in the City Hall, the two Cathedrals, Triskel, the Goldie Chapel, the Freemasons' Hall, the Clayton Hotel, and all the other venues, but to all who attend virtually, from near and far, whether a participant or audience member - you are most welcome, enjoy the experience, participate fully, and know that you are an intrinsic part of the continued success of this vibrant and important festival. Finally, let's look forward with optimism to 2022 when the world will be open once more and ".....until we meet again may God hold you in the palm of His hand" – from An Irish Blessing.

John Fitzpatrick
President



Hitting the right note



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí
Cork City Council

www.corkcity.ie

Cara O'Sullivan, Soprano RIP



A Tribute

It was with huge sorrow the Festival learned of the untimely death on 26th January 2021 of the exceptional and naturally gifted talent, and the kind, warm, and generous human being that was our much loved Cara O'Sullivan. Cara's exceptional talent captivated audiences at home and abroad and her abilities as a singer were wide-ranging and varied. While her musical travels brought her to many countries she was most at home performing for her own Cork audience who loved her in equal measure. In the past number of years, due to the early onset of dementia, she had been a major loss to all her devoted followers and to music at local, national and international level. Our loss is Heaven's gain.


Her professional career is well documented elsewhere and so we do not intend to dwell on the extent of her varied concert and operatic performances, and the many accolades she justifiably received throughout her career. She performed at the festival on many occasions but she will be particularly remembered for her last major concert at the Festival in 2017 where she sang the soprano solo in Verdi's Requiem as powerfully and exquisitely as ever. Her singing of the closing *Libera Me* remains, and will remain, with all those who were present, as a memory of her depth of interpretive understanding and sublime vocal skills. She will be very much missed. A true Diva, but a Diva with her feet firmly planted in the real world of the ordinary person.

What is less well known is that, apart from her singing, Cara and her family had a long association with the Choral Festival. Her father, Donal, a charismatic man with a vibrant personality, was a staunch supporter as a volunteer for many years. He was a Fáilteóir and as such he acted as a Welcomer for visiting international choirs. One of the choirs he was most involved with was the *Bulmershe Girls Choir* from Reading in England. Cara would have been an active companion of his in this work and regaled us on many occasions with colourful incidents of his involvement with this and other choirs.

All her friends at the "Choral Festival" extend our deepest sympathies to her daughter Christine, her siblings Aoife, Nuala, and Jim, and her extended family on her passing.

She was a special person with a God-given voice *agus ní fheicfear a leithéid arís.*

Solas na bhFlaitheas go raibh aici / measc na naomh.



GALA CONCERTS



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The text "GALA CONCERTS" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font. It is centered within a thick, horizontal yellow brushstroke that has a rough, hand-painted edge. The background of the top section is a solid magenta color, decorated with faint, white musical notes and treble clefs in the upper right corner.

GALA CONCERTS

OPENING NIGHT

Wednesday 28th April, 8pm

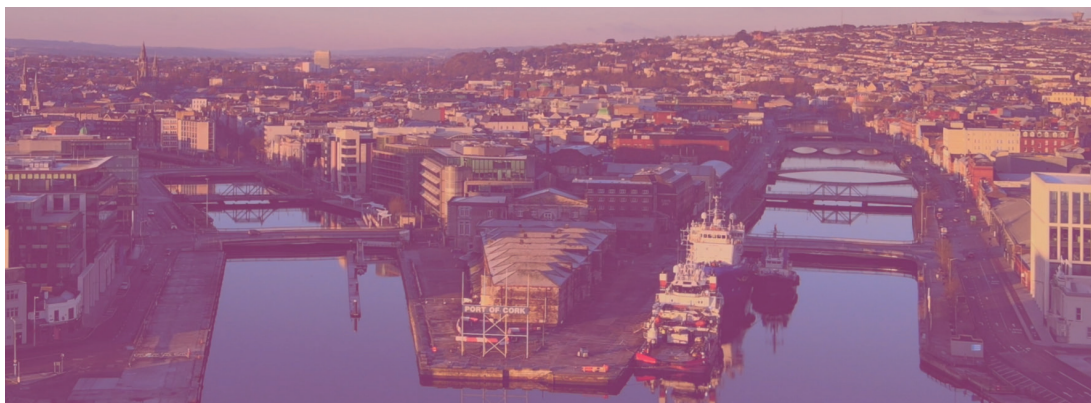
▶ *Watch it on the virtual event platform, Facebook & YouTube*

A celebration of the 66th edition of the Cork International Choral Festival

Free streaming

The bottom half of the poster features a vibrant, abstract background. It consists of numerous diagonal brushstrokes in shades of yellow, orange, teal, and purple. Overlaid on these strokes are faint, white musical notes, treble clefs, and a large, stylized treble clef that spans across the middle of the section. The overall effect is one of dynamic energy and musical celebration.

GALA CONCERTS



“A Singing City”

We are pleased to open the first virtual edition of our festival with a beautiful poem “A Singing City”, written by Billy Ramsell especially for this edition of the Cork International Choral Festival and read by the voice of Elmarie Mawe, using some exceptional archival footage of the Festival and some breath-taking views of our City and County. Don't miss this free, joyous virtual celebration of the 66th edition of the Cork International Choral Festival!

Billy Ramsell

Billy Ramsell was born in Cork in 1977 and educated at the North Monastery and UCC. He has published two collections with Dedalus Press, *Complicated Pleasures* in 2007 and *The Architect's Dream of Winter* in 2013, which was shortlisted for the Irish Times Poetry Now Award and was recently published in Italian translation. He has been awarded several bursaries and residencies and has been invited to read his work at many festivals and literary events around the world. He lives in Cork where he co-runs an educational publishing company.

GALA CONCERTS

ANÚNA

(IRELAND)

Thursday 29th April, 8pm

▶ *Watch it on the virtual event platform*

“Globally renowned as one of the world’s finest choral groups, ANÚNA is a stellar example of all that is pure and honest in Irish tradition.”

The concert will be introduced by a live Pre-Concert Talk at 7.15 pm.
You can submit your questions for the Q&A on www.corkchoral.ie.

Tickets: €5.99 + booking fee

GALA CONCERTS



ANÚNA

Globally renowned as one of the world's finest choral groups, ANÚNA is a stellar example of all that is pure and honest in Irish tradition.

ANÚNA have been associated with the Cork International Choral Festival since their first visit in 1990. Since then the group have become the best known vocal ensemble that Ireland has produced. Founder, Artistic Director and composer for ANÚNA Michael McGlynn is delighted to be associated with the Festival in 2021.

"When Peter Stobart asked me if we would be interested in returning to the Festival this year, even if only in virtual form, I immediately jumped at the opportunity. Both myself as composer and the ensemble have long been associated with the Cork Choral Festival, and I thought it would be a chance to portray that legacy on film. We have put together a programme of ANÚNA repertoire but tied this together with the story of our associations with the Festival. The film features interviews and a selection of live material, some of which has never been publicly seen before. I am delighted we can be part of the 2021 programme and hopefully, it won't be long until we can return to Cork in person."

Programme:

Song of the Wind - Amhrán na Gaoithe
(Michael McGlynn)

St Nicholas - (St Godric, arr. Michael McGlynn)

Mariam Matrem Virginem - (Michael McGlynn)

August - (text Francis Ledwidge, music Michael McGlynn)

Dúlamán - (text traditional, music Michael McGlynn)

Danny Boy - (words & music Frederic Weatherly, arr. Michael McGlynn)

Hinbarra - (text traditional, music Michael McGlynn)

One Last Song - (Michael McGlynn)

Jerusalem - (Traditional, music Michael McGlynn)

Pie Jesu - (Michael McGlynn)



GALA CONCERTS

CHAMBER CHOIR IRELAND

THERE IS SWEET MUSIC...

Friday 30th April, 8.00pm


▶ *Watch it on the virtual event platform*

Andrew Synnott (CONDUCTOR)

“A sheerly beautiful immersion in choral sonority”
(Irish Times)

The concert will be introduced by a live Pre-Concert Talk at 7.15 pm.
You can submit your questions for the Q&A on www.corkchoral.ie.

Tickets: €5.99 + booking fee



GALA CONCERTS



Chamber Choir Ireland There is sweet music...

Programme:

Three Shakespeare Songs - Ralph Vaughan Williams

Go, Song of Mine - Edward Elgar

The Weeping Babe - Michael Tippett

On a quiet day in the future [Seán Ó Riada Composition Competition prizewinner 2021 – World Premiere] - Norah Constance Walsh

It will not depart [Seán Ó Riada Composition Competition prizewinner 2020 – World Premiere] - Peter Leavy

The Evening Watch - Gustav Holst

Longwave [CICF commission – World Premiere] - Amanda Feery

Dance, Clarion Air - Michael Tippett

There is sweet music - Edward Elgar

The Windhover - Michael Tippett

Amanda Feery's *Longwave* using text from the Shipping Forecast – originally commissioned for the 2020 Cork International Choral Festival and also two prize-winning entries from the Seán Ó Riada Composition Competition: Norah Constance Walsh's *On a quiet day in the future* (2021 winning entry) and Peter Leavy's *It will not depart* (2020 winning entry). This concert has been programmed by CCI's Artistic Director, Paul Hillier who, due to current restrictions, can't be with us in Ireland for this year's festival. However, we warmly welcome Andrew Synnott as guest director who has had close connections with the Festival in the past as a former winner of the Seán Ó Riada Composition Competition in 1991!

Chamber Choir Ireland

Garnering a strong reputation for its unique approach to creative commissioning, recording and programming, Chamber Choir Ireland is the country's flagship choral ensemble and national chamber choir under the Artistic Direction of the multi-award-winning conductor, Paul Hillier. The Choir's programmes span from early renaissance to the present day, incorporating established choral classics with cutting edge commissions, and a style of performance that incorporates versatility, dynamism and often vocal pyrotechnics.

Chamber Choir Ireland performances have been described as having a tone which is 'liquid in its power and purity' with a 'strong vocal flexibility of style' (Belfast Telegraph). The Choir has a strong commitment to touring in Ireland and continues to develop its touring network in order to present

Returning after such silent times for choirs in lockdown, Chamber Choir Ireland (CICF Choir-in-Residence) presents a glorious programme of British choral music from the 20th century. The choir is delighted to present the premiere of



GALA CONCERTS

high quality choral concerts to audiences around the country. International touring has included the USA, UK, Belgium, Russia, Germany and South America.

The choir has previously recorded for the Harmonia Mundi, RTE Lyric FM labels including the world premiere recording of works by Gerald Barry, Barry meets Beethoven, featuring the Crash Ensemble and Stephen Richardson on the Orchid Classics label. The Choir's latest release, in November 2020 was 'Letters' which featured CCI commission Triptych by David Fennessy and A Letter of Rights by Tarik O'Regan & Alice Goodman on the Naxos label

Chamber Choir Ireland has a strong Learning and

Participation programme, including in Composers in the Classroom, Choral Sketches, Sing! at Axis:Ballymun and a lecture series on the history of choral music in Ireland.

Chamber Choir Ireland receives principal funding & support from the Arts Council/ an Chomhairle Ealaíon, is a resident ensemble at the National Concert Hall of Ireland, Associate Artists to Dublin City University, and a member of TENSO – the network of professional chamber choirs in Europe

You can also catch Chamber Choir Ireland at our Choral Symposium (see page 45 for more info)



GALA CONCERTS

RESURGAM

BACH AND BEFORE (IRELAND)

Saturday 1st May, 8pm

▶ *Watch it on the virtual event platform*

Organist and Director Mark Duley

The concert will be introduced by a live Pre-Concert Talk at 7.15 pm.
You can submit your questions for the Q&A on www.corkchoral.ie.

Tickets: €5.99 + booking fee



GALA CONCERTS



Resurgam BACH and Before

Resurgam was founded in 2003 by Mark Duley, and is one of Ireland's most acclaimed vocal ensembles. Resurgam is the premiere project-based professional choir in the country, and many of its singers have parallel careers as soloists. It inspires audiences and partner choirs the length and breadth of Ireland, bringing alive the emotional drama found in so much vocal music, especially that of the seventeenth century.

Resurgam is proud to follow Monteverdi's famous dictum *recitar cantando* (speak through singing). Resurgam's hallmarks as a choir are clarity and transparency of sound, attention to text and emotive content, virtuosity in improvisation and ornamentation, colourful interplay of instrumental and vocal resources and textures, and imaginative and engaging programming.

The ensemble is committed to bringing fine choral music to the west of Ireland, and especially to places where hitherto there have been few, if any performances by professional choral ensembles. It also values its relationships with local choirs in the west and enjoys sharing the expertise of its singers and players through workshops and coaching sessions.

Mark Duley

Mark Duley was born in New Zealand, and came to live in Ireland in 1992. He has held several major posts in the country, including organist and director of music at Christ Church Cathedral Dublin, chorumaster to the RTÉ Philharmonic Choir, artistic director of the

Programme:

Johann Schein, Fontana Israel: Israelis (1586-1630) *from*

Fontana Israel: Israelis Brunnlein (Leipzig 1623)

O Herr ich bin dein Knecht Siehe, nach Trost war mirst nicht Ephraim Zion spricht: Der Herr hat mich verlassen

Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)

Laudate Dominum SV 287 (1641)

Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672) *from*

Geistliche Chormusik (Dresden 1648)

SWV 374 Unser keiner lebet ihm selber

SWV 378 Die mit Tränen säen

SWV 372/373 Verleih uns Frieden/Gib unsern Fürsten

SWV 379 So fahr ich hin zu Jesu Christ

Monteverdi

Venite venite sitientes SV 335 (1624)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Jesu meine Freude BWV 227

GALA CONCERTS

Irish Baroque Orchestra, and artistic director of Pipeworks. Mark is one of Ireland's most well-known choral specialists, and has led workshops and masterclasses for choirs and conductors in Ireland, the UK, and continental Europe. Aside from a busy freelance career, currently Mark holds the posts of organist at the Collegiate Church of St Nicholas, Galway, founder-director of St Nicholas Schola Cantorum, and artistic director of the chamber choir Resurgam. He lectures in music at NUI Galway.

Siobhán Armstrong

Siobhán Armstrong is a musician, researcher, lecturer, coach and mentor, and arts administrator. She is one of Europe's foremost harpists playing historical repertory on reconstructions of medieval to baroque harps. Siobhán performs and records with many of Europe's most prestigious early-music soloists, orchestras and opera companies, and also collaborates with some of Ireland's best-known traditional-music performers.

Christopher Bowen

Christopher Bowen has performed a broad array of music, from the role of Daniel in the 12th Century Play of Daniel to creating the role of Rawley Beaunes in Alasdair Nicolson's *The Iris Murder*. His diverse concert appearances include Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius* (RNCM Concert Hall), Britten's *War Requiem* (Airforce Museum of New Zealand), Mozart's *Requiem* (St Magnus Festival - Norwegian Radio Orchestra), Orff's *Carmina Burana* (Albert Hall) and the title role in Charpentier's *Acteon*.

Aisling Kenny

Aisling Kenny is a soloist, ensemble singer and recitalist from Galway. She performs regularly with leading Irish ensembles including Resurgam, Sestina, Irish Baroque Orchestra, Camerata Kilkenny and Chamber Choir Ireland. She is an Associate Artist of Resurgam having sung with the group since 2008. While her musical interests are broad, her specialisms include renaissance lute song, baroque sacred music and art song.

Paul McGough

Paul McGough has enjoyed a freelance singing career both as a baritone concert soloist and member of many groups, including the choirs of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Christchurch Cathedral, Resurgam, Anúna, Opera Ireland and Chamber Choir Ireland, to name but a few. A versatile vocalist, he has also sung with folk and pop artists like Paul Brady and the Corrs, represented Ireland as a champion barbershop singer with 4 in a Bar and toured many of the world's great stages as a founding member of the Irish show *Celtic Woman*.

Sarah Thursfield

Sarah is a Dublin-born mezzo-soprano. Current assistant director of Dulciana Vocal Ensemble, she has recently had the pleasure of being appointed as the first ever female Lay Vicar at St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. A regular ensemble performer with groups such as Sestina Music, Resurgam and Lassus, Sarah is also an alumna of the Choral Scholars of University College Dublin, appearing as a featured soloist on two of their albums, *Invisible Stars* and *Perpetual Twilight*, released by Signum Records and produced by Nigel Short, Tenebrae. Sarah's most recent solo engagement was with Pipeworks, performing Duruflé's *Requiem* in December 2020, directed by David Leigh.

Charlotte Trepess

Charlotte Trepess studied at the Royal Northern College of Music, completing a Master's in Vocal and Opera Studies. During her training Charlotte was an RNCM Gold Medal Winner, as well as winner of the Elizabeth Harwood Prize and Frederic Cox Award.

Charlotte is a Samling Artist and Concordia Artist, and has featured on CD recordings with the BBC Philharmonic, the IBO and the Zelkova Quartet. She is a member of Chamber Choir Ireland and the BBC Daily Service Singers and has toured with the Gabrieli Consort. Charlotte has also been involved in numerous outreach and education projects, working with the Royal Opera House, Pimlico Opera and Leeds Lieder Festival.

GALA CONCERTS

ONAIR

VOCAL LEGENDS (GERMANY)

Sunday 2nd May, 8pm

▶ *Watch it on the virtual event platform*

The award-winning vocal band ONAIR is one of the shooting stars in the world of a cappella music.

They scooped up all of the major international awards in the vocal scene captivated listeners from Chicago to Taiwan, and sang their way to the top echelon of vocal groups.

The concert will be introduced by a live Pre-Concert Talk at 7.15 pm. You can submit your questions for the Q&A on www.corkchoral.ie.

Tickets: €5.99 + booking fee

GALA CONCERTS



ONAIR Vocal Legends

The award-winning vocal band ONAIR (Berlin, Germany) is one of the shooting stars in the world of a cappella music. ONAIR exploded onto the scene in 2013 and have fast established themselves as one of Europe's most exciting a cappella groups.

Well on their way to the elite of the world's vocal ensembles, ONAIR have been racking up 1st prizes in vocal ensemble competitions ever since their début in 2013. They were the winners of contests in Aarhus (2013), Graz (2013), Taiwan (2014), Tampere (2015), Moscow (2018 and 2019 – GRAND PRIX) and were awarded with 2 CARAs in the US.

ONAIR is known for artful vocal arrangements, for an intense energy and stage presence and strong emotional connection between the singers on stage as well as a for a powerful, transparent even sometimes ethereal sound.

ONAIR comprises: André Bachmann (tenor), Kristofer Benn (bass), Marta Helmin (soprano), Jennifer Kothe (soprano), Patrick Oliver (baritone, vocal percussion).

