



PROGRAM

Grieg International Choir Festival

Syng For Oss

Bergen, 16 - 19 June 2016

SYNG FOR OSS
LANDSDEKKENDE KORKONKURRANSE

GRIEG
INTERNATIONAL
CHOIR
FESTIVAL

NORGES
kor
forbund • hordaland

GRIEG FOUNDATION


HORDALAND
FYLKESKOMMUNE


BERGEN KOMMUNE



Foto: Hans Jørgen Brun

IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU ALL TO THE BEAUTIFUL CITY OF BERGEN, AND TO THE GRIEG INTERNATIONAL CHOIR FESTIVAL.

The fact that Edvard Grieg's name is connected to the festival makes it very special for the city. We are pleased to see that the interest for the art of Edvard Grieg still is alive - both among researchers and performing musicians. He was and still is, one of our greatest composers in the history of Norway and Bergen.

Bergen is a cultural city, with a vital environment for amateurs as well as professionals, with high quality in all genres and with strong international networks. The city is also proud to offer a diversity of choirs that offers different genres. Recently, I read a research article that documented that when people sing together in a choir their heart rhythm's synchronies. Isn't that fascinating? It has been a known fact for a long time that singing helps you with depressions and anxiety. So maybe the world needs to sing a little bit more. I can see from the schedule that this competition is going to be busy days for you, but I am sure you are all very well prepared. With these words, let me wish you all good luck with the competition and I hope you will get memorable days in Bergen, rich in experiences and rich of memories. I also hope that you will have time to see and use our beautiful city during your stay.

Marte Mjøs Persen, Mayor of Bergen



WELCOME TO SINGERS, CHOIRS AND CONDUCTORS TO COMPETITIONS AND CONCERTS IN BERGEN.

This year is special. The Norwegian competition located in Bergen, "Syng For Oss" with roots back to 1987 are joining forces with the 5. Grieg International Choir Festival and the 3. NINA Solo Competition – for young voices. We are very happy to welcome 25 choirs for choir competitions and 20 young singers for the solo competition. This year we will share venues. This will give you all an even greater opportunity to create friendship and cultural understanding during your stay in Bergen. For all choirs it is important with development and at all times improve quality. When we reach new goals it gives us a great sense of achievement. We hope and believe that all of you will experience many great musical moments and social gatherings. We hope this stay in Bergen will be enjoyable and give you many good memories, and hopefully we can welcome you back on other occasions!



Liv Oda Dale, chairman of the Board of Norwegian Choir Association, Hordaland
Cecilie Lycke, chairman of the Board of Grieg International Choir Festival

Contents

7

PROGRAM
Thursday 16th june

8

PROGRAM
Friday 17th June

10

PROGRAM
Saturday 18th June

14

PROGRAM
Sunday 19th June

15

ADJUDICATORS

18

**PARTICIPATING
CHOIRS**

Time schedule

THURSDAY 16TH JUNE

19.00 Competition: Sacred Music (GIK)
Venue: Bergen Domkirke

FRIDAY 17TH JUNE

17.00 Competition: Folk Music (GIK)
Venue: Grieghallen

19.00 Competition: Åpen Klasse (SFO)
Venue: Grieghallen

19.00 Concert
Venue: St. Jakob Kirke

SATURDAY 18TH JUNE

10.00 Competition: Damekor (SFO)
Venue: Grieghallen

11.00 Competition: Mannskor (SFO)
Venue: Grieghallen

11.30 Competition: Blandakor (SFO)
Venue: Grieghallen

14.00 Competition: Contemporary Music (GIK)
Venue: Grieghallen

15.00 Competition: Ungdomskor (SFO)
Venue: Grieghallen

16.00 Concert
Venue: Foajé Grieghallen

19.00 Grand Prix Finale for choirs, and
finale NINA Solo competition.
Venue: Grieghallen

SUNDAY 19TH JUNE

14.00 Concert
Venue: Johanneskirken

Thursday 16th June

19.00 COMPETITION: SACRED MUSIC (GIK)
VENUE: BERGEN DOMKIRKE

ONDRASEK CZECH YOUTH CHOIR

Conductor: Josef Zajicek / August Seiss

Pueri Hebraeorum	Giovanni Perluigi da Palestrina
Pater Noster	Vaclav Ptacek
Salve Regina	Javier Busto
Eatnemen Vuelie	Frode Fjellheim Joseph / August Seiss
De Angelis	Petr Eben