Programme:

Illuminate - Original by ONAIR/

Stefan Fluegel

Earth Song - Michael Jackson, Arr. ONAIR/

Stefan Fluegel

"Numb" - Linkin Park, Arr. ONAIR/André

Bachmann

Wish You Were Here - Pink Floyd, Arr. ONAIR/

André Bachmann

Illuminated - Hurts, Arr. ONAIR/Patrick Oliver

Chained to the Rhythm - Katy Perry,

Arr. ONAIR/Patrick Oliver

Seasons of Love - Arr. ONAIR/

Jennifer Kothe

Nothing Compares to You - Prince/Sinead

O'Connor, Arr. ONAIR/Stefan Fluegel

Superstition - Stevie Wonder, Arr. ONAIR/

Stefan Fluegel

Stairway to Heaven - Led Zeppelin, Arr.

ONAIR/Patrick Oliver



INTERNATIONAL VIDEO COMPETITIONS



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FRANK HANNON OF
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Cork City Council



INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

International Virtual Choir Competition

Thursday 29th April, 5.30pm,

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

Cherokee High School Concert Choir [United States]

Conductor: Nicole Snodgrass

Run to you - K. Olusola (b. 1988), A. Kaplan (b. 1989), S. Hoying (b. 1991), M. Grassi (b. 1992), K. Maldonado (b. 1992), B. Bram (b. 1988)

Popkoor Estrellas [The Netherlands]

Conductor: Wilfred Reneman

Blackbird - John Lennon (1940 - 1980) & Paul McCarthy (b. 1942), Arr. Deke Sharon (b. 1967)

Gita Suara Choir ISBI Bandung [Indonesia]

Conductor: Karisman Ferdinandus

Tumanggor

Lir ilir - Arr. Langen Paran
Dumadi

Moran Singers Ensemble [Israel]

Conductor: Naomi Faran

Night Train to Cairo - Arr. Mashina, Ehud Bannai & Shlomi Bracha

Cake O'Phonie [Switzerland]

Conductor: Antoine Krattinger

Otherside - Anthony Kiedis, Flea, John Frusciante & Chad Smith, Arr. Antoine Krattinger (b.1962)

Quarinthia [Austria]

Conductor: Uschi Christina Sedminek

Grace Kelly - Mika Penniman, Jodi Marr, John Merchant & Dan Warner. Arr. Kohl Kitzmiller

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

International Upper & Lower Voices A Cappella Competition

UPPER & LOWER VOICES

Friday 30th April, 5.00pm,

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

OLEUM CI Crassiza [Croatia]

Conductor: Lora Pavletić

Zemlja - Mojmir Čačija/Jakov Dukić
(b. 1953)

“Ad Libitum” Vocal group [Croatia]

Conductor: Lora Pavletić

Kaval Sviri - Text: Tanya Parvanova,
music: Petar Liondev (1936 – 2018)

Vocal Ensemble Brevis [Croatia]

Conductor: Antoaneta Radocaj-Jerkovic

Laudi alla Vergine Maria - Giuseppe
Verdi (1813-1901)

Ensemble «Voix Claires» [Germany]

Conductor: Sebastian Göring

Schaff in mir Gott - Johann Heinrich
Rolle (1716-1785)

Female Choir Canzona – Absolwent [Poland]

Conductor: Elżbieta Wtorkowska

Tu es - Vytautas Miskinis (b. 1954)

Coro Polifonico di Ruda [Italy]

Conductor: Fabiana Noro

Ubi Caritas - Manolo Da Rold
(b.1976)

Guangdong Experimental Middle School Male Voice Choir [China]

Conductor: Honghao Zheng

Wait you till sunrise nearer -
Qu Xixian (b. 1985)

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

International Children's Voices A Cappella Video Competition

CHILDREN'S VOICES

Friday 30th April, 5.30pm,

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

Chorale Voix D'espoir [Morocco]

Conductor: El Mehdi El Moustauoui

Alaiki Mini Salam - abderahman Aziz
/ El Mehdi El Moustauoui (b. 1963)

Convent of the Holy Infant Jesus Secondary Choir [Singapore]

Conductor: Nicolette Foo

O Sapientia - Tadeja Vulc (b. 1978)

Children's choir "Perpetuum mobile" [Lithuania]

Conductor: Beata Kijauskiene

Virita Criosia - Thomas Jennefelt (b. 1954)

"Ponomarev Vesna Children's Choir" [Russia]

Conductor: Nadezhda Averina

Two prayers - Sergei Ekimov (b. 1974)

Moran Choir [Israel]

Conductor: Naomi Faran

To everything there is a season -
Menachem Wiesenbergs (b. 1950)

Jazz-choir of the State Children Philharmonic [Russia]

Conductor: Marina Makarova

Dythyramb - E. Podgaits (b. 1949)

Guangdong Experimental Middle School Children's Choir [China]

Conductor: Howard Zheng & Mingjing Xie

Spring - Wen Yuchuan

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

International Mixed Voices A Cappella Video Competition

MIXED VOICES

Saturday 1st May, 5.00pm,

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

Coro de Camara Cecilia Espinosa [Colombia]

Conductor: Cecilia Espinosa Arango

Which Was the Son of ... - Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)

Voktett Hannover [Germany]

Angelus Domini - Giovanni Gabrieli (1557-1612)

Oñatiko Ganbara Abesbatza [Spain]

Conductor: Aitor Bian Bidarte

Agnus Dei - Mass in E-Flat Major - Josef Gabriel Rheinberger (1839-1901)

Adolf Fredrik's Church's Chamber Choir [Sweden]

Conductor: Christoffer Holgersson

Deep River - Trad./arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

Petrosyan Chamber Choir [Ukraine]

Conductor: Dmitry Tkachev

Deep River - Trad./arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

The Washington and Lee University Singers [United States]

Conductor: Shane Lynch

Leonardo Dreams of His Flying Machine - Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)

Cecilia Ensemble [Israel]

Conductor: Naomi Faran

Con amores la mi madre - Juan de Anchieta (1462 – 1523)

Academic Choir "Neris" of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences [Lithuania]

Conductor: Tomas Lapinskas

Las ma olen lind - Alo Ritsing, text Ellen Niit (b. 1936)

Guangdong Experimental High School Mixed Choir [China]

Conductor: Howard Zheng & Mingjing Xie

Nouse lauluni - Soila Sariola

Boğaziçi Jazz Choir [Turkey]

Conductor: Masis Aram Gözbek

Yeniden - Hasan Uçarsu (b. 1965)



INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Maulbronn Chamber Choir [Germany]

Conductor: Benjamin Hartmann

Immortal Bach - Johann Sebastian
Bach / arr. Knut Nystedt (1685-1750
/ 1915-2014)

.....

Avant Garde Academy of Broward High School Concert Choir, United States

Conductor: Marcos Rodriguez

Ubi Caritas - Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978)

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The poster features a vibrant blue background with a pattern of white musical notes and treble clefs. A large, light-colored circle with a subtle, multi-colored brushstroke texture is centered on the page. Overlaid on this circle is the text "NATIONAL VIDEO COMPETITION" in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font. Behind the circle, there are several thick, diagonal brushstrokes in shades of purple, yellow, and teal. The overall design is modern and artistic, suggesting a creative and musical theme.

NATIONAL VIDEO COMPETITION

NATIONAL COMPETITION

National Virtual Choir Competition

Thursday 29th April, 5.00pm,

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

WIT Youth Choir

Conductor: Niall Crowley

Deep River - Michael Tippett (1905-1998)

Dulciana Vocal Ensemble

Conductor: Judith Lyons

The Heaven's Cloths - Eoin Mulvany (b. 1978)

The Lambay Singers

Conductor: Ciarán Kelly

Something Inside So Strong - Labi Siffre (b. 1970)

Euphonics

Conductor: Ciarán Kelly

Mine - Phoebe Ryan arr. Blake Morgan (b. 1990)

Guys & Dolls Quartet

Daft Punk Medley - Thomas Bangalter, Guy-Manuel De Homem-Christo, Anthony Moore, George Duke, Carlos Sosa, Edwin Birdsong, Pharrell Williams and Nile Rodgers
Arranged by Pentatonix and Jeremy Landig (b. 1975)

OLV Gospel Choir

Conductor: Ciara Murphy

Hold Back The River - James Bay & Iain Archer / Mark De-Lisser (b. 1990 & b. 1971)

The NUIG Choral Society

Conductor: Stephen Carroll

The Longest Time - Billy Joel/ Kirby Shaw (b. 1949)

The poster features a teal background with a pattern of white musical notes and symbols. A large, light-colored circle with a purple outline is centered on the page. Inside this circle, the text "IBEC WORKPLACE CHOIR OF THE YEAR COMPETITION" is written in a bold, teal, sans-serif font. Behind the circle, there are several thick, diagonal brushstrokes in shades of purple, yellow, and orange.

IBEC WORKPLACE CHOIR OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

IBEC WORKPLACE CHOIR COMPETITION

Ibec Workplace of the Year Competition

NATIONAL WORKPLACE CHOIRS

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm,

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

Ibec Workplace Choir

Company: Ibec

Conductor: Eimear Hurley

Here Comes the Sun - George Harrison (1943-2001) arr. Allan Billingsley

MTU Staff Choir

Company: Munster Technological University

Conductor: Robin Pender

Song of the Fields - Robin Pender

Fidelity Sings

Company: Fidelity Investments

Conductor: Peter Mannion

Happy - P. Williams (b. 1973), arr. M. De-Lisser

HSE Harmonies Workplace Choir

Company: HSE

Conductor: Eimear Crehan

High - Composed by the Lighthouse Family / arr. Mark de Lisser

AIB Choral Society

Company: AIB Bank

Conductor: Liz Barron

Cantique de Jean Racine, Op. 11 - Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Watta Sound!

Company: Energia Group

Conductor: Ben Jacob

Hold Back the River - James Bay & Iain Archer (arr. Roger Emerson)

GMIT Voices

Company: GMIT

Conductor: Sean Rowland

Bohemian Rhapsody - Freddie Mercury

TELUS International Global Voices

Company: Telus International

Conductor: Saoirse Daly

Hello, Goodbye - J. Lennon (1940-1980) & P. McCarthy (b.1942), Arr. Alan Billingsley

A&L Goodbody

Company: A&L Goodbody

Conductor: Ben Jacob

The Road Home - Stephen Paulus (1949-2014)

Scrubs Workplace Choir

Company: Cork University Hospital

Conductor: Patrick D'Alton

Titanium - Furler, Guetta, Tuinfort, Van De Wall

IBEC WORPLACE CHOIR COMPETITION

Dell Musicologies

Company: Dell Technologies

Conductor: Mary Murphy

Our Voyage(re-imagined 'The Voyage' as a tribute to our Dell team) - Marie O'Callaghan

.....

Medical DeVoices

Company: Cook Medical

Conductor: Ciarán Kelly

Homeward Bound - Marta Keen (b. 1953)

.....

Coombe Hospital Choir

Company: Coombe Women & Infants

University Hospital

Conductor: Lisa Price

Signed, Sealed, Delivered - Stevie Wonder (b. 1950)

.....

St. Kevin's Choir

Company: St Kevin's Community College

Conductor: Eimear Crehan

True Colours - Composed by Cyndi Lauper / arr. Eimear Crehan

.....

The Irish Times/Irish Examiner Group Choir

Company: The Irish Times Group

Conductor: Eimear Hurley

It Must Be Love - Labi Siffre (1945-present), arr. Edward Atkin

.....

The Isobars

Company: Met Éireann

Conductor: Aoife Murray

Under Pressure - Queen/David Bowie arr. Mac Huff (b. 1946)

.....

Eli Lyricals

Company: Eli Lilly Kinsale

Conductor: Mark Milford

Adiemus - Karl Jenkins arr. Nicholas Hare (b. 1944)

.....

Longford Council Choir

Company: Longford County Council

Conductor: Saoirse Daly

Scarborough Fair - Trad English Folksong, arr. Michael Higgins (b.1981)

.....

Banknotes

Company: Central Bank of Ireland

Conductor: Berny Purcell

Songs from Stranger Things - Alan Billingsly

Celebrate your staff on National Workplace Wellbeing Day Friday 30 April

Right now, employee wellbeing is more important than ever.

Ibec invites companies to celebrate employee wellbeing in their workplace or at home.

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WELLBEING DAY
WORKING TOGETHER FOR
A HEALTHIER FUTURE





ONLINE CHORAL TRAIL

ONLINE CHORAL TRAIL

Online Choral Trail

Watch on Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

Thursday 29th April 6.00pm

Glaslinn Choir [Ireland]

Conductor: Antoinette Baker

Dona Nobis Pacem - Mary Lynn
Lightfoot (b. 1952)

Virelai from Escola Coral "Veus Juntas" [Spain]

Conductor: Amalia Bosó

Mariposa del Aire - Juan Manuel
Conejo (b. 1970)

The Waves [United States]

Conductor: Jenny Chiang

If You Are Reincarnated Tomorrow
- ChingJu Shih (b. 1969)

The Music Men [Ireland]

Conductor: Lorena Gillard

Let It Be - John Lennon (1940-1980),
Paul McCartney (b. 1942) arr. Rick
Hein

Gospelchor REJOICE Langenberg [Germany]

Conductor: Roland Orthaus

Good News - Spiritual /arr. Ken Berg
(b. 1955)

Friday 30th April 6.00pm

Presentation Ballyphehane Transition Year Choir [Ireland]

Conductor: Olivia Forde

Super Trouper - Lin Marsh

North Bay Choral Society [Canada]

Conductor: Lynda Burtch

Imagine - John Lennon (1940-1980)
arr. Mac Huff

Coro Monte Penice [Italy]

Conductor: Alessandro Castagnetti

Ave Maria - Bepi De Marzi (b. 1935)

Dulciana Vocal Ensemble [Ireland]

Conductor: Judith Lyons

Upon The Rose - Eoghan Desmond
(b.1989)

Avant Garde Academy of Broward High School Concert Choir [United States]

Conductor: Marcos Rodriguez

Come to the Music - Joseph Martin
(b. 1959)

ONLINE CHORAL TRAIL

Online Choral Trail

Watch on Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

Saturday 1st May 3.00pm

Organ Recital: Holst, excerpts from 'The Planets'

Robbie Carroll

The stunning and historic St. Fin Barre's Cathedral will come alive with an organ recital by Robbie Carroll.

The organ with 88 speaking stops and 4500 pipes is the biggest in the Republic and the only one in the whole island of Ireland to be located in "a pit". This fine example of historical restoration and new build can now be described as one of the truly great organs of Europe.

Programme:

The Planets op. 32 - Gustav Holst (1874-1934), Organ transcription by Arthur Wills (1926-2020)

Mars
The Bringer of War

Venus
The Bringer of Peace

Jupiter
The Bringer of Jollity



ONLINE CHORAL TRAIL

Online Choral Trail

Watch on Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

Saturday 1st May 6.00pm

The Bella Donnas, St Aloysius College Carrigtwohill 5th year choir [Ireland]

Conductor: Lorena Gillard

I Have A Dream - Benny Andersson (b. 1946), Björn Ulvae (b. 1945) arr. Carsten Gerlitz

Popkoor Estrellas [The Netherlands]

Conductor: Wilfred Reneman

Ocean - Racoon/Jetse Bremer

Coral de Ciencias ULA Mérida- Venezuela [Venezuela]

Conductor: Marianella Urbina Méndez

Under The Sea - Alan Menken (b. 1949)/Kirby Shaw

Avant Garde Academy of Broward High School Concert Choir [United States]

Conductor: Marcos Rodriguez

Walkin Down That Glory Road - Mark Hayes

Coro Voces [Italy]

Conductor: Irene Citterio

O Bone Jesu - G. P. da Palestrina (1525-1594)/M. A. Ingegneri (1536-1592)

The Stuttgart Boys' Choir collegium iuvenum [Germany]

Conductor: Benjamin Hartmann

Jesus bleibet meine Freude BWV 147 - Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

ONLINE CHORAL TRAIL

Online Choral Trail

Watch on Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

Sunday 2nd may 6.00pm

The Voices [Ireland]

Conductor: Mary Daly

Dancing in Memory's Stream - Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)

Lazika [Turkey]

Conductor: Emine Colak

Lazona - Nazim Kerkez

Avant Garde Academy of Broward High School Concert Choir [United States]

Conductor: Marcos Rodriguez

I know I've Been Changed - Christopher Aspaas

Sansev Chamber Choir [Turkey]

Conductor: Emine Colak

Aysem - Ahmed Adnan Saygun (b. 1968)

The Al Cappellas, The Graduate Chorus of St Als Carrigtwohill [Ireland]

Conductor: Lorena Gillard

Imagine - John Lennon (1940-1980) arr. Marge Bailey

Gaulitanus Choir [Malta]

Conductor: Colin Attard

Alleluia Gloria - Tom Fettke



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SYMPOSIUM

CHORAL SYMPOSIUM

To broaden the Festival's long-term commitment to the composition and understanding of new choral music, a Choral Symposium was initiated in 2016 to more fully reflect, and enhance, the development of choral music and its composition and practice in Ireland. This year's Symposium is designed to offer individual choirs, composers, teachers, solo singers, conductors a wide range in a variety of Masterclasses; voice, warm-up techniques and voice production.

All featured presenters have a shared commitment to its central purpose. To place no restrictions of access and cost to participants, the symposium is offered over four days and is free of charge to all attendees.

As an integral part of the Choral Symposium, we present a related range of interesting talks and practical sessions on choral practice over three days. Conductor **Bernie Sherlock**, with singers from **Chamber Choir Ireland**, the Festival's Choir-in-Residence, will answer your questions with a practical demonstration. **Eimear McCarthy Luddy** will offer attendees an opportunity of learning and upskilling in the area of Vocal Health. **The Big Sing** will have a welcome return with **Ciarán Kelly**.

Chamber Choir Ireland have led a masterclass session with four Internationally selected choirs who were put through their paces with a vocal warm-up and technique session as well as a tailored masterclass on the repertoire the choir is performing or working on to elevate their performance to the highest levels.

Sing Ireland have curated what promises to be a very interesting Round table on Diversity & Inclusion. Each of our Gala Concerts will be preceded by a talk with our Artistic Director and the Artists.

Full information is available in the following pages. Attendees are very welcome to attend, at no charge.



CHORAL SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 1ST MAY

Diversity & Inclusion Round Table - Sing Ireland

11.00 am on Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

.....

Brave! Big Sing A Cappella - Ciarán Kelly, Sing Ireland

1.00 pm on Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

SUNDAY 2ND MAY

Vocal Health Workshop - Eimear McCarthy Luddy, Sing Ireland

11.00 am on Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

.....

Chamber Choir Ireland Ensemble Seminar - Bernie Sherlock

1.00 pm on Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

2021 FESTIVAL COMMISSION

Amanda Feery

Commissioned Piece: Longwave



Amanda Feery is a composer working with acoustic, electronic and improvised music. Much of her inspiration comes from literature, visual art, and the natural world, with a deep interest in exploring folk and contemporary soundworlds. She has written for orchestral, chamber and vocal ensembles, theatre, opera, kinetic sculpture, and multimedia. Graduating from Trinity College Dublin with a BA in Music in 2006, she continued her studies with an M.Phil in Music and Media Technologies. She recently completed a PhD in Composition at Princeton University. Collaborators include some of Ireland's leading

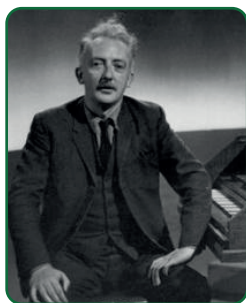
musicians and ensembles; RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra, Crash Ensemble, Chamber Choir Ireland, RTÉ ConTempo Quartet, This is How We Fly, Dublin Guitar Quartet, Paul Roe, and Michelle O'Rourke. Amanda also collaborates regularly with international ensembles, including Alarm Will Sound, Amatis Trio, Ensemble Mise-en, Dither, Bearthoven, Quince Contemporary Vocal Ensemble, and Gallicantus. She has been invited to numerous festivals and residencies worldwide, and has participated as a composer in residence at Centre Culturel Irlandais, The Performance Corporation's Space Program, Mizzou International Composers Festival, SOUNDscape Festival and Bang on a Can Summer Festival. Awards include the Ball State Symphony Commission Award, the International Alliance for Women in Music Prize for Orchestral Music, the Seán Ó Riada Composition Prize for Choral Music, Jerome Hynes Composer Award, and the West Cork Chamber Music Festival Composer Award. Recent projects include the sonic opera *This is the House of* with Alarm Will Sound, exploring the discord between the church as an architectural space and an institution of abuse; *Give Us The Night* with Third Coast Percussion, an ode to Dublin's rapidly disappearing clubs and night spaces; and *Stray Sods*, with cellist Amanda Gookin's Forward Music Project, a project commissioning multimedia works that encourage social change and empowerment for women. Future projects include a film score for Tadhg O'Sullivan's upcoming feature film, *To the Moon*, and a chamber opera to be produced by Irish National Opera and staged in Dublin in 2021.

** The new composition will receive its world premiere by Chamber Choir Ireland in their Festival Gala Concert. See page 15 for more details.*

SYMPOSIUM

SEÁN Ó RIADA COMPETITION

Seán Ó Riada



The Seán Ó Riada Competition was initiated in 1972, and today, the present format of the Seán Ó Riada Competition offers a platform for Irish composers to have their work judged and rewarded purely on its own merits without the judges being influenced by the reputation or

status of the composer. All compositions are submitted under a pseudonym, with the author's real name not being revealed until after the judges' decision has been made. Works composed in the Irish language are encouraged. The competition has, as a central aim, the intention of providing Irish choirs with fresh, authentic material for inclusion in their programmes. The competition has attracted the attention of many highly-regarded composers, with past winners including Solfa Carlisle, Rhona Clarke, Patrick Connolly, Frank Corcoran, Séamas de Barra, Eoghan Desmond, Michael Holohan, Marian Ingoldsby, Donal MacErlaine, Simon MacHale, Michael McGlynn, Kevin O'Connell, Amanda Feery, Donal Sarsfield and the winner for 2020 was Peter Leavy with Norah Constance Walsh winning in 2021. With nearly 200 compositions being submitted in the past 7 years of the new format, the Seán Ó Riada Composition Competition clearly highlights the number of composers now working and living in Ireland, and further demonstrates the Cork International Choral Festival's continuing commitment to encourage the composition and performance of contemporary music.

PETER LEAVY Winning Composer 2020

Commissioned Piece: it will not depart

Peter Leavy is a Mayo-born, Dublin-based composer, pianist, teacher, and occasional jazz musician. He studied piano with Pádraic Ó Cuinneagáin at the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama from 2001-10 and holds a first-class honours degree in Music (2006) and a Masters in Performance and Musicology (2008) from Maynooth University.



Peter completed an MPhil in Composition at Trinity College Dublin in 2013 and a Doctorate in Composition at the University of Birmingham, under the supervision of Prof. Michael Zev Gordon, in 2018. His works have been performed by New Dublin Voices, Maynooth University Chamber Choir, Ensemble Avalon, The Lír Quartet, and The Birmingham University Philharmonic Orchestra among others. Compositionally, he is interested in the expressive possibilities of material and structures imported from the musical past, into the musical present. The give-and-take between whimsy and compositional forethought, and the possibility of larger-scale structures emerging organically from the tiniest of gestures are other areas of interest.

** The new composition will receive its world premiere by Chamber Choir Ireland in their Festival Gala Concert. See page 15 for more details.*

SYMPOSIUM

SEÁN Ó RIADA COMPETITION



NORAH CONSTANCE WALSH - Winning Composer 2021

Commissioned Piece: On a quiet day in the future

Norah Walsh is a Dublin-based composer, musical director, pianist and teacher. She holds a first class honours BMus in Composition from the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama where she studied under Jane O'Leary. Writing for voice is a central part of Norah's output and her choral works have been performed by Mellow Tonics, Laetare Vocal Ensemble, TU Chamber Choir and Rathdown Cantori amongst others. Recent vocal commissions include Inception Horizon and the short opera Beneath Iseult's Tower. Her instrumental works have been performed in Ireland and Europe by soloists and ensembles including Duo Sincronia, the Dublin and Delmaine String

Quartets and instrumentalists from the RTE National Symphony and Concert Orchestras.

Norah's compositions are acoustic drawing from classical, popular, jazz and traditional Irish genres. Norah also enjoys working as a musical director and facilitator in many community and education projects, including the Forget Me Nots and St. James' Hospital MISA choirs, and as a choral conductor for a number of television productions.

** The new composition will receive it's world premiere by Chamber Choir Ireland in their Festival Gala Concert. See page 15 for more details.*

SYMPOSIUM

Diversity & Inclusion Round Table SING IRELAND

**Saturday 1st May, 11.00am,
Facebook, YouTube & Virtual
Event Portal
Admission: Free of charge**



Sing Ireland and the Cork International Choral Festival are delighted to invite you to an online panel discussion discussing equality, diversity, and inclusivity in choral music and for singing groups in Ireland, discussing both existing issues and possible solutions/pathways to greater inclusivity. Sing Ireland will be presenting on its inclusion and diversity strategy and resources it is creating for singing groups. Speakers include Beverley McGeown (Open Arts Community Choir), Carmel Whelan and Justine Nantale (Discovery Gospel Choir), and Dermot O'Callaghan (Sing Ireland).



Brave! Big Sing A Cappella CIARÁN KELLY

**Saturday 1st May, 1.00pm,
Facebook, YouTube & Virtual
Event Portal
Admission: Free of charge**



Learn the tricks of the trade of contemporary a cappella with Artistic Director of Ardú, Ciarán Kelly. Learn about body percussion, vocal percussion, vocal band emulation and more as you work on Ciarán's arrangement of Brave by Sara Bareilles. The session will consist of a cappella specific warm-ups, vocal health advice, some harmony building exercises for singers singing from home, and an insight into the rhythmic nuances of creating an a cappella arrangement. You will learn the exclusive arrangement of Brave and sing along (virtually) with Ardú!

Ciarán Kelly is a singer and conductor from Derry. He has a Bmus and Mmus from the Royal Irish Academy of Music.

Ciarán has vast experience as a choral practitioner. His training with the VOCES8 Foundation in London led to workshops in the UK, Europe and Asia where he worked in schools and universities as well as choral societies and professional singers. He works regularly with Music Generation in Ireland and delivers educational music workshops with Ardú.



SYMPOSIUM

Vocal Health Workshop

EIMEAR MCCARTHY LUDDY

Sunday 2nd May, 11.00am,
Facebook, YouTube & Virtual
Event Portal

Admission: Free of charge



This workshop will empower you with the information you need to look after your voice. We will explore how our instrument works, common warning signs to look out for, and what to do if we run into trouble.

Eimear McCarthy Luddy is a singing teacher with a keen interest in vocal health and singing voice rehabilitation. She was the first Irish person to complete advanced training in voice science (also called vocology) at the National Centre for Voice and Speech in Salt Lake City and remains committed to expanding her training by completing regular CPD courses. She qualified from the Royal Irish Academy of Music with a Masters in Music Performance where she also conducted research investigating attitudes and practices toward vocal health in Ireland. As a singing teacher she maintains a busy practice from young students to professional singers. Eimear founded Vocology Ireland in 2020 with the goal of bringing an approachable voice science and vocal health resource to Irish shores.

Chamber Choir Ireland Ensemble Seminar

BERNIE SHERLOCK

Sunday 2nd May, 1.00pm,
Facebook Live Event

Admission: Free of charge



Conductor Bernie Sherlock, with singers from Chamber Choir Ireland, the Festival's Choir-in-Residence, will answer your questions with a practical demonstration where appropriate.

There's no such thing as a wrong question, so feel free to share the questions you have always wanted to ask about blend, breathing technique, warm-ups (yes or no?), your favourite pieces, singing in strange languages, protecting your voice, solo singing v. ensemble singing, flexibility and much more!

Free event. Watch it on Facebook or the virtual festival platform (access reserved to Gala Concert attendees).



SYMPOSIUM

PRE-CONCERT TALKS

Learn more about the performers of the 2021 Gala Concerts during an exclusive live conversation between the Cork International Choral Festival Artistic Director, Peter Stobart, and the artists before watching the performance at 8 pm.

Free Event, 7.15pm on Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

THURSDAY 29TH APRIL

Pre-Concert Talk | Michael McGlynn (Anúna)

FRIDAY 30TH APRIL

Pre-Concert Talk | Paul Hillier, Andrew Synnott and Amanda Feery (Chamber Choir Ireland)

SATURDAY 1ST MAY

Pre-Concert Talk | Mark Duley and Resurgam

SUNDAY 2ND MAY

Pre-Concert Talk | ONAIR

The background is a solid brown color, overlaid with a pattern of faint, light-colored musical notes and symbols. A large, vibrant circular graphic is centered on the page, featuring a multi-colored brushstroke pattern in shades of yellow, orange, red, and purple. The text "FESTIVAL AWARDS" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font across the center of this circle.

FESTIVAL AWARDS

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FESTIVAL AWARDS

Awards Ceremony

Presentation of Festival Awards

Sunday 2nd May, 5.00pm

Watch on Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

Presenter: Peter Stobart

INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

Ibec Workplace Choir of the Year Competiton Trophy

Awarded to the winner of the Worplace Choir of the Year Competition.

Awarded to:

International Virtual Choir Competition Trophy

Awarded to the winner of the International Virtual Choir Competition.

Awarded to:

International Upper & Lower Voices A Cappella Competition Trophy

Awarded to the winner of the International Upper & Lower Voices A Cappella Competition.

Awarded to:

International Mixed Voices A Cappella Video Competition Trophy

Awarded to the winner of the International Mixed Voices A Cappella Video Competition.

Awarded to:

International Children's Voices A Cappella Video Competition Trophy

Awarded to the winner of the International Children's Voices A Cappella Video Competition.

Awarded to:



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BIOGRAPHIES

BIOGRAPHIES

ADJUDICATORS



Mervyn Cousins [England]

Mervyn currently combines his post as Deputy Chief Examiner of ABRSM, the UK's largest music education body, with freelance choral directing and other work in music education. Having been organ scholar at the Royal Holloway College, London, he then held a similar position at St Bride's Church in the city before moving to St James', Sussex Gardens as Organist. Mervyn was appointed as Assistant Director of Music at St Edmundsbury Cathedral in 1987. He became Director of Music there in 1993 and was also Chorus Master of the Bury St Edmunds Festival Chorus.

Director of Music at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral from 1997 until 2003, Mervyn was also Organist to the University of Liverpool during that time. He has directed choirs and given recitals in many parts of the world as well as adjudicating at festivals in several countries - with each of his cathedral choirs receiving wide critical acclaim for their recordings and live performances. Mervyn moved to Wales as Music Director of the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in September 2003, becoming its Executive Director in 2008. He moved from the festival in 2011, then combining work for Mid Wales Opera and in Merseyside schools with examining at home and abroad; before taking up his present post in November 2015.

Other interests include walking, bird-watching and, increasingly, photography - and he lives with his wife Margaret on the Welsh-English border with their three-legged cat Missie!



Bernie Sherlock [Ireland]

Bernie Sherlock is a leading choral conductor. She has won international conducting prizes in Finland, Hungary, Belgium, Italy, Slovenia and Ireland, and her adjudication and workshop engagements have taken her around Europe and to the US, Canada and China.

Bernie studied conducting with Ildiko Herbolycsár and Peter Erdei at the Liszt Academy in Hungary, and with Gerhard Markson in Dublin. Following her BA in music from Trinity College Dublin she earned Masters and Doctorate degrees in conducting from the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, and the Royal Irish Academy of Music/DCU respectively.

Bernie is the founder-conductor of the international award-winning chamber choir New Dublin Voices, critically acclaimed for its innovative concert programming and its work in television, radio and recording. The choir has a strong record at Europe's leading competitions, recently winning first prize at the International Competition of the 2019 Derry International Choir Festival, first prize in the mixed choir competition at the 2018 Béla Bartók International Choir Competition in Hungary, and the Grand Prix at the 2017 International Baltic Sea Choir Competition in Latvia. Among many other prizes, New Dublin Voices has previously come first in the international class at the Cork International Choral Festival (2015), the Grand Prix at Concorso Polifonico in Arezzo (2013), all six prizes at the 2011 International Choir Contest of Maasmechelen in Belgium, and the Grand Prix at the 2009 Budapest International Choir Competition.

Bernie has extensive experience directing a wide range of choirs, including twelve years as Musical

BIOGRAPHIES

Director of the Culwick Choral Society, nine years as conductor of the University of Dublin Choral Society (Trinity College), and ten years as Choral Director at the TU Dublin Conservatoire where she is a Lecturer in Music and where she is currently conductor of the TU Chamber Choir and Youth Choir.

For 12 years Bernie was Artistic Director as well as tutor on the annual International Choral Conducting Summer School run by Sing Ireland at the University of Limerick. In 2020 she was appointed Artistic Director of the Irish Youth Choirs and she is currently second conductor of EuroChoir 2021. She is the representative for Ireland on the World Choir Council.



Urša Lah [Slovenia/ Norway]

Urša Lah studied Musical Education at the Ljubljana Music Academy and Choral Conducting at the University of Tromsø (Norway).

With Mixed Youth Choir Veter, APZ Tone Tomšič University of Ljubljana and the National Radio Chamber Choir, she has been involved in many première performances, and won many first prizes, golden plaques, special prizes and conducting awards at national and prestigious international choral competitions, including the Grand Prix of Europe (Debrecen, 2008).

In recognition of her valuable work with choirs, Urša received the highest award of the Municipality of Ljubljana for cultural achievement in 2008, and in 2009 the award of Public Fund of the Republic of Slovenia for Cultural Activities.

Since autumn 2009 Urša Lah lives in Norway. During the years 2010 – 2017 she taught choral conducting and ensemble leading at the University of Tromsø, she was the artistic leader and conductor of Finnmark Operakor and the artistic leader and conductor of the University Choir Mimas. She also worked as a choirmaster for Artic Philharmonic Orchestra and Kristiansand Symphony Orchestra.

From the autumn 2018 until the spring 2020 she held a position of Associate Professor of Ensemble leading at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim.

Currently she conducts the Choir of Trondheim Symphony Orchestra and works as a choir master for Trondheim Symphony Orchestra.

She is a lecturer in educational seminars for choral conductors, a frequent member of adjudicating panels at international choral and conducting competitions, a guest conductor of professional choirs and recognised ensembles and one of two artistic leaders of the international Utopia & Reality Chamber Choir.

BIOGRAPHIES

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE CHOIRS



Quarinthia [Austria]

Conductor: Uschi Christina Sedminek

For the four Carinthians who have found each other far from home in Graz, the traditional Carinthian songs naturally have a special meaning. But we are basically open in all directions that can be achieved with four-part singing without instrumental accompaniment. Especially through the acquaintance with Tom Gentry, barbershop arrangements have increasingly flowed into the rehearsal work.

Even if the history of Quarinthia goes back to 2004, it was not until 2014 that the decision was made to rehearse regularly from now on. The decisive factor for this was a request to us to sing a song for a movie. The movie "Valossn" celebrated its Austrian premiere in October 2016, and Quarinthia contributed the theme song, which we are of course very proud of. In particular, the collaboration with Florian Widmann as a voice teacher has had a lasting impact on our further development. His inspiration moves us again and again to work even more intensively on our overall sound. In addition to recording a sound carrier, our plans for the future also include the presentation of a special singer's honey, the recipe of which is being worked on together with the organic honey manufacturer Klopeiner See.

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 5.30pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Guangdong Experimental Middle School Children's Choir [China]

Conductor: Mingjing Xie & Yeqin Pan

The Children's Choir of Guangdong Experimental Middle School, founded in 1952, is the winner of "13 consecutive titles" in the Guangzhou School Chorus Festival and has been awarded the honorary title of "Model Choir" in Guangzhou Schools. On behalf of Guangdong Province, the choir has participated in national and international chorus competitions and achieved outstanding success. It has won the championships in many international chorus competitions. It is the most outstanding middle school children's chorus in China. The Artistic Director and Conductor of this choir is Mr. XIE Mingjing and Ms. PAN Yeqin is assistant conductor.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 5.30pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

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Guangdong Experimental Middle School Male Voice Choir [China]

Conductor: Honghao Zheng

Guangdong Experimental Middle School Male Voice Choir was founded in 2014 by Artistic Director Mr. XIE Mingjing, and has made outstanding achievements in many international chorus competitions. In 2017, the Choir participated in the 39th CANTONIGROS Inter-national Chorus Festival Competition in Spain and won the champion of youth male voice group. In 2018, it participated in the World Choir Games and won the champion. It is one of the most outstanding male voice choir of Youth&Children in Guangdong, China.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Guangdong Experimental High School Mixed Choir [China]

Conductor: Howard Zheng & Mingjing Xie

Guangdong Experimental High School Mixed Choir Chorus was founded in 2010 by Artistic Director Mr. XIE Mingjing. The Choir has represented Guangdong Province to participate in both national and international choir competitions and has achieved excellent results. In 2015, it won the champion of

the 5th World Youth & Children's Choir International Chorus Competition and the champion of the World Choir Games in 2016 and 2018. It is the best high school mixed choir in Guangdong Province, China.