OS VOCALIS

Conductor: Eirin Beate Åserud-Løvlid

Salve Regina	Javier Busto
Miserere	Eva Ugalde
Fred	Henrik Lyssand / Einar Skjæraasen

VOKALGRUPPEN YR

Menneske går til Gud	Eilert Tøsse / Dietrich Bonhoeffer
“Gloria” fra Missa Brevis	K. Nystedt
Zum Abendsegen	F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
Jesus, la mitt hjerte lenges	arr. H. M. Græsvold

MIXED CHOIR “BURTNIEKS”

Conductor: Egils Lipsans

Alleluia	Ralph Manuel
Oculus non vidit	Rihards Dubra
Northern Lights	Ola Gjeilo

FOLLESØ MANNSKOR

Conductor: Annlaug Hus

I will greatly rejoice	K. Nystedt
Ubi Caritas	Ola Gjeilo
Brīvība (Freedom)	Ēriks Ešenvalds
Beati Mortui	F. Mendelssohn Bartholdy

OLE BULL KAMMERKOR

Conductor: Jon Flydal Blichfeldt

Peace I Leave With You	K. Nystedt / Joh 14:27
Neslandskyrkja	K. Nystedt / M.B.Landstad
Pater Noster	Jósef Swider

LA CAPELLA

Conductor: Tony Margeta

Ave Maria	Dino Stella
Fear thou not	Mårten Jansson / Isiah 41:10
Lauda Sion	György Orbán / St. Thomas Aquinas

PADEREWSKI CHAMBER CHOIR

Conductor: Marek Gandecki

Gaudeamus omnes	Marek Raczynski
Sing to the Lord	Katarzyna Danel / Psalm 95
The Conversion of Saul	Z. Randall Stroepe

Friday 17th June

17.00 COMPETITION: FOLK MUSIC (GIK)
VENUE: GRIEGHALLEN

VIVA SANDNES KULTURSKOLEKOR

Conductor: Liv Hugstmyr Særheim

Nordlys fra “Norske Samiske Sanger”	Frode Fjellheim
Ty hvezdicko mala	Jiri Laburda
African celebration	Stephen Hatfield

VOKALENSEMBLET MULTA PAUCIS

Conductor: Mikael Hedne

Neslandskyrkja	Magnus Brostrup Landstad, arr. K. Nystedt
Nu solen går ned	Samuel Olsen Bruun, arr. Grete Pedersen
Se, hvor klarner det nu opp på jorden	Hans Adolph Brorson, arr. Henrik Ødegaard

CANTILENA

Conductor: Bjørn Boge

Vé no velkomna med æra	Geirr Tveit / Håkon Berge
Eg veit ei himmerik ei borg	Ludvig Nielsen / oversatt av Bernt Støylen
Jeg lagde meg så silde	Bjørn Kruse
Pål sine hønur	K. Nystedt

ONDRASEK CZECH YOUTH CHOIR

Conductor: Josef Zajicek

Ta Moravská Braná	Otmar Mácha
Honzickovi	Dobroslav Lidmila
Ej Lásko, Lásko	Milan Uherek
Mila moja	Mirolav Raichl
Venecek	Zdeněk Lukas

CORDA

Conductor: Eirin Beate Åserud-Løvlid

Kafal sviri	Petar Liondev / Tanya Parvanova
Visa från Utanmyra	Carl Bertil Agnestic / Olof von Dalin
Bendik og Árolilja	Jens Bugge Olsen

MIXED CHOIR “BURTNIEKS”

Conductor: Egils Lipsans

Es gulu, gulu (I sleep)	Arijs Skepasts
Put, vejini! (Blow wind)	Imants Ramins
Janits kura uguntinu (Janis set fire)	Andris Kontauts

19.00 CONCERT

VENUE: ST. JAKOB KIRKE

PARTICIPATING CHOIRS

Kor e Vi
La Cappella
Vokalgruppen YR
Mixed Choir “Burtnieks”

19.00 COMPETITION: ÅPEN KLASSE (SFO)

VENUE: GRIEGHALLEN

KORALL

Conductor: Chris Lund

White Winter Hymnal	Robin Pecknold, arr. Alan Billingsley
Dains med dæ	Åge Aleksandersen, arr. Lars Henrik Morset
Evolution of Music	Pentatonix, arr. Chris Lund