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Cecilia Espinosa Chamber Choir [Colombia]

Conductor: Cecilia Espinosa Arango

The cultural corporation Tonos Humanos, founded in 1984 by its current director Cecilia Espinosa Arango, is a consolidated group of mixed voices composed who interpret religious and secular works of various genres and styles. One of its main objectives has been to disseminate the Choral repertoires of new creators and renowned composers of the latest centuries.

Its Choirs have been Colombian Ambassadors abroad, obtaining important awards in multiple competitions besides the special recognition of the juries by virtue of the quality of their performances.

The corporation is a benchmark for Colombia—a large number of musicians have been trained as instrumentalists and professional singers in its choirs. As of 2018, the Cecilia Espinosa Chamber Choir, assumes the challenge of the institution's choral projection, which aims to perpetuate the singing and the choral tradition established throughout its journey during all these years. In 2019 it was presented at the Church of the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona and obtained second place in the Habaneras contest in the city of Torrevieja, Spain. During 2020, given the known circumstances it's made a series of virtual presentations as an effort to project its constant work.

Cecilia Espinosa Arango, Colombian conductor with studies at Longy School of Music (EEUU),

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BIOGRAPHIES

and postgraduate studies at King's College, and with masters in Orchestral conducting at the Hart School. As the creator of the music career at the Eafit University in Medellín, she served as Head of the Music Department, and developed an intense activity in the field of Orchestral and Choral Conducting. She is the Principal Conductor of the Eafit Symphony Orchestra since its founding in 2000. Founder and conductor of Coro Tonos Humanos, Coro Arcadia and Coro de Cámara Cecilia Espinosa. All choirs have represented Colombia abroad, obtaining awards for the country in competitions of international relevance. In 2014 she won the "Vida y Obra" award from the Municipality of Medellín for her constant dedication to music and culture. She has also received awards for best choral conductor at the Béla Bartók Choral Competition from Hungary and at Guido d'Arezzo Choral Competition in Italy.

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

festival, they choose a typical song from Dalmatia (Croatian southern Adriatic coast) called Zemlja (earth), that means a tribute to the arid land by the sea, beloved land of generations living here.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



"Ad Libitum" Vocal group [Croatia]

Conductor: Lora Pavletic

The Ad Libitum vocal group from Verteneglio (Croatia) was founded in 2010, under the guidance of maestra Ileana Pavletic Perosa. It is a part of Verteneglio's Italian Community. In 2016 maestra Lora Pavletic became its new director and has been in charge ever since. The group's repertoire consists of songs performed in acapella arrangements. It's a female only vocal group and its members are: Ines Selar, Alice Tončić, Dionea Sirotić, Elisa Starčević, Petra Grace Zoppolato, Giulia Dussich, Chiara Bonetti and Lora Pavletić. They have performed in Croatia, Italy, Slovenia, Austria and Sweden. In June of 2013 they took part of the European project "EUROCK ACADEMY" and went to Stockholm and Luleå, in Lapland. Both in 2015 and 2017 they received an honorable mention in the "Istria Nobilissima" contest, that promotes istrian culture and art. In 2015 they were prized by the County of Verteneglio for promoting the tradition and culture of the region. In 2017 they participated, alongside ninety-four other choirs from all over the World, in the 20th edition of "Alta Pusteria International Choir Festival". In 2018, at the choral competition "Naš kanat je lip" in Poreč, they won the prize for the best interpretation of a song written by an istrian composer. Same year they received the golden prize at Rovinj's festival "Chorus Inside", whilst at the International Competition "Chorus Inside



OLEUM CI Crassiza, [Croatia]

Conductor: Lora Pavletic

Oleum Ci Crassiza is a little a cappella feminine vocal group, born in 2017, under the Italians community in a little village called Krasica – Crassiza in Istria county (Croatia). The group is formed of 4 girls, directed by Lora Pavleti. They usually sing traditional Italian song from the Ex Italian region (Istria), but also like typical Dalmatian (Croatian) a cappella songs. They sing in concerts and competitions in Istrian peninsula, and the association organise every year their concert in Crassiza – Krasica, where the association has the head office.

For the competition at Cork international Choral

BIOGRAPHIES

Advent" in Rome they won two golden prizes, one of which is for the modern music category.

Lora Pavletić started her musical journey in Pula and then continued in Zagreb, where she finished music high-school. Afterwards, she moved to Trieste (Italy) and graduated in opera singing at the Conservatorio "Giuseppe Tartini" under the guidance of maestri Susovski and De Mola. She is also the director of Klapa Oleum (Croatia) and the youth choir Anakrousis (Italy).

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Vocal Ensemble Brevis [Croatia]

Conductor: Antoaneta Radocaj-Jerkovic

Vocal Ensemble Brevis is a renowned women's choir and a long-term artistic project of conductor dr. Antoaneta Radočaj-Jerković and piano accompanist Davor Dedić. For years, the choir has been one of the most established singing ensembles, as witnessed by its numerous tributes and awards (14 gold medals, two silver medals, two bronze medals, eight special awards), artistic projects and collaborations, as well as guest concerts around the world. From its foundation in 1996 until today, the ensemble has established itself as an essential stakeholder in the cultural life of the city of Osijek and of Croatia, as a leader in the development and enrichment of Croatian and world choral art. The choir's repertoire is stylistically diverse, consisting of compositions ranging from the Renaissance to those from contemporary composers, and is characterized by vocal and interpretative authenticity and a programmatic aspiration to integrate its repertoire into a broader artistic conception. The ensemble has achieved a number of successes so far, which include performing at various world festivals and winning top awards at competitions in Croatia, Greece,

Italy, Bulgaria, Germany, Hungary, Great Britain, Austria, France, Sweden, Russia, Canada, China, the United States, Australia, and elsewhere. Vocal Ensemble Brevis considers its greatest successes to be its unforgettable concert performances in the world's most prestigious concert halls, which have made Croatia famous in the world. These include Carnegie Hall in New York (2013), the Grand Philharmonic Hall, State Academic Capella in St. Petersburg (2016), and the Sydney Opera House (2017).

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Ensemble «Voix Claires» [Germany]

Conductor: Sebastian Göring

The four singers of ensemble «voix claires» first started as a group in early 2019, at this time as Youth Chamber Chorus of the schola cantorum weimar. End of 2019 they decided to continue their work and stay together as a group with ensemble leader Sebastian Göring.

Due to their passion to music the 18-19 years young singers already experienced a lot. After touring all over Germany they have won their category as well as the prize awarded by the audience at one of Asia's most exclusive chamber chorus competitions in Takarazuka/Japan. The group toured this country for some weeks and performed in many concerts and festivals. The singers performed their first concert as newly founded ensemble «voix claires» at „A CAPE'lla – festival autour de la voix“ in Luxembourg in February 2020 and got lined up with world famous groups like „The Swingles“ (London), „The Real Group“ (Sweden), the world champions in beatboxing „The Beatbox Collective“ (London) as well as „Trio Mediæval“ (Norway).

Besides studying, apprenticeship and serving in

BIOGRAPHIES

the Federal Volunteers Service the singers of «voix claires» will be heard at numerous festivals and concerts in Germany this year and will be invited to concerts in the USA in the summer of 2021.

Even if the ensemble's story isn't so long yet, the members have a longer common history already. All started at a very young age in the city of Weimar's largest and in the past 20 years Thuringia's most successful children's and youth choir „schola cantorum weimar“. As members of this music-educational institute they sung hundreds of concerts, won several competitions and performed with the choir and as soloists at the local opera houses in Weimar and Erfurt.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Voktett Hannover [Germany]

The Voktett Hannover was founded as a mixed and double-choir vocal ensemble by students of the Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien Hannover in 2012. The eight singers, who are active in different musical fields, are united by the desire to engage with outstanding works of vocal music at a high level on the one hand, and the desire to give a broad audience access to such musical events on the other. Their extensive repertoire ranges from the beginnings of polyphonic vocal music to contemporary compositions.

With its varied a cappella programmes, the Voktett Hannover has featured as a guest at renowned concert series and festivals. These include the Bachfest Leipzig, chor.com, the Kultursommer Nordhessen, the Rheingau Musik Festival and the Internationale A-cappella-Woche Hannover. Since 2017, the ensemble has also regularly given concerts with instrumental accompaniment. For example, they performed with the oboist Albrecht Mayer at the Musikwoche Hitzacker and performed Johann Sebastian Bach's St John Passion with one singer to a part several times.

The Voktett Hannover was awarded first prize at the Felix-Mendelssohn-Bartholdy-Hochschulwettbewerb in 2015, as well as first prize at the Deutscher Chorwettbewerb in 2018. At the Deutscher Chorwettbewerb in Freiburg, the singers were also awarded the special prize of the Walter and Charlotte Hamel Foundation and Rondeau Production's own special prize. This award led



Maulbronn Chamber Choir [Germany]

Conductor: Benjamin Hartmann

The Maulbronn Chamber Choir (German: „Maulbronner Kammerchor“) is a semi-professional chamber choir based in South-West Germany. It was founded in 1983 and is directed by Benjamin Hartmann. The choir is present in notable concert series, concert venues and festivals across Germany and beyond.

First place at the Baden-Württemberg Choir Competition in 1989 and 1997, second place at the 3rd German Choir Competition in Stuttgart in 1990, first prize at the 5th German Choir Competition in Regensburg in 1998 and achievement level I „internationally excellent“ together with a special prize for the best interpretation of a sacred choral work at the 11th International Chamber Choir Competition in Marktoberdorf as well as two first prizes at the 3rd International Choir Competition Malta 2009.

BIOGRAPHIES

to the release of *Liebesweisen – Geistliche und Weltliche Bekenntnisse* (Songs of Love – Sacred and Secular Revelations) in 2019, a disc which has received extremely positive reviews on NDR Kultur, Kulturradio RBB, MDR Klassik and in the magazine *Chorzeit*. As a result, the Voktett Hannover received several nominations for the Opus Klassik award 2020. In recent years, various features and concert recordings have also been broadcast by ZDF, HR2 and Deutschlandfunk Kultur.

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Gita Suara Choir ISBI Bandung [Indonesia]

Conductor: Karisman Ferdinandus & Tumanggor

Gita Suara Choir, commonly shortened to "Gitsu," is a student choir that's become a vital part of Institut Seni Budaya Indonesia (ISBI) in Bandung, West Java. Gitsu was born from the students' shared interest in singing, performing, bonding, and traveling. In the past few years, Gitsu has participated in university events and off-campus events, accepting invitations from various institutions where their skills are needed. As their achievements are becoming better recognized among the scholars at our institution, so have the list of auditionees with interest in the choir.

In 2014, Gitsu successfully organized a choir festival for junior high school choirs from Bandung and Cimahi. Gitsu also placed 1st in the 10th Ecclesiastical Choir Festival in 2019. Gitsu has participated multiple times in the National Folklore Festival organized by the Faculty of Economics and Business at the University of Indonesia, earning 6th place in 2016 and 1st place in 2020. In the same year we also participated in Rimini International Choral Competition and earning Silver Diploma

Level 2. And in the end of the year, we earning Gold Medal and Most Creative concept from Virtual Choral Competition by Ciputra University

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 5.30pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Cecilia Ensemble [Israel]

Conductor: Naomi Faran

Is a new ensemble from the Moran Choirs group, comprised of eight outstanding solo vocalists from Israel. The Cecilia Ensemble, was founded by Naomi Faran to become the professional representative ensemble, performing original and unique musical programs, in collaboration with the best composers from Israel and around the globe. Cecilia Ensemble's repertoire includes pieces from the Renaissance period through modern times, premiers of original Israeli compositions, A cappella singing, and performances with selected instrumental ensembles.

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 5.00pm

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Moran Choir [Israel]

Conductor: Naomi Faran

Moran Choir includes 45 young singers ages 12-18 and is based in Israel. During its three decades

BIOGRAPHIES

of activity, the Moran Youth Choir has made enormous musical and educational achievements. The choir won several competitions, participated in international festivals, sang with leading orchestras and performed original compositions of the best Israeli composers. The choir repertoire includes classical choral music as well as Israeli traditional Jewish music, original modern Israeli music, and folklore music of diverse local and international ethnic groups. The choir is regularly featured on the most prominent stages in Israel. Performances include singing with The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, The Israel Symphony Orchestra Rishon LeZion, The Israel Chamber Orchestra, The Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra and more. The choir is invited to perform at national ceremonies and to represent Israel in International special events such as the Peace Talks – Oslo 1994 and the Presidents Conference – Jerusalem 2008. World tours included competitions, workshops, festivals, and special events in Hong Kong, China, Taiwan, USA, Canada, Russia, Spain, Slovenia, Scandinavia, South Korea, Bazel, Paris, and more.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 5.30pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Moran Singers Ensemble [Israel]

Conductor: Naomi Faran

Consists of Moran Choir graduates, outstanding musicians, IDF soldiers, as well as students and graduates from various music academies. The Ensemble's repertoire includes classical choral music as well as Israeli choral music composed by leading composers such as Gil Shohat, Menachem Weisenberg, Haim Permont, Yehezkel Braun, Noam Sivan, Eyal Batt, Zipi Fleisher, and Joseph Bardanashvili. In recent years, the Ensemble performed with highly recognized music groups such as The Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra, The Rishon LeZion Orchestra, Tel Aviv Soloists Ensemble, The Israel Chamber Orchestra, The

Jerusalem Camerata Orchestra, and The Israeli Opera. The Moran Singers Ensemble participated in choral competitions and international festivals such as: The Bach Festival in Eugene-Orengo, a Liturgical Music Festival in Germany, the Vox Pacis (The Voice of Peace) Festival in Stockholm-Sweden, the "Musica Sacra" Festival in Germany and in the International Choral Festival in Argentina, and the Zemplen Festival in Hungary.

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 5.30pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Coro Polifonico di Ruda [Italy]

Conductor: Fabiana Noro

Founded in 1945, the Ruda Polyphonic Choir has always held concerts worldwide: Canada, Russia, United States, Mongolia, China, Philippines, Argentina, Brazil, and almost all European countries. Guardian of the Friulian musical tradition, the choir, has distinguished itself in the study of the romantic and contemporary repertoire. Its artistic level has been awarded at the most important international competitions with 28 first prizes won in Gorizia, Arezzo, Rome, Vittorio Veneto, Orvieto, Riga, Ravenna, Tallin, Graz, Wien, Linz, Shaoxing, Malaga, Lloret de Mar-Barcelona, Rimini and Matera.

Among the most recent awards, the choir won three first prizes at the Rimini International Competition held online in mid-December 2020 due to the pandemic. The choir does not neglect the traditional vocal repertoire, the 'villotte', hundreds of which are kept in the choir's historical archive, which was the subject of a considerable cataloguing work a few years ago. A recent CD entitled 'Ricuardi un timp' featuring Friulian popular music was awarded a prize as the best



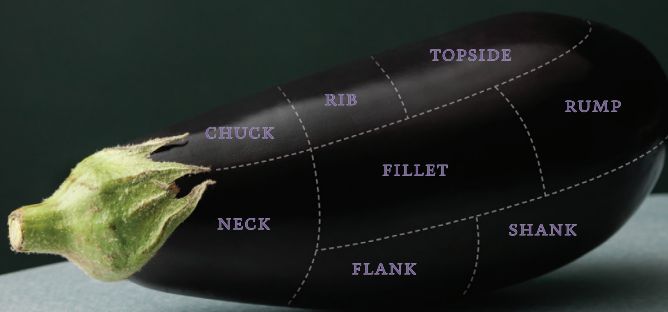
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BIOGRAPHIES

recording among all Italian choirs and distributed in ten thousand copies both in Italy and abroad. The latest CD (2020), "Nufcent furlan", is a compilation of villotte from the first half of the twentieth century until today collected by maestro Daniele Zanettovich. Since 2003 the choir has been directed by Fabiana Noro, a musician who has been awarded several prizes in Italy and abroad.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Academic Choir "Neris" of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences [Lithuania]

Conductor: Tomas Lapinskas

LUHS academic choir "Neris" is one of the oldest academic choirs in Lithuania. It was established in 1925 by Nikodemus Martinonis, one of the first professional choral conductors in Lithuania. From 1933 to 1940 the choir had about 200 singers and participated in music festivals in Latvia (1935), Sweden (1936), France (1937), Czechoslovakia (1938). 1965 was one of the best years for the choir as it has won the 1st place in the strongest choir category at The Song Celebration competition and was given the name "Neris". In the same year the choir was also given the title of exemplary national collective. At the end of the 20th century the choir ceased its activities due to the lack of singers. 2005 was a new beginning for "Neris" – it was reestablished by a 4th year medicine student Tomas Lapinskas. Today "Neris" is the 1st category choir in Lithuania. It participates in student song festivals and The Lithuanian Song Celebrations. The choir is the winner of many national and international competitions.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Children's choir "Perpetuum mobile" [Lithuania]

Conductor: Beata Kijauskiene

The children's choir "Perpetuum mobile" was founded in 1979 in Kaunas A.Kačanauskas music school. There sing the pupils from Kaunas schools and gymnasiums and they take an active part in different festivals, national and international competitions. Their repertoire includes a rich variety of choral music, sacral compositions, originating from various stylistic periods. The choir gave concerts in Lithuania, Latvia, Czech Republic, Germany, Russia, Finland, Italy, Estonia, Bulgaria, Croatia. The most important achievements of the choir:

- The 1st place Cum laude in the 56th European Music festival for Young People NEERPELT Belgium 2008.
- A Silver diploma at the "Harmonie Festival 2011" Germany 2011.
- The 3rd place in the category of secular music at the 3rd International children's choir competition "Il Garda in Coro" 2012.
- A Gold diploma at the 11th International Choir Competition Bad Ischl Austria 2013.
- 54th International sacred music festival "Virgo Lauretana" Loreto 2014, Italy (concert trip).
- The 2nd place at the 14th International Choir Festival "Tallinn 2015"
- International choir project – festival Medebach 2016, Germany (concert trip).
- The winner of the category of children and youth choirs at the VII International choir festival „Chernomorski Zvutsi 2017“, Bulgaria.
- International choir project – festival Medebach 2018, Germany (concert trip).
- The 3rd place at the 16th International Choir Festival "Tallinn 2019".
- Grand Prix and Golden diploma in the Victoria Adriatic choral competition, 20019 Croatia.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 5.30pm

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Chorale Voix D'espoir [Morocco]

Conductor: El Mehdi El Moustauoui

The choir "Voix D'espoir" was founded on December 24, 2017 in Taza in Morocco, by the choir director Mehdi EL MOUSTAOU (Prefessor of musical education). The choir currently has about thirty members aged 12 to 15, they all came together for the same cause: loves to sing. The choir regularly participates in local activities and international competitions, recently the choir participated in the international festival of choral in Yvetot France.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 5.30pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Popkoor Estrellas [The Netherlands]

Conductor: Wilfred Reneman

Popkoor Estrellas is a pop choir from Groningen, The Netherlands, consisting of nineteen enthusiastic students, singing in three voice groups: altos, mezzo-sopranos and sopranos. The conductor, Wilfred Reneman, has been with the choir since it was established in 2011. He studied at the Conservatory in Groningen, where he focused on choral conducting and school music. In Popkoor Estrellas, he serves as a conductor, musical director and arranger of most of the songs

they perform. Under normal circumstances, the choir rehearses and performs on a regular basis. They often collaborate with other choirs from The Netherlands. The choir has received many prizes, including the first place in their category at BALK TOPfestival, the national choir festival for light choral music in The Netherlands. In another edition of the festival, Popkoor Estrellas ranked amongst the best choirs in the entire competition. Besides BALK TOPfestival, the choir received three nominations during the Cardozo Awards and won the award for Best Night Out in Groningen. They also had the honour of singing for King Willem-Alexander, sang on national television and were involved in many official activities of the University of Groningen. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the choir has strived to stay close and active through online rehearsals, despite the ban on singing together imposed by the Dutch government. From these efforts, their entry to the Cork Choral International A Cappella Video Competition came to be. Being inclusive is a big part of the philosophy of the choir. By using sign language, the choir can also offer something to people who are used to visual communication.

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 5.30pm

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Female Choir Canzona – Absolwent [Poland]

Conductor: Elżbieta Wtorkowska

Female Choir „Canzona – Absolwent” Murowana Goślina (Poland)

Conductor: Elżbieta Wtorkowska

The Canzona Absolwent ladies' choir was established in the autumn of 2001. It is made up of former members of the Canzona girls' choir. The choir takes part in events and gives concerts all over Poland and abroad. Here are the most

BIOGRAPHIES

important competitions and festivals Canzona Absolwent took part in:

In 2003 the choir performed in Sweden at the International Music Festival in Kristianstad.

In 2007, the choir co-organized the Edmund Szymanski International Choral Meeting and since 2008 it has been organizing the annual editions of the Edmund Szymanski International Choral Festival in Murowana Goślina.

The choir's repertoire is based on the traditions of romantic, contemporary and folk song, as well as popular music. The ensemble also performs early music. The choir's founder and first conductor is Elżbieta Wtorkowska, Professor at the Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz, and its second conductor is Adrianna Wtorkowska-Kubińska, a graduate of the Academy of Music in Poznań who has also completed a choirmaster's qualification in Bydgoszcz.

When & Where

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Ponomarev Vesna Children's Choir [Russia]

Conductor: Nadezhda Averina

Ponomarev VESNA Children's Choir ("Vesna" means "Spring") is the Senior Choir of Ponomarev VESNA Children's Choir School (Moscow, Russia). In 2020 it celebrated its 55th anniversary. Aleksander S. Ponomarev (1938-2012), Distinguished Artist of Russia and a laureate of international competitions, was the principal of the school and the artistic director of VESNA Choir for almost 50 years. Since 2012 the Choir has been conducted by Nadezhda Averina, Mr. Ponomarev's former student, Honoured Artist of the city of Moscow and a laureate of international competitions.

VESNA has performed with its concert programs in

12 countries of Europe, Canada, Japan and China, as well as in about 50 cities and towns of Russia. The Choir has been awarded the most prestigious prizes at international competitions in Spain, Italy, France, Canada, Bulgaria, Hungary and Belgium. VESNA won the Great European Choral Award "Europe Grand Prix" twice in 2000 and 2017. In 2019 VESNA took the 1st place at the Euroradio Choral Competition "Let the People Sing" (Barcelona, Spain). In 2020 the choir won the 1st prize at Rimini International Choir Competition. The Choir's repertoire is wide and varied. During these years it has sung hundreds of pieces of classical music of different times, countries, styles and genres. The Choir's programs have been recorded by record companies and by both radio and television. VESNA choir released 15 CD's.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 5.30pm

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Jazz-choir of the State Children Philharmonic [Russia]

Conductor: Marina Makarova

Jazz-choir of the State Children Philharmonic Society in Yekaterinburg (Russia) was established in 1988. At the moment the choir comprises approximately 200 girls divided into 3 age groups (5-7,8-11 and 12-20 years old). Children study solfeggio, master their skills in playing the piano, they are taught choreography and stage movement. The best pieces of jazz and pop music, spirituals, contemporary music and modern arrangements of folk songs make its repertoire.

The latest achievements are Summa Cum Laude Prize in 58 International Choir Competition in Neerpelt (Belgium) 2010, the First prize and Compulsory work prize in 47 International Choir



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Competition in Montreux (Switzerland) 2011, the name "The best choir" of the Verona choir competition 2012 (Italy), the First prize (Female competition), the Second prize (Children 12-18 competition) and the First prize (Folk competition) in 67 Llangollen Eisteddfod 2013 (Great Britain), Gold medal of World Choir Games 2014 (Riga, Latvia), 3 Gold medals in 53 Seghizzi choral competition (Gorizia, Italy) 2014, 3 First prizes (Children category, Female category, Folk category) in 33 Cantonigros International Choral Festival (Vic, Spain) 2015, Grand Prix in International Choral Competition "Native Guan" (Yalta, Crimea) 2015, Cum Laude prizes (Young choir category and Open category) in 64 International Choir Competition in Neerpelt (Belgium) 2016, participating in Choral Festival "Voix du monde" (Nancy, France) 2016, the First prize (Children category) in 53 International Choral Competition in Montreux (Switzerland) 2017, Golden prizes (Youth category, Folk category) in First Tokyo International Choral Competition (Japan, 2018), Gold prize (Children category, Folk category) in VII World Youth and Children Choir Festival in Hongkong (2019)

When & Where

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Convent of the Holy Infant Jesus Secondary Choir [Singapore]

Conductor: Nicolette Foo

As an established Performing Arts group the Choir nurtures confident choir members who are passionate in taking choral music into top-notch international competitions abroad. Choir girls have travelled to Sydney Australia, Hawaii USA, Xiamen China, Riva del Garda Italy (twice), Olomouc Czech

Republic and Hong Kong (4 times) for international festivals and returned with top awards, Gold medals, trophies and prizes, in all categories, in all countries.

Nearer home, in 2018 the Convent of the Holy Infant Jesus topped the Equal Voices Category, was a Gold Award winner, and among the top 8 finalists in the Singapore International Choral Festival 2018. More recently, we were participants of the 2018 Asia Cantate (competition) in Hong Kong, and obtained another Gold in 2018. Our members are disciplined, anchored in choral music and contribute substantially to school events and in-house performances.

Choir girls also anchored the 165th historical celebrations of the 11 Infant Jesus convents' combined choir at the National Stadium in Singapore, 2019. In 2019 the choir obtained the Certificate of Distinction in the Singapore Youth Festival. Within convent grounds, the girls lead the school congregation in morning hymn and assembly, and on occasion, are in attendance to assist in official events.

Under Miss Nicolette Foo our Choral Director, choir girls give of their best at every local and international competition.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 5.30pm

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Oñatiko Ganbara Abesbatza [Spain]

Conductor: Aitor Bian Bidarte

Oñatiko Ganbara Abesbatza is a mixed choir created in 1994 by 12 young adults at that time. Year after year, and always with the same passion as in the beginning, the group has grown in participants. Nowadays, under the guidance of Aitor Bian Bidarte, 40 singers perform in this choir. Its repertoire covers all the styles and periods: poliphony, folklore, gospel, spiritual

BIOGRAPHIES

music... the Basque folklore as well as modern composers's songs are the most chosen ones for the programs in their performances.

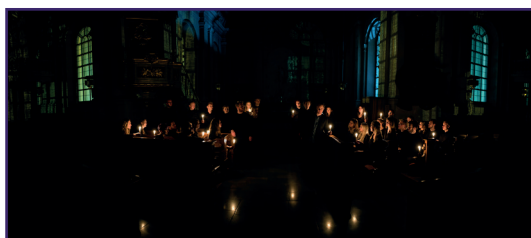
In the last two decades Oñatiko Ganbara Abesbatza has competed in numerous national and international competitions. The result of their effort has been greatly rewarded with first, second and third prizes as well as prizes for the best executed compulsory piece, best Conductor prizes,... Apart from those prizes, Ganbara Abesbatza has also participated in many music festivals and concerts in Basque Country, Spain and abroad.

Aitor Biain Bidarte began its musical path studying clarinet, saxophone and singing in the Music School of Oñati. He later extended his studies by learning the Professional Degree in Singing (Jesús Guridi Conservatory), the degree in Music Pedagogy Studies (Musikene) and the degree in Choir and Orchestra Conduction (Musikene). He also has a bachelor's degree in Informatic Engineering in Mondragon University. He has competed in several courses and seminars with world-famous teachers. He is currently the conductor of the choir of the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU), the Choral Society of Bergara, Oñatiko Ganbara Abesbatza, Hots Abesbatza and Ganbara Gazte-Txiki. He has won numerous awards, amongst which the two prizes obtained for the Best Conductor have to be highlighted. Both prizes were obtained in the international choral competitions of Tours (France) and Arezzo (Italy). He has recorded and edited 5 CD and has premiered more than 30 pieces. Occasionally teaches at workshops and seminars. He also sings in KUP Taldea and Suhar Korua and is member of the Municipal Band of Oñati.

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 5.00pm

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Adolf Fredrik's Church's Chamber Choir [Sweden]

Conductor: Christoffer Holgersson

Adolf Fredriks kyrkas kammarkör – Adolf Fredrik's Church's Chamber Choir – is a mixed choir linked to the Adolf Fredrik's Church located in the middle of Stockholm's city centre. The choir was founded in the year 2000 as a youth choir and in the fall of 2016 it reformed into a chamber choir.

The repertoire is mostly classical, both sacred and profane, both new and old. In the summer of 2019 the choir sang the extensive choral part in the premiere performance of one of the final large-scale pieces from the pen of preeminent Swedish composer Sven-David Sandström, Uppbrott ("Decampment").

AFCC has participated in major international contexts and has won several awards in choir competitions. In 2015, the choir participated in the XIV International Choir Festival in Tallinn, Estonia, where it was awarded gold in the chamber choir category, second place in the contemporary music category, and won the Grand Prix of the entire festival. Most recently, the choir won the Fleischmann International Trophy Competition at the 64th Cork International Choral Festival in 2018.

Christoffer Holgersson is the conductor and artistic director of AFCC since 2011. He conducts two more choirs within Adolf Fredrik's Church and is on a regular basis invited to conduct orchestras and choirs in different concerts and events. At the 64th Cork International Choral Festival, he was awarded the McCurtain and McSwiney Memorial Trophy, for the performance of an imaginative and artistic programme in the international competition.

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 5.00pm

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Cake O'Phonie [Switzerland]

Conductor: Antoine Krattinger

The particularity of Cake O'Phonie is that it only exists thanks to the Chorus show, the show launched at the end of 2018 on Radio Télévision Suisse (RTS). A small group of enthusiasts wanted to try this atypical experience: seven men and seven women from various backgrounds but all linked by a passion for singing and a taste for challenge. Building a group within a limited time frame with new members and putting together a program of harmonized variety songs for the whole is not an easy task. And it paid off, since the choir, against all odds, won the competition and obtained his ticket to represent Switzerland at the Eurovision Choir in Sweden.

When & Where

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in Turkey and abroad, also holds the 1st place in Folklore category and the 13th place overall in INTERKULTUR's world rankings in 2012.

In 2011, they succeeded as the 'WORLD CHAMPION' in 2 categories and also got a 'second prize' at the World Choir Championships in Austria. They also competed in the 'Grand Prix of Choral Music' and won 2 other gold medals, collecting a total of 5 gold medals to take back home. In 2012, the choir was invited to 'La Fabbrica del Canto' in Italy. They also won 3 gold medals in the '7th World Choir Games' in the USA, and one more gold in the 'Canemus International Choir Festival' in Hungary. In 2013, they were invited to 'L'édition 2013 des Rencontres Chorales' in Paris. In 2014, they won the 'first prize' in the Mixed Choirs category and also the 'Young Conductor Special Award' at the '35th International May Choir Competition Varna' in Bulgaria. They were invited to Polyfollia in France as one of the 11 ensembles. In 2015, they performed in 'La Bohème' by Puccini, produced by the Royal Opera House in Istanbul, 'Ein Deutsches Requiem' by Brahms with Bilkent Symphony Orchestra in Ankara. They also represented Turkey at the festival 'Europa Cantat 2015 Pécs' in Hungary. In 2016, they won two First Prizes "Cum Laude" in two categories at the '64th European Young Musicians Festival Neerpelt' in Belgium. In 2016, they were invited to the '10th European Festival of Youth Choirs Basel' in Switzerland. In 2017, they performed 'Gloria' by Jenkins and 'Misa Criolla' by Ramirez with Borusan Istanbul Philharmonic Orchestra under the direction of Maestro Güler Aykal. Lastly in 2019, the choir represented Turkey by giving 10 concerts in 8 different cities of Bulgaria, Serbia, Hungary, Austria and Slovenia, including the prestigious Musikverein Graz with a special invitation.

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Boğaziçi Jazz Choir [Turkey]

Conductor: Masis Aram Gözbek

Established in 2011 by Masis Aram Gözbek and renowned as a pioneer of choral culture in Turkey, holds a broad repertoire consisting of pieces with a wide range from contemporary to jazz and folk arrangements with its 30 choristers. The choir along with its countless achievements

BIOGRAPHIES



Petrosyan Chamber Choir [Ukraine]

Conductor: Dmitry Tkachev

The Choir was founded in Kharkiv, Ukraine, in the fifties of the last century. Since then the Choir has been a regular participant in various concerts, festivals and competitions both in Ukraine and abroad (Austria, Macedonia, Moldova, Greece, Ireland, Poland & other). The Choir's repertoire includes classical, church, Ukrainian traditional and other ethnic music, as well as pieces by contemporary authors, too. The group enjoys travelling, receiving guests, learning new music and establishing new musical partnerships with other choirs. The choir mostly consists of University students, both former (alumni back in the 80's) and active scholars. Despite being Science-oriented, all the choir members adore singing, which makes it their primary spare-time activity.

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Avant Garde Academy of Broward High School Concert Choir [United States]

Conductor: Marcos Rodriguez

The Concert Choir at AGA of Broward is the most active and most diverse program at the Avant Garde Academy. With the representation of over 80 nations, the Concert Choir within its short 5-year history is an Award Winning, Superior Rated music program. The current high school program is currently on their third year after receiving high marks qualifying for Florida Vocal Association State Festival on their first year. In 2019, AGA of Broward was awarded the 2019 Florida Music Educator Association Enrollment Award and was a feature performance at the 2020 Florida Music Educators Association All-State Conference. Several of the students are founding members who all participated in the middle school choral program and help create the current program today. They have been invited to perform at the Disney Candlelight Procession, Carnegie Hall, performed with the Miami-Dade College Symphony Orchestra, was the feature performance for the Broward County Teacher of the Year ceremony to name a few. Regardless of the various cultures and languages spoken at our school, they use the world language of music to unite and bond as one family. During the COVID-19 pandemic, many students have worked hard to maintain the continuity of the program during these difficult time, making many sacrifices and exercising CDC-WHO protocols, to fit the few rehearsals they could to provide their performance. Please take care of each other, stay safe and we hope you enjoy our performance.

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 5.00pm

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Cherokee High School Concert Choir [United States]

Conductor: Nicole Snodgrass

The Cherokee High School Concert Choir is a mixed choir from Marlton, New Jersey in the United States. Under the direction of their choral conductor Nicole Snodgrass, the choir has performed at The White House in Washington D.C. on four separate occasions, at Carnegie Hall in New York City, live in concert with the band Foreigner, and in November of 2019, the choir was invited to perform at the American Choral Directors Association conference in New Orleans. They have worked with acclaimed British a cappella group The King's Singers, Grammy winning singer Paul Phoenix, and with renowned composers Ola Gjeilo, Rollo Dilworth, and David Conte. They have performed for the Philadelphia Phillies, Harlem Globetrotters, and in September of 2020, their virtual performance of "The National Anthem" was chosen out of hundreds of entries to be played at a Philadelphia Eagles game.

Nicole Snodgrass has been the Choral Director at Cherokee High School for the past twenty-two years and is in her twenty-sixth year of teaching vocal music. Her choirs have toured Ireland, England, San Francisco, New York City, Boston, New Orleans, and Charleston, South Carolina. Ms. Snodgrass was the conductor of the 2020 New Jersey All-State Treble Chorus as well as being the recipient of the 2020 New Jersey Master Music Teacher Award. Other recent accolades include Cherokee High School Teacher of the Year (2018), quarter-finalist for the Grammy Music Educator Award (2016 & 2017), conductor of the South Jersey Senior High Chorus (2015) and in 2014, she was chosen as one of Suburban Family Magazine's "Outstanding Teachers."

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 5.30pm

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The Washington and Lee University Singers [United States]

Conductor: Shane Lynch

The University Singers, the premiere choral ensemble at Washington and Lee University, continues to be recognized as one of the finest a cappella choirs in the region. Under the direction of award-winning conductor Shane M. Lynch, the University Singers tour nationally or internationally every year, performing a wide variety of literature across the globe while serving as artistic ambassadors for Washington and Lee in concert series, festivals, competitions and conventions. The University Singers have been recognized for their excellence in performance by the American Choral Directors Association, the Virginia Music Educators Association, multiple international competitions, and in featured programs at major venues such as Carnegie Hall, the National Cathedral, and the Academy of Music.

At Washington and Lee, the University Singers are the centerpiece of the annual Candlelight Lessons and Carols service, perform in concerts and convocations, and take part in the ChoralFest, which honors America's top conductors and composers. Student members of the University Singers represent a wide cross-section of the programs offered at the school, routinely representing over 30 of the 36 undergraduate major concentrations. Membership in the University Singers is chosen by a competitive audition process each spring. Visit wlu.edu/music for more information. Follow the ensemble via WLUSingers on Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Instagram and other social media platforms.

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 5.00pm

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BIOGRAPHIES

INTERNATIONAL NON-COMPETITIVE CHOIRS



North Bay Choral Society [Canada]

Conductor: Lynda Burtch

The North Bay Choral Society is led by Lynda (Bertrand) Burtch who joined us in 2013 as our Director. Lynda comes to the Choral Society with a long list of credits. She is an instrumentalist, singer, vocal director, educator and winner of a Community Service Award in her home town of Sturgeon Falls, Ontario. Lynda holds academic honours from the University of Western Ontario and York University.

The North Bay Choral Society is made up of members of all ages and from all walks of life. We are brought together by our common bond, the love of singing. The choir performs two major concerts a year and also performs many small concerts in the community to support seniors. They have performed a variety of repertoire over the years from classical to pop and this year have moved to performing virtually. We have been blessed to meet every Monday night and continue to support each other musically throughout the season. The choir has submitted the beautiful arrangement of Imagine by John Lennon. The power of many voices joined as one.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 6.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Gospelchor Rejoice Langenberg [Germany]

Conductor: Roland Orthaus

The -1996 Foundation of the gospel choir REJOICE Langenberg

-Successful performances in the Ruhr area, at the Krefelder Gospelmusik-Festival

-Participation at the Choir Olympics 2004 in Bremen

-2005 Organizer of the 1st Langenberger Gospel Choir Festival.

-World Choir Games in Graz (Austria) 2008 silver medal in category Gospel / Spiritual

-Impressive concerts in Graz, at the Bottroper Gospel Night and International Gospel Church Day in Hannover

(2008), Karlsruhe (2010), Dortmund (2012) as well as television and radio broadcasts on the choir

-2009 first gospel-tour with 3000 spectators

-2009 gospel CD "Celebrate" as studio CD

-Spring 2010 Closing Concert of the "Night of Music" by the Federal Association of German Choir and Orchestra Associations.

- Also in 2011 repeated to represent the category "Gospel Choir"

-2012 two silver medals in the categories Spiritual and Gospel at the WORLD CHOIR GAMES in Cincinnati (USA)

- Unforgettable rehearsal with the gospel choir of the Greater St. Stephen's Full Baptist Church in New Orleans.

-2013 three different designed documentary films about the work of the choir and preparations as well as the trip to the USA Europe-wide u.a. in the television stations ARTE, NDR television and WDR television with impressive response.

-July 2014 silver medal in category SPIRITUAL at the WORLD CHOIR GAMES in Riga (Latvia). - With 470 choirs and 27,000 singers from all over the world, the biggest choir competition of all time.

BIOGRAPHIES

- July and December 2016 two large orchestral concerts
- Silver Medals Gospel and Gold Medal Spiritual at the World Choir Games 2018 in South Africa.
- Live-Interviews in several German TV stations
- 2019 Choir at Christmas-Singing (Westfalen-Stadion Dortmund) with 70.000 spectators und live-TV-broadcast

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 6.00pm

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The Stuttgart Boys' Choir collegium iuvenum [Germany]

Conductor: Benjamin Hartmann

The Stuttgart Boys' Choir collegium iuvenum was founded in 1989 and is directed by Benjamin Hartmann. Further to the choir's musical perspective, the Stuttgart Boys' Choir sees its work also as an extracurricular youth education and social-political mission. The aim of the musical work is to build on the over 1.000-year old tradition of famous boys' choirs and pass on the centuries-old culture of sacred choral music. The musical repertoire includes sacred choral music from the Renaissance to the modern (contemporary).

The Stuttgart Boys' Choir collegium iuvenum is institutionally and confessionally independent. The activities of the choir are supported by the non-profit organization Förderverein collegium iuvenum Stuttgart e.V., which is an officially accredited supporting organization for youth welfare and extracurricular supervision. The current membership of more than 700 persons cover through contributions and donations a part of the expenses for vocal training, concerts, traveling, rehearsals and office premises.

The Stuttgart Boys' Choir collegium iuvenum takes pride in having achieved a high musical and artistic standard on a European level, thanks to the extraordinary commitment of many active and former choir members, parents and friends as well as the support of the state capital Stuttgart, and the state of Baden-Württemberg. Concert tours have taken the young singers among others to France, Spain, Finland, Austria, Switzerland, Canada, USA and Poland.

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 6.00pm

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Coro Monte Penice [Italy]

Monte Penice choir was founded in 2014 and takes its name from a mountain that is located in Northern Italy, halfway between Genoa and Milan. This name was chosen because the five members of the group come from the five sides of this mountain and because it symbolically combines the common traits of all the singers: the passion for singing and the desire to be together.

The objective of the choir is to recover, safeguard and pass on the traditional local songs of all kinds: religious, popular, alpine, author music, all in polyphony with three or four voices.

Among these we propose what are called "hosteria songs", songs that retrace stories and experiences of rural life and that were usually sung in the fields while working or in hosterias in convivial moments. The musical structure has three voices: the main voice, called "secondo", starts with a solo voice,

BIOGRAPHIES

then intervenes the “vocetta” that performs the countermelody and finally the “basso” who create an accompanying harmonic effect. A peculiarity of this type of singing and this choir is that there is no Director.

The choir participates every year in many local singing festivals and has twice participated in the Festival of Alta Pusteria, in South-Tirol, in the years 2017 and 2018.

The seat of the choir is in Bobbio, a beautiful village on the slopes of Mount Penice which has the honor of hosting the remains of Saint Colombano, the missionary monk born in Navan in 543 d.c. The Irish saint, at the end of a long work of evangelization, arrived in Bobbio in 614 d.c. and founded the monastery which became one of the most important in all of Europe

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 6.00pm

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Coro Voces [Italy]

Conductor: Irene Citterio

“Coro Voces” (Voces is the Latin word for “voices”), founded in 2018, is a children’s choir from Villasanta (north Italy). It is made up of 36 children aged 6-10 (Junior group) and 11-18 (Senior group); our singers come from Villasanta and the nearby city of Monza. In the two years following its foundation, the choir has performed in many concerts and events; particularly appreciated is the variety of the repertoire, which ranges from classical polyphony to Gospel, Musical and original choral arrangements of folk songs. In our choir the children learn to sing, to read music and above all to collaborate and to share the joy and beauty of choral singing. In addition to performing in concerts throughout the year, sometimes our choir sings

during the religious services of our parish.

Irene Citterio (1996) has been studying choral singing and piano since she was eight; in 2018, after studying choral conducting, she founded Coro Voces, which she still conducts.

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 6.00pm

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Gaulitanus Choir [Malta]

Conductor: Colin Attard

The Gaulitanus Choir is a mixed amateur choir officially founded in 1990. Based in Gozo, Malta’s sister island, it performs an extensive and versatile repertoire – whether secular or sacred, operatic or chamber, light or semi-classical – with some concerts also recorded on CDs.

Its local programme of events is complimented by a number of international commitments. The choir has featured 19 times abroad, whether England, Germany, the Netherlands, Greece, Italy, Latvia, France and Corsica, performing in a number of very prestigious venues such as London’s Westminster Cathedral and St James’s Church Piccadilly, Paris’s L’Église de la Madeleine, and innumerable Italian cathedrals and basilicas. It is also the first Maltese choir to participate in an operatic production abroad, at Taormina’s Teatro Antico, which production was also transmitted worldwide in cinemas and TVs. For all these efforts, the choir has been very favourably received by critics and public – whether locally or abroad.

Since 2007 the choir’s flagship event has been Gaulitana: A Festival of Music, an international festival featuring an eclectic mix of musical genres – from opera to chamber and from light to sacred. It has been dubbed as “a major festival of classical music” by the UK’s oldest musical journal Musical Opinion (Oct-Dec 2017).

BIOGRAPHIES

The choir is directed by its founder, Colin Attard, one of Malta's foremost musicians. Resident conductor of the Teatru ta' l-Opra Aurora and the Leone Philharmonic Society, for long years he was a member of the teaching faculty of the Gozo School of Music and musical director at the Gozo Cathedral. He is widely known as a pivotal personality in Gozitan operatic productions – as acknowledged by the renowned international magazine Opera Now. He has been at the helm of the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra and several foreign orchestras, also conducting various world-renowned artists. Colin is also a composer.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 6.00pm

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Popkoor Estrellas [The Netherlands]

Conductor: Wilfred Reneman

Popkoor Estrellas is a pop choir from Groningen, The Netherlands, consisting of nineteen enthusiastic students, singing in three voice groups: altos, mezzo-sopranos and sopranos. The conductor, Wilfred Reneman, has been with the choir since it was established in 2011. He studied at the Conservatory in Groningen, where he focused on choral conducting and school music. In Popkoor Estrellas, he serves as a conductor, musical director and arranger of most of the songs they perform. Under normal circumstances, the choir rehearses and performs on a regular basis. They often collaborate with other choirs from The Netherlands. The choir has received many prizes, including the first place in their category at BALK TOPfestival, the national choir festival for light choral music in The Netherlands. In another edition of the festival, Popkoor Estrellas ranked amongst the best choirs in the entire competition. Besides BALK TOPfestival, the choir received three nominations during the Cardozo Awards and won

the award for Best Night Out in Groningen. They also had the honour of singing for King Willem-Alexander, sang on national television and were involved in many official activities of the University of Groningen. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the choir has strived to stay close and active through online rehearsals, despite the ban on singing together imposed by the Dutch government. From these efforts, their entry to the Cork Choral International A Cappella Video Competition came to be. Being inclusive is a big part of the philosophy of the choir. By using sign language, the choir can also offer something to people who are used to visual communication.

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Virelai from Escola Coral "Veus Juntas" [Spain]

Conductor: Amalia Bosó

The Escola Coral "Veus Juntas" of Quart de Poblet (Spain) is a broad pedagogical project consisting of more than 200 choralists, structured in many groups ranging from 3 to 18 years old, in which choralists are encouraged to develop a singing career. The Virelai choir is the culmination of this project, with children from 12 to 18 years old.

Virelai has gone on tour in Spain, France, Belgium, Holland, Austria, Italy, Portugal, Germany, Poland and Venezuela, has participated in festivals, contests and meetings with other groups, and has collaborated with Palau de les Arts Reina Sofía of Valencia, singing in 1984 (L. Maazel), Werther (J. Massenet), La Bohème (G. Puccini), Tosca (G. Puccini), L'enfant et les sortilèges (M. Ravel) and La damnation de Faust (H. Berlioz). That has made it possible for the choir to live up close to great conductors' work such as Lorin Maazel, Riccardo Chailly, Nicola Luisotti, Roberto Abbado and Henrik Nánási. Virelai has also performed several

BIOGRAPHIES

musicals such as Nightmare Before Christmas (D. Elfman) and I Will Kill Fears For You (J. Blanch).

All of this could not have been possible without the effort of Jordi Blanch Tordera, who was the main conductor from 2000 to 2020. Nowadays, the team consists of Cristina Martínez and Juan Teruel (coordination), Ana Bort (vocal technique) and Andrea Rubio and Amalia Bosó (conduction).

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 6.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Lazika [Turkey]

Conductor: Emine Colak

Although Lazuri Folk Music has such great diversity, it is not recognized enough in Turkey. The first Lazuri music was recorded by the musician, Yaşar Turna in the early 1970s. Helimişi Xasani, who was born in Hopa and lived in the Soviet Union, had Lazuri song compilations that could only be heard after 1998 in Turkey. Kazım Koyuncu contributed greatly to the recognition of Lazuri music by the masses. Lazika Polyphonic Choir was established in 2016 under the conductorship of Emine Çolak. Repertoire of Lazika consists of traditional Lazuri songs and world folk music. Having young musicians as chorists, Lazika aims to make Lazuri music heard more in national and international arenas.

Lazika won the following awards:

- Success in Performing Folk Music Polyphonically-5th Sansev Choral Festival.
- Success in Performing Folk Music-6th Sansev Choral Festival.
- Homogeneity in Polyphonic Performance-7th Sansev Choral Festival.
- Covering A Folk Song-23rd Turkish Choral Festival.
- Performing A Compulsory Song Award-24th Turkish Choral Festival.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 6.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Sansev Chamber Choir [Turkey]

Conductor: Emine Colak

SansevChamber Choir was founded by Conductor Emine Çolak within the body of SANSEV (Artists, Art Lovers Culture and Solidarity Association) in 2017. Although the types of music they have listened to and performed in the past and today are different, this amateur group, with its members meeting at the point of "taking an interest in polyphonic music" and "loving to sing", performs a selection of world folk songs created by Conductor Emine Çolak at various festivals and events.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 6.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



The Waves

From San Francisco Bay Area

The Waves [United States]

Conductor: Jenny Chiang

A seven-man ensemble in San Francisco Bay Area, was born through the stay-at-home order during Covid-19 Pandemic in April 2020. While the daily routine for everyone has changed, the love for

BIOGRAPHIES

singing together and sharing the joy of teamwork has not. Hence the creation of the ensemble and the experimentation singing virtually. Under the direction of Ms. Jenny Chiang and Ms. Sophia Chuang, The Waves has been invited to perform virtually on San Francisco 60th Mid-August Moon Festival, in September 2020. While Cork Choral Festival sets up the stage for The Waves to showcase our passion through performing together, the song, "If You Are Reincarnated Tomorrow", is to share the message from the lyrics "Let us light up the lives with love and guard the health with awareness.

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 6.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

unite and bond as one family. During the COVID-19 many students have made sacrifices to maintain the continuity of the program and have made every effort by following CDC and WHO guidelines to prepare their performance with the few rehearsals they were able to attend. Please stay safe, take care of each other, and enjoy our performance.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 6.00pm

Saturday 1st May, 6.00pm

Sunday 2nd May, 6.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Avant Garde Academy of Broward High School Concert Choir [United States]

Conductor: Marcos Rodriguez

The Middle School Concert Choir at AGA of Broward is one of most active and most diverse program at the Avant Garde Academy. With the representation of over 80 nations, the Middle School Concert Choir is an Award Winning, Superior Rated music program. The Middle School program is currently on their 6 receiving the highest mark at the Florida Vocal Association District Music Festival for the past 3 years. In 2019, AGA of Broward was awarded the 2019 FMEA Enrollment Award. Many of them have continued their music education as members of the High School Program and recognized throughout the State of Florida. Regardless of the various cultures and languages spoken at our school, they use the world language of music to



Coral de Ciencias ULA Mérida [Venezuela]

Conductor: Marianella Urbina Méndez

The Science Choral Group was founded 31 years ago on 26th April 1986. Our choral group has started with some students and teachers from the Science Faculty at the University of the Andes. It has been guided by different professional musicians in Choral singing and choral directing along its existence. Our Choral group has had the opportunity of participate either in some National or International Festivals in South America such as: Ecuador and Colombia about 1997-2000. One of Our goals is keep forward music and culture in our Country and share and meet artists around the world despite of the difficult worldwide situation. Nowadays, we have a reborn status with a mixture of participants giving a special pitch equilibrium. We love perform different kinds of musical genres from the most Classical to different Modern Styles.

Our Choral group counts on 15 participants who are committed to the choir and rehearse five days a week and enjoy musical culture. We are committed to musical culture learning and performing. 2021 activities to develop are The International Choral Cork International Festival Non-Competitive Online Participation, The Science Choral

BIOGRAPHIES

Anniversary, Venezuelan Folklore Festival and Christmas performances.

Ms Marianella Urbina Méndez was born in Mérida-Venezuela on 9th May 1978. She has had always contact with music since she was a child, her father has been her motivation in order to love music. She started to sing when she was 7 years old, when she was 9 she started to study pianoforte. Many years later she gave the exam to the conservatory of music in Mérida and she approved it. She also studied Modern languages at the university and has got her degree in 2007. She has had the opportunity of work with people of different ages. She has conducted children and teenagers choirs, She also has worked with adults choirs. She loves music and speaking foreign languages.

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 6.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



CBA
Cork Business
Association

- *Creative*
- *Innovative*
- *You make it work*
- *Always looking to improv*



The Cork Business Association represents
the interests of businesses in Cork

We speak on your behalf with the goal to create a
business climate in Cork with optimal conditions

Together we are stronger

Become a member

www.corkbusiness.ie

BIOGRAPHIES

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE CHOIRS



AIB Choral Society

Conductor: Ernest Dines

Founded in 2002, AIB Choral Society has almost fifty members including current and former staff, retired staff and pensioners, family members and friends – ranging in age from eighteen to over eighty!

The choir is a four-part mixed voice choir with a wide repertoire including classical, traditional, popular and sacred works. Under musical director Ernest Dines our last summer concert in 2019 was themed “A Night at the Opera” including popular operatic choruses, as well as “Bohemian Rhapsody” and “Phantom of the Opera”, and our Christmas 2019 programme included Britten’s “A Ceremony of Carols”.

As well as annual Summer and Christmas Concerts, AIB Choral Society has travelled to choral festivals in Prague, Krakow and most recently Verona in 2019, and performs for charity and at AIB customer and staff events.

Since March 2020 we have been determined to keep singing while apart so we created our first virtual choir recording of “May it Be” by Enya, as part of an AIB Staff Wellbeing event. For Christmas 2020 we produced an hour-long virtual Christmas Concert in aid of the AIB Together Fund, supporting communities significantly affected by Covid19.

This year we continue to meet virtually, and outdoors when possible. We look forward singing together soon and starting preparation for our 20th Annual Christmas concert in our ‘spiritual home’ at St Bartholomew’s Church in Dublin 4.

The choir is a non-profit organisation supported by our patron Dr Colin Hunt, AIB CEO.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



A&L Goodbody Choir

Conductor: Ben Jacob

A&L Goodbody LLP is one of the largest law firms in Ireland and possibly the only firm which is divided up along SATB lines. The A&L Goodbody Choir was formed in March 2014 and normally has between 40 and 50 members representing every corner of the firm. Anna-Marie Curran, a partner in our Corporate Department, is the Musical and Choir Director. The firm has a strong tradition of collaborating with and supporting the communities in which it works and is particularly proud of the Choir’s fundraising efforts. Since 2014, the A&L Goodbody Choir has performed an annual Christmas concert in aid of Depaul Ireland and in 2019, the Choir organised a fund-raising concert in aid of Aobheann’s Pink Tie. The Choir is delighted to participate in the Cork International Choral Festival Choirworks programme and to have the very talented Ben Jacob assigned as its choir leader.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

BIOGRAPHIES



Banknotes

Conductor: Tracy Nagle

There is a long tradition of music and drama in the Central Bank of Ireland, stretching back over many years. At Christmas, a group of choristers and musicians would come together to perform at the annual Carols for Charity gig, which raised much-needed funds for the Simon Community and Focus Ireland. This evolved in November 2017 into what is now the Central Bank of Ireland Sports & Social staff choir 'BankNotes'. The choir is named after the old staff newsletter, in a nod to the many talented staff who kept these creative traditions alive for many years. In March 2020, undeterred by the restrictions imposed by the global pandemic, BankNotes switched rehearsals to an online forum. Owing to the commitment of our indefatigable director, Tracy Nagle, the enthusiasm of the choristers and a steep learning curve, the choir is confident of its survival during and beyond 2021.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

but determined singers who gathered together leading up to Christmas to rehearse carols for the Annual Carol Singing Tour of the hospital wards on Christmas Eve.

Fast forward to 2015 when staff member Lisa Price took over the role of Choir Director on a voluntary basis. Lisa had a track record at this time, with her own Vocal Studio teaching singing to students from children to senior citizens.

Under Lisa's guidance, the Coombe Workplace Choir met weekly for rehearsals. The membership changed now and then as people left to take up new employment opportunities in other hospitals or who retired.

What didn't change was the repertoire. Over the past five years, Lisa expanded the repertoire to include Classical, Musical theatre, Contemporary and Traditional Song – and Carols!

In 2018, The Coombe Workplace Choir became semi-finalists in the Workplace Choir of the Year Competition.

Membership of the choir is presently all female (by accident, not by design!) and includes staff from Midwifery, Laboratory, Chaplaincy, Medical Records, Dietetics, Human Resources, I. T and more.

The Coombe recognises the importance of singing in the lives of their staff as a means of improving workplace wellness. Zoom Singalongs are hosted weekly to release singing endorphins and relieve stress. Working on the front line during a pandemic has been extremely challenging but the Choir have lifted spirits though music and song. Singing unites us!

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Coombe Workplace Choir

Conductor: Lisa Price

The Coombe Workplace Choir has been in existence for many years. It began as a group of amateur



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí

Cork County Council



**Supporting Economic Development
& Tourism in Cork**

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BIOGRAPHIES



Dell Musicologies

Conductor: Mary Murphy

Mary Murphy, Carmel Buckley, Marie O'Callaghan, Elaine Mulvaney, Anita O'Sullivan and Padraig Crowley, have all been working for many years within Dell Technologies Global Manufacturing Operations, Ovens Cork. With diverse backgrounds, from all walks of life and with various musical and vocal abilities, were eager & willing to share their love for music and song to create something special to represent our Dell Team. Spawned from the challenge of navigating uncharted waters during a pandemic and acutely catapulted into remote working, the 'Dell Musicologies' group was formed to embark on a mission to serenade, salute and celebrate Our People, by Our People. Through the glory of music, song and fitting lyrics, an Original Musical Tribute to the GO (Global Operations) team in Cork was created & produced, leveraging the talent and creativity within the team that everyone connected with and drew inspiration from.

The strength of our culture here in Dell Cork, is what defines the character and personality of our organisation and makes our business unique. The culture code that our team values & holds so dearly, that all important sense of unity & inclusion – needed to be sustained amidst a global pandemic. Our people & compassion for each other is what drives us. Given the virtual world and bizarre circumstances we were thrust into over the past year, the opportunity arose for creative innovation – to break new ground and explore inventive novel means to musically engage, collaborate, restore team spirit and boost team morale. 'Our Voyage' in Song did just that. Depicting Our Voyage and illustrating through novel means the gallant efforts of our team amidst a global crisis.

Such a heartwarming example of what can be accomplished virtually and resounding corporate message that by pursuing a creative outlet, we can embrace wellbeing, foster team spirit and reap the benefits of morale & productivity.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Dulciana Vocal Ensemble

Conductor: Judith Lyons

Founded in January 2015 by Eoghan Desmond and Judith Lyons, Dulciana is a chamber choir committed to performing the very best in music for upper voices from across the ages. Since its very inception, part of Dulciana's mission has been the promotion of music by female composers, both those neglected by history, and those currently making history. This first manifested itself in the form of a concert consisting entirely of music by female composers – five pieces written for Dulciana by composers based in Dublin, alongside music by Rebecca Clarke and Imogen Holst. The following year, on International Women's Day, they launched a call for scores for music by emerging female composers. Some months later Dulciana received over 80 scores from around the world, including Jennifer Jolly's Prisoner of Conscience, based on the highly controversial Pussy Riot trials, which they premiered in Ireland as part of the Kaleidoscope concert series. They are also firm supporters of contemporary Irish composers, and alongside many pieces by female Irish composers they have also premiered works by Eoghan Desmond, Seán Doherty and Jonathan Nangle. Recent performances and accolades include collaborations with multi-instrumentalist and composer Dowry, percussionist Maeve O'Hara and First Prize in the Female Equal Voice Category at the Derry International Choral Festival 2019.

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

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Eli Lyricals

Conductor: Mark Milford

Eli Lyricals is the current iteration of the workplace choir at the Eli Lilly site in Kinsale (Dunderrow), Co. Cork, Ireland.

In line with the strong tradition of music in Ireland, there has been a choir at Eli Lilly Kinsale for many years, affectionately known as the Christmas Choir and helping to raise both money and spirits during the site Christmas Charities week. In 2017, the choir expanded beyond Christmas and became a year-round choir with an official name – Eli Lyricals.

We are a choir of between 20 and 30 individuals, all of whom are employed on-site at Dunderrow. We are open to singers of all abilities ranging from complete beginners to experienced choral singers, with the common aim to simply enjoy singing as a group. We practice at lunchtime once a week, providing a safe space for people to relax, have fun, and enjoy learning to sing in harmony with each other. We sing a wide range of music including early music, trad, world music, choral favourites and pop music, in order to cater to all interests and provide a broad experience for those new to singing.

Over the last year, whilst regular practice has been less practical, we have undertaken a number of smaller virtual projects and even created a virtual Christmas Album for colleagues on-site to enjoy.

As a choir whose membership, management and musical direction all come from within the company, we exist to bring the joy of singing to the Eli Lilly Kinsale site.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Euphonics

Conductor: Ciarán Kelly

Formed in January 2018 by musical director Ciaran Kelly, Euphonics are a Dublin based a cappella group who aim to bring energy and musicality to all their performances. Hoping to grow on their award winning competition performances, Euphonics highlights include winning the 'Pop and Jazz' category at the Derry Choral Festival 2018 and placing in the 'National Chamber Choir' category for Cork choral festival 2019. In addition to this, Euphonics are regular performers at Ireland's International A Cappella Festival, performing alongside International choirs for the two previous Gala concerts. Euphonics are also no strangers to the radio and television, having performed on BBC radio Ulster, BBC 2 Northern Ireland 'St Patrick's Day Special' and winning Lyric FMs 'Choirs for Christmas' 2019. One of Euphonics proudest achievements to date is featuring on their first spotify track, accompanying Ardú on their title track for their album 'Gravity'.

As Artistic Director of Ardú and Euphonics, Ciarán has won prizes at Cork International Choral Festival and City of Derry International Choir Festival, and has regularly programmed high calibre performances for festivals such as MusicTown Dublin, Music for Wexford, Crescent Arts Festival and K-Fest in Kerry. In December 2018 Ciarán won the RTÉ Choirs for Christmas competition with Ardú and Euphonics, and commenced a European tour with Ardú in the Summer of 2019. He is also founder and Artistic Director of the Irish International A Cappella Festival, which has welcomed vocal ensembles to Dublin from across the world since 2016. He is also currently director of Ireland Unlimited, Ireland's national female barbershop chorus, and Lambay Singers, an upper voices chamber choir based in North Dublin.

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 5.00pm

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Fidelity Sings

Conductor: Peter Mannion

Over the last year, the culture and connections at Fidelity Investments - no matter where we are - have brought us together, even when we're working in new ways.

Two Fidelity Ireland choirs (from Galway and Dublin) came together in 2020 to take part in the Fidelity Year End Celebrations.

Following an amazingly positive response from Fidelity associates to this, in early January 2021 we decided to reach out to see if others wanted to join in the singing. Response was so overwhelming that we had to create a cutoff point and a wait list for new members.

In the spirit of community and connection, we created a truly global choir called Fidelity Sings, which includes over 100 members from 11 locations across the globe.

We meet regularly on Zoom to practice with our choir director Peter Mannion. Peter is fantastic and sends out amazing learning aids for use at home. The choir members record audio and video on their smartphones, load the files onto a Dropbox location, and Peter & friends do the magic to create productions like "Happy".

Our choir members range in singing ability from the novice to the enthusiast, and the underlying ethos of the choir has always been to have fun while singing. The choir brings together people from all levels within the company, from various backgrounds and locations, and levels the playing field.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



GMIT Voices

Conductor: Sean Rowland

GMIT Voices, GMIT's workplace choir, was set up in February 2019 by Healthy Campus as a wellbeing initiative. All staff on the Galway campus were welcome to join and no auditions were held. Three weeks after starting up, Sean Rowland was appointed as Choir Director and we had choir practice twice weekly. Six weeks later, we won the newcomers section of the SCCUL Sanctuary Choir Factor competition.

GMIT Student Choir started in September 2019 as a collaboration between Healthy Campus and the Students Union. The talent in this choir was amazing with many students having come from a choral/musical background, half of whom were international students.

While both choirs were separate entities, they joined forces for fundraising events. Their charity single "Somewhere in my Memory" for Galway Hospice, reached number one in the Irish iTunes chart in December 2019. Both choirs were preparing for Choir Factor 2020 when Covid hit. Sean immediately upskilled and offered us the Virtual Choir experience. As a multi-campus IT, we now could include staff and students from all five campuses in choral activities. Our competition entry is our sixth virtual choir offering. Our seventh project will be a staff/student collaboration with our Connacht Ulster Alliance (CUA) partners, IT Sligo and Letterkenny IT in advance of joining forces as a Technical University in 2022. Our virtual choir projects consist of four zoom rehearsals, a google drive populated with lyrics, tutorial videos, mp3s and singalong videos. Sean does everything from start to finish, including the mixing and video production. Sean Rowland, Choir Director – Anita Mahony, Healthy Campus Co-Chair/GMIT Choirs Manager.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

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Guys & Dolls Quartet

Formed in 2016, 'Guys and Dolls' established themselves as a Barbershop quartet with their first performance launching them into success winning National Gold at the IABS (Irish Association of Barbershop singing) in October 2016. Currently the group holds their third National Gold with IABS after their win in October 2019 at the INEC, Killarney along with their third place prize in the SABS (Spanish Association of Barbershop) International Competition in 2017. All four members of 'Guys and Dolls' are proud graduates of the CIT Cork School of Music, Lorna Moore sings tenor, Serena tandley sings lead, Patrick D'Alton sings baritone and Daniel Beuster sings bass. The group have participated in numerous charity concerts as well as Lady Barblade's 'Goldrush Tour' in September 2019 and have been featured as performing artists in the Cork International Choral Festival selling out their first gig on the 'Festival Trail' in the Triskel Arts Centre. 2020 was a challenge for the group as they cancelled all of their anticipated gigs however, they rose to the challenge of remote rehearsals and have been enjoying recording together remotely as well as the opportunity to collaborate with other artists and try out other styles of acapella singing. The group are eager to return to the stage but will be working on remote recording plans throughout 2021.

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



HSE Harmonies Workplace Choir

Conductor: Eimear Crehan

HSE Harmonies Workplace Choir is part of the HSE Staff Health and Wellbeing Initiative. The development of workplace choirs in the HSE is a successful measure to promote staff health and wellbeing by increasing social engagement, boosting staff morale and improving mental wellbeing.

Our Choir have been singing together since October 2017 and loving every minute of it!!! We have a steady 25 members made up of HSE staff and retirees across all our Dublin South Kildare and West Wicklow Area Disciplines, Departments and Service Divisions such as Hospitals, Environmental Health, Health & Wellbeing, Social Care, Community Care, HR, Ambulance Services, HBS, Older Persons and Mental Health Services.

The choir has always been popular and well attended on our weekly rehearsals. The Covid-19 lockdown and restrictions was a challenge for us, as singers we could no longer gather together very Thursday to sing, chat, laugh and support each other in person, but that has not stopped us. Thanks to our wonderful director Eimear Crehan, we found a new way to come together, sing, connect and promote staff health and wellbeing from home via Zoom.

Though a very different experience we have created a great uplifting, fulfilling and sometimes hilarious, wellbeing experience from home. It has given us, as a choir, an opportunity to reflect and see why we continue to engage in this singing experience. The reason is clear... We really value this virtual choir at a time when we need connection more than ever. For us, singing together is so powerful in its ability to connect us to each other and the wider community. The joy we receive and hopefully give is immeasurable. It's a hugely emotional experience for us, doing what we all love, enjoying every second of our experience... together!! We hope that you enjoy our music!

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

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Ibec Workplace Choir

Conductor: Eimear Hurley

Ibec workplace choir brought 'harmony' to our work lives.

The workplace choir experience has been positive, fun and has crossed many boundaries in the organisation – across organisational regions in Ireland and our European offices, colleagues in various industry groups and all levels across the organisation.

Some experience and inexperienced singers joined forces to achieve a remarkable result in exceptional circumstances.

Weekly rehearsals were very well attended and enjoyable, with continuous banter (on chat bar) before, during and in between rehearsal sessions. The choir experience promoted social connectedness among employees and created positive energy among the group which will go beyond this initiative.

The excitement of the impending competition is building and there is great pride in what we have achieved in completing the preparation together for the competition.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



The Irish Times/Irish Examiner Group Choir

Conductor: Eimear Hurley

The Irish Times/Irish Examiner Group choir consists of staff across all the group titles including The Irish Times, Irish Examiner, The Echo, The Nationalist, Western People, Roscommon Herald and the Waterford News & Star. It is the first workplace choir in the group and has brought together colleagues from all over the country. Under the guidance of a very patient Chorus Mistress and over the course of 8 weeks, this group have been able to rehearse together without ever hearing each other's voices!

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



The Isobars

Conductor: Aoife Murray

The Met Éireann choir, 'The Isobars' was founded in early 2017 and is based at Met Éireann HQ in Glasnevin, Dublin. The choir is made up of staff from all over the organisation; from areas such as forecasting, hydrology, observations and research. Choir members are a mix of shift-working, 9 to 5 and retired staff which means it can be challenging to organise rehearsals to suit everyone! The choir's repertoire is comprised mostly of weather-related songs. Songs by the Beach Boys, The Stunning and AC/DC have all featured on the setlist. These have

BIOGRAPHIES

gone down a storm at various events such as the conference of the European Meteorological Society and the Workplace Choir of the Year Competition. In 2018 and 2019 the Isobars performed summer concerts at the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin and more recently contributed to the Met Éireann podcast. During the last year the choir has learned new songs online, rehearsed while socially distant outdoors (weather dependent of course) and recorded a very short carol recital on the steps of Met Éireann at Christmas. This is the choir's first virtual performance and members are delighted to be part of the Cork International Choral Festival. Musical director and choral nut, Aoife Murray, is a forecaster in the Forecast Division. When not playing musical instruments, accompanist, Dónal Black, works with meteorological instruments in the Observations Division.

We would like to dedicate this performance of 'Under Pressure' to our colleagues. We can't wait to sing karaoke with you all again soon.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



The Lambay Singers

Conductor: Ciarán Kelly

The Lambay Singers was established in Donabate in 1998. We are an SSAA chamber choir, under the direction of Ciarán Kelly and are based in Swords, Co Dublin. We rehearse on Thursday nights, moving to zoom in April 2020. Like every other choir, this created new challenges for us as we all got to grips with the technology and adapting to singing in a void. Having the weekly zoom rehearsals to look forward to has strengthened our choral bond and is one of the reasons why we chose this piece.

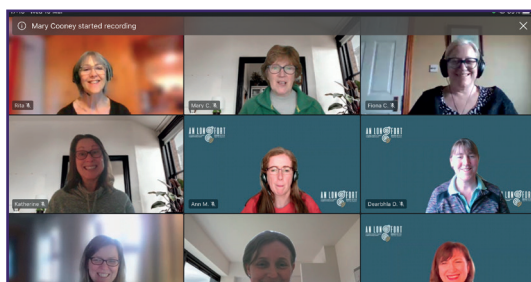
In recent years, the choir has gone from strength to strength. We performed in June 2019 in

Christchurch Cathedral with Michael McGlynn and a number of American Choirs. In October 2019, we embarked on our first overseas trip to Vienna, collaborating with Salto Vocale Choir. We rounded off the year with a performance in Dublin Castle and our annual Carols in Dublin Airport. Our repertoire is ever changing and eclectic. We work hard in rehearsals and strive for excellence and our choir has an active social side. This is our first foray into the world of Choral Competitions and we are excited to participate. We look forward to when we can come together to sing again.

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Longford Council Choir

Conductor: Saoirse Daly

In early 2020 we had started discussions and were working towards the establishment of a workplace choir in Longford County Council. However, our plans were shelved at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic in March of that year.

You can imagine how excited we were when we saw the programme devised by Cork International Choral Festival giving workplaces a chance to form a company choir through online interactive music lessons – not only because it gave us a chance to realise the formation of a choir but particularly because this was a fresh and positive opportunity for us to engage our employees and councillors and to reach out to our retired colleagues at a time when many of us were experiencing loneliness in the midst of Level 5 restrictions.

We craved the social interaction normally associated with the workplace and firmly believed in the benefits of music and singing to our mental and physical health & wellbeing.

BIOGRAPHIES

The virtual choir experience has played an important role in improving social interaction in our workplace and without knowing we have learned, benefited and blossomed over the past few weeks.

Membership of Longford's Council Choir is open to all current and retired employees and elected members, and though we are newly formed we now have a firm foundation on which we plan to build and develop as we sing together in friendship and joy. We look forward to a bright future for Longford Council Choir.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

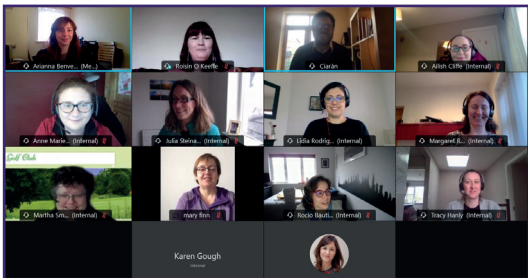
Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

new, through their professional and interactive workshops, in this unprecedented time.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



MTU Staff Choir

Conductor: Robin Pender

The MTU Staff Choir was formed on the Bishopstown Campus in 2014 with the aim of having a small choir that would rehearse regularly and allow an easy-going social outlet for members of staff. The choir comprises staff members (past and present!) from various departments in MTU, and has gone from strength to strength over the intervening years. The group has now built up a busy calendar, performing regularly at events on campus, (particularly at Christmas, when the choir can be heard from all over) and is delighted to have added non-competitive performances at Cork Choral Festival in recent years. The choir's presence can also be felt in the community, where the group sings each year at a local retirement home. The MTU Staff Choir is graciously supported by the MTU Arts Office.

The choir's dedicated members meet during lunch every Tuesday from September to June, and are directed by MTU alumnus Robin Pender.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

Medical DeVoices

Conductor: Ciarán Kelly

Cook Medical is a family owned business that employs more than 10,000 people around the world. Cook invents, manufactures and delivers a unique portfolio of minimally invasive medical devices to healthcare systems globally. Cook Medical has been in Limerick since 1993, with a workforce of over 800. Cook's Choir, 'Medical DeVoices', is an employee-based choir that was formed in 2019. In the beginning, employees of the company voted for the name 'Medical DeVoices', a humorous pun that both suits the choir while also reflecting the work Cook does. An external choir conductor was hired to conduct weekly choir practices and to lead the choir to greatness! The choir took off with tremendous success, performing onsite over the Christmas period, as well as at our annual company Gala. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Cook's choir had to be put on hold for a period of time. The Choirworks programme offered a new, fun way to engage Cook's colleagues, and choir members old and

BIOGRAPHIES



The NUIG Choral Society

Conductor: Stephen Carroll

The NUIG Choral Society is one of the longest running societies in NUI Galway, established in 1967. The NUIG Choral Society is a non-auditioned choir open to all students in NUI Galway. The NUIG Choral Society is run by a student led committee and the choir is conducted by Stephen Carroll founder of the Claddagh School of Music, Galway. The NUIG Choral Society has previously performed in the Cork International Choral Festival and held a sold-out Christmas concert at St. Nicholas Collegiate Church in November 2019. In July 2020, choral members performed 'Down by the Salley Gardens' on a Galway Hooker Sailing Boat down in the Galway Docks. The NUIG Choral Society has adapted to an online virtual experience since the global pandemic struck in March 2020. Singing together with members in NUI Galway has brought back an element of connection amongst students which they may have lost through online learning. The choral society has been actively involved with weekly rehearsals on Zoom and recording from their home. In December 2020, we held our first virtual Christmas concert and submitted to fantastic pieces of music, 'Let it Snow' by Kirby Shaw and 'Don Oíche' by Gerard Gillen, all available on YouTube. In March 2021, the NUIG Choral Society released their rendition of 'My Own Dear Galway Bay' arranged by Pierce Cullen which achieved great viewership. We are extremely looking forward to participating in the Cork international Choral Festival 2021 amid these unforeseen circumstances.

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



OLV Gospel Choir

Conductor: Ciara Murphy

OLV Gospel Choir is a group of young people who aim to communicate an inspiring message of hope and joy through their music. The choir was formed in 2007 by Kevin Kelly and was directed by Ciaran Coll for ten years. In 2019, Ciara Murphy became the choir director. The OLV Gospel Choir sing every Sunday evening at mass in Our Lady of Victories Church, Ballymun Road, Dublin.

The choir have participated in many competitions, including choral festivals at New Ross, Navan and Sligo, and they last came to the Cork Choral Festival in 2013. As well as competitions, they have enjoyed performing at a variety of events, concerts and fundraisers, and travelling to perform in different cities, including Vienna, London and Nice.

In 2018 they recorded their first album, a collection of their favourite songs called "One Love". Every year the choir produce a showcase concert of inspiring music and reflections known as "Voices of Hope".

As part of the choir's celebration of 10 years together, they travelled to Rome to sing at the Vatican City in 2018. This same year they performed a 10 year celebration concert at the Button Factory in Dublin. Another highlight of 2018 was when the choir sang for Pope Francis in the Pro-Cathedral, Dublin as he held a meeting with engaged and newly-married couples.

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

BIOGRAPHIES



Scrubs Workplace Choir

Conductor: Patrick D'Alton

Formed in 2015, Scrubs is comprised of around 60 staff members (current, former and retired) from CUH, CUMH, UCC Dental School & Hospital and the Acute Mental Health Unit. Prior to the Covid-19 restrictions our choir had a very busy schedule performing at hospital events such as the Christmas Carol Service, graduation ceremonies, Culture Night, memorial services and outside of the hospital environment in HSE and many charity events. We have particularly enjoyed participating in the Cork International Choral Festival over the last few years. With a couple of TV and radio appearances under our belt, we participated in the Vienna International Choral Festival in 2018. For the past year we have all worked hard to keep our choir together in the midst of the global pandemic and have used Zoom to rehearse weekly. We look forward to resuming live performances as soon as it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we hope that you enjoy our video!

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



St Kevin's Workplace Choir

Conductor: Eimear Crehan

St Kevin's Workplace Choir was established in

January 2021 to offer the staff an opportunity to meet in a social setting, albeit online!!! Our director, Eimear Crehan, joined the staff at St Kevin's in September 2020 as a teacher, and it was a great chance for the staff to benefit from her passion for sharing singing with the world as a means for deepening connection and strengthening community.

It has been wonderful to share a bit of time each week connecting with each other, learning new skills and creating music together.

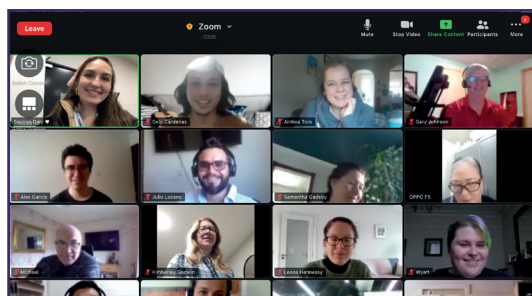
Working in St Kevin's is more than just teaching students. It's about seeing our students in more than an academic light. We are a small tight knit school community and as a result of this we get to experience the True Colours of each and every one of our students.

We hope that you enjoy our music!

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Telus International Global Voices

Conductor: Saoirse Daly

TELUS International Global Voices is as international as its name, with members all over the world - Ireland, UK, US, Canada, Guatemala, El Salvador, Romania, Bulgaria and The Philippines. TI is a global company, headquartered in Canada with over 30,000 employees worldwide. While a number of the locations in TELUS International have a strong musical tradition, this choir would have never been created without the CICF's online competition this year. Previously the Cork-based teams have formed a Christmas Choir each year

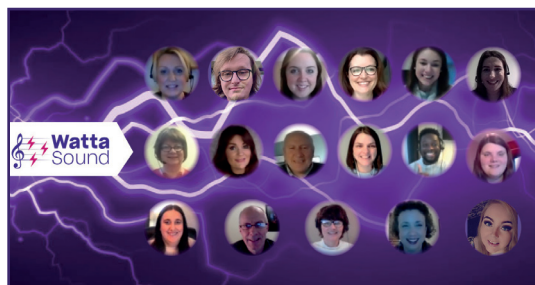
BIOGRAPHIES

to raise funds for charities like Pieta House. In The Philippines, the TELUS International Chorale has been in existence since 2010 and has grown every year since then. Now, team members from nine locations are taking part in Global Voices, regardless of timezone or country. Our members range from first-time choir members to accomplished singers and musicians and everywhere in between, united by a love of music and singing.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Watta Sound!

Conductor: Ben Jacob

Energia Group are proud to enter the IBEC Workplace Choir of the Year competition.

Employee Wellbeing is key at Energia Group and we are delighted that we have been able to start an online choir to keep spirits up during lockdown. Our employees are based across the island of Ireland and this has been a fun initiative that has helped us all keep in touch. Creating a workplace choir has been a great experience and we would encourage other companies to take part next year.

About Energia Group:

We are a modern customer-centric utility focusing on renewable technology. Delivering optimal customer solutions is everything to us. As a result, we are committed to our customers and trusted by thousands of homes and businesses throughout Ireland to meet their needs in an evolving energy environment.

Innovation is critically important to us. To date we have invested over €1 billion in the energy market across the island of Ireland. Focusing on our core segments: Renewables, Flexible Generation and

Customer Solutions, has further reinforced our position as a key player within the energy industry and one of Ireland's Top 50 businesses.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 3.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



WIT Youth Choir

Conductor: Niall Crowley

The WIT Youth Choir is widely regarded as one of the foremost youth choirs in Ireland. The choir is made up of singers aged 13-18 from secondary schools throughout the South East. Highlights to date have included performances at Carnegie Hall, New York and prizes at international festivals in Poland, Belgium, Slovakia and the Czech Republic.

The WIT Youth Choir has also won many awards at choral festivals in Ireland. It has the accolade of winning the National Competition for Youth Choirs at the Cork International Choral Festival on each of their last five visits and was titled 'National Choir of the Year' at the Navan Choral Festival in 2016 – the first youth choir to ever win this prestigious award.

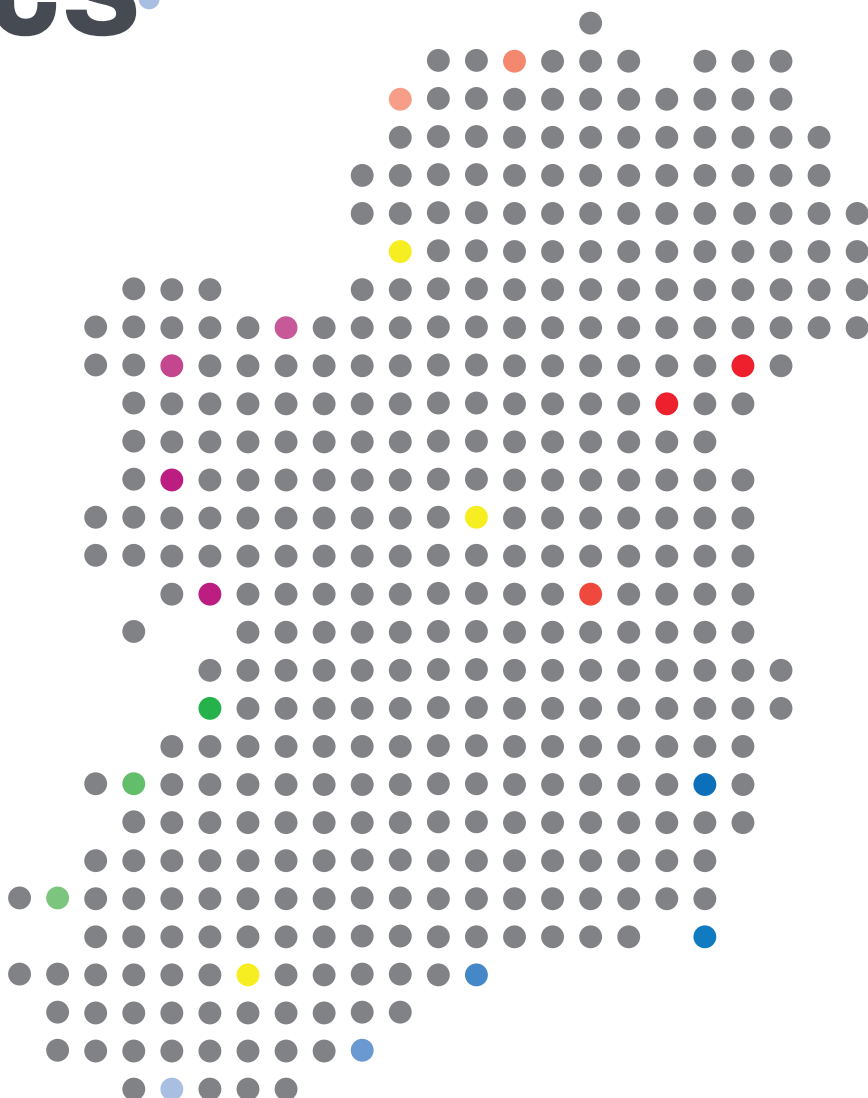
Past members have gone on to study music at third level and have received choral scholarships to various universities in Ireland and the UK. Many more have gone on to sing in some of Ireland's leading professional, collegiate and amateur choirs and have featured in prestigious choirs such as the Irish Youth Choir, Eurochoir and World Youth Choir.

With the arrival of the Covid-19 pandemic, the choir members have continued to develop their love for choral music by rehearsing weekly via Zoom. They are really looking forward to the time when they can sing together again!

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 5.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



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NATIONAL NON-COMPETITIVE CHOIRS



The Al Cappellas, The Graduate Chorus of St Als Carrigtwohill

Conductor: Lorena Gillard

COVID 19 prevented the Graduates of 2020 from graduating St Aloysius College in person, some of the graduates said they felt like they'd never left. So was born our graduate chorus. We rehearse weekly on zoom and most of all try to have fun. The chorus is open to past pupils and teaching staff of the college. Remotely we've managed to partake in the schools Annual Carol Service and are currently collaborating with the extra curricular school chorus "The ABCs" on a virtual recording to celebrate the start of the Easter holidays. We look forward with great excitement to an in person rehearsal and all the perks that will bring, the cuppa, the chats and the laughs.

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 6.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



The Bella Donnas, St Aloysius College Carrigtwohill 5th year choir

Conductor: Lorena Gillard

The Bella Donnas are the talented 5th year students who have continued choir for Senior Cycle at St Aloysius College Carrigtwohill. Usually they would be on hand to celebrate and enhance every school event with music. They've proved the show must go on by rehearsing at home, outdoors, online and making recordings for Mental Health week, our annual Carol service and the Cork Choral Festival. These ladies would have shared the City Hall stage in Third year and hope to get there again in Sixth year.

When & Where

Saturday 1st May, 6.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Dulciana Vocal Ensemble

Conductor: Judith Lyons

Founded in January 2015 by Eoghan Desmond and Judith Lyons, Dulciana is a chamber choir committed to performing the very best in music for upper voices from across the ages. Since its very inception, part of Dulciana's mission has been the promotion of music by female composers, both those neglected by history, and those currently making history. This first manifested itself in the form of a concert consisting entirely of music by female composers – five pieces written for Dulciana by composers based in Dublin, alongside music by Rebecca Clarke and Imogen Holst. The following year, on International Women's Day, they launched a call for scores for music by emerging female composers. Some months later Dulciana received over 80 scores from around the world, including Jennifer Jolly's Prisoner of Conscience, based on the highly controversial Pussy Riot trials, which they premiered in Ireland as part of the Kaleidoscope concert series. They are also firm supporters of contemporary Irish composers, and

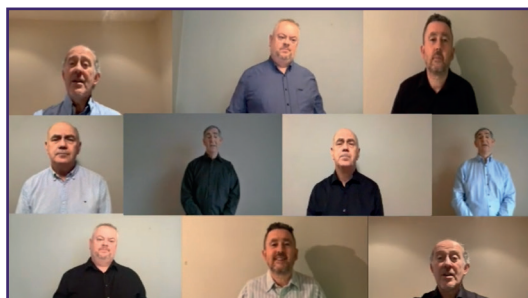
BIOGRAPHIES

alongside many pieces by female Irish composers they have also premiered works by Eoghan Desmond, Seán Doherty and Jonathan Nangle. Recent performances and accolades include collaborations with multi-instrumentalist and composer Dowry, percussionist Maeve O'Hara and First Prize in the Female Equal Voice Category at the Derry International Choral Festival 2019.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 6.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



The Music Men

Conductor: Lorena Gillard

COVID 19 prevented the Graduates of 2020 from graduating St Aloysius College in person, some of the graduates said they felt like they'd never left. So was born our graduate chorus. We rehearse weekly on zoom and most of all try to have fun. The chorus is open to past pupils and teaching staff of the college. Remotely we've managed to partake in the schools Annual Carol Service and are currently collaborating with the extra curricular school chorus "The ABCs" on a virtual recording to celebrate the start of the Easter holidays. We look forward with great excitement to an in person rehearsal and all the perks that will bring, the cuppa, the chats and the laughs.

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 6.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Glaslinn Choir

Conductor: Antoinette Baker

The Glaslinn Choir is a female voice Community Choir. It is based in Bandon, Co Cork but its 35 members come from all over the West Cork area. The Choir performs at many recitals and fundraising events and has raised tens of thousands of euro for charities over the years. The Glaslinn Choir also participates in choral festivals and competitions and has enjoyed success in recent years at Feis Maitiú, AIMS Choral Festival and Kenmare Choral Festival. It has also participated in choral festivals in Vienna, Berlin and Amsterdam. In 2019 the Choir celebrated its 50th birthday and marked the occasion with a gala charity concert in Bandon in May which was a great success. Since the start of the pandemic, the Choir members have kept in touch through Zoom and WhatsApp and also produced 3 virtual videos which were a great learning experience. However they are very much looking forward to meeting up in real life and singing together once more.

When & Where

Thursday 29th April, 6.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Presentation Ballyphehane Transition Year Choir

Conductor: Olivia Forde

Presentation Secondary School has a very strong choral tradition and has regularly participated in the Cork International Choral festival, under the direction of Ms Anne Dunphy. The choir has won

BIOGRAPHIES

numerous awards, including the John Cunningham Trophy for best school choir of the festival. It is widely renowned for its historic double victory in the All-Island School Choir Competition in 2010 and 2013 which was broadcast live on RTE.

Presentation Secondary School Transition Year Choir was formed as part of the TY arts and culture program, under the direction of Ms Olivia Forde. As part of the course, the girls were preparing to put on a production of songs from the hit musical Mamma Mia. Due to current restrictions, they have not been able to proceed with rehearsals and submitted their recordings of this particular track during lockdown. They are hoping to resume rehearsals for this on their return to school.

When & Where

Friday 30th April, 6.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal



Feis Maitiu on several occasions, Navan Choral Festival, Aims Choral Festival, Limerick Church Music Festival, and in like manner, 1st prizewinners again at Feis Maitiu upholding their winning tradition in 2019 and 2020. At Cork International Choral Festival, they have been 1st prize winners on 5 occasions and as recently as 2017 and 2018. On November 25th 2018, 'THE VOICES' performed Michael Haydn's Missa sub titulo Sancti Leopoldi and Hasse's Miserere in D Minor, Mozart's Lacrymosa, Ave Verum, Veni Sancte Spiritus and Laudate Dominum. In May 2019, they performed 20th /21st Century songs of the British Isles and Rutter's Dancing Day Song Cycle of Traditional Carols with Harpist Anne Marie Papin and Pianist Susan Mannion O'Brien. In November 2019, they performed Monteverdi Beatus Vir and Messe de Minuit by Charpentier, accompanist Ian Sexton.

Repertoire is varied and ranges from secular, sacred, classical to contemporary. A fun-loving highly committed group, who pride themselves in high vocal standards, colourful performance and great entertainment. Their conductor is Mary Pedder Daly

When & Where

Sunday 2nd May, 6.00pm

Facebook, YouTube & Virtual Event Portal

The Voices

Conductor: Mary Daly

'THE VOICES' a female group, based in Killeagh, Co. Cork, are part of the SATB Killeagh Choir which was formed 24 years ago. They have travelled extensively both at home and abroad, during the past 20 years with great success and have performed on RTE Television on 2 occasions for broadcasts of RTE Mass. Also, they have successfully collaborated with many other groups, choirs and orchestras and annually perform for charitable causes. Performances of The Pirates of Penzance, The Mikado, Vivaldi's Gloria, Handel's Messiah, Brahms Vier Gesänge Fur Frauëncor, Britten's Ceremony of Carols, Karl Jenkins 'Armed Man' Mass of Peace are among their many highly rated works and have performed Bach Cantata 147, Saint Saëns Christmas Oratorio in 2018. They also had great achievements in the past number of years, being 1st prizewinners at Cork's own



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