OSTERØYKORET

Conductor: Jon Flydal Blichfeldt

Somebody to Love	Freddy Mercury, arr. Tom Grondman
Both Sides Now	Joni Mitchell, arr. John Coates jr.
Burning Love	Dennis Linde, arr. Kirby Shaw

SKALA OPERAKOR

Conductor: Hedda Bakker

Vot tak surpriz fra "Eugen Onegin"	Pjotr Tsjaikovskij / Konstantin Sjilovskij
Patria oppressa fra "Macbeth"	G. Verdi / Francesco Maria Piave, Andrea Maffei
Fuoco di gioia fra "Otello"	G. Verdi / Arrigo Boito

SKEDSMO VOICES VOKALENSEMBLE

Conductor: Ingrid Danbolt

Announcement 1, 2 and 3	Jaakko Mäntyjärvi
Nature Boy	Eden Ahbez / A. Edenroth
Alle prater	A. Edenroth / Hanne Asheim, Ingrid Danbolt

STUDINEKORET SIRENE

Conductor: Amalie Skarsgaard

Settle down	Kimbra / Christine Wilhelmsen
Kjedelig	No4 /Amalie Skarsgaard
Hvorfor kysser alle Solveig	Lill-Arne Söderberg/ Christine Wilhelmsen

VOLVE VOKAL

Conductor: Gro Espedal

Mannen og Kråka	Trad., arr. L. Morset
Wisdom Cries	A. Aksnes, arr. T. M. Sjule, Volve Vokal
Doin' My Own Little Thing	P. Jabara, S. Schaffer arr. Å. Haferman, A. Cadario, T. M. Sjule

Saturday 18th June

10.00 COMPETITION: DAMEKOR (SFO)
VENUE: GRIEGHALLEN

CORONA

Conductor: Irene Simonsen

Stundom e' mi kjering så god arr. Henrik Ødegaard
My Funny Valentine R. Rodgers / L. Hart,
 arr. Kirby Shaw
I got rhythm George & Ira Gershwin,
 arr. Ward Swingle

OS VOCALIS

Conductor: Eirin Beate Åserud-Løvlid

My true love hath my heart John Rutter /
 Sir Philip Sidney
To Night Tine Grieg Viig /
 Charlotte Smith
Kafal sviri Petar Liondev /
 Tanya Parvanova

VOKALENSEMBLET MULTA PAUCIS

Conductor: Mikael Hedne

No, Music A. Nordheim/P. B. Shelley
Hide and Seek I. Heap / arr. K. Håvik
Shells K. Nystedt /
 Kathleen Raine

STUDINEKORET SIRENENE

Conductor: Amalie Skarsgaard

Ikkje vekk meg kjære når S. O. Hyttebakk /
du går A. C. Roggen / Hovland
Butterfly Mia Makarof / omarr. av
 Amalie Skarsgaard
Skyfall Adele / Paul Edworth

CORSONUS

Conductor: Iris Kristine Tangen Nanseth

All of me John Legend / Mark De-
Roar Lissier
 Perry / Gottwald / Martin,
 McKee /Walter / Sharon
Amazing Grace Newton / Tomlin / Giglio
 /McKay Evanse

11.00 COMPETITION: MANNSKOR (SFO)
VENUE: GRIEGHALLEN

BERGEN MANNSKOR

Conductor: Jon Flydal Blichfeldt

I midnattsolen Alf Wold / Sture Odd
Prayer of the children Kurt Bestor / A. S. Klouse
Soon-Ah Will Be Done William L. Dawson

FOLLESØ MANNSKOR

Conductor: Annlaug Hus

Skjenkarsveinen David Monrad Johansen
Olaf Trygvason F. A. Reissiger
That Lonesome Road James Taylor,
 arr. S. Carrington
Irish Blessing Langanger, adpt. Vaughn

11.30 COMPETITION: BLANDAKOR (SFO)

VENUE: GRIEGHALLEN

KOR É TONEN

Conductor: Inger-Lise Møen

Bogoróditse Djévo	Arvo Pärt
In My Life	Lennon / McCartney / arr. R. Emerson
Kjærringa møt strømmen	Else Berntsen Aas / fritt etter P. Chr. Asbjørnsen

CANTILENA

Conductor: Bjørn Boge

Jauchzet dem Herrn	Felix Mendelssohn- Bartholdy
Oh Happy Eyes	Edward Elgar / A. Elgar
Salve Regina	Francis Poulenc
O, mistress mine	György Orbán / William Shakespeare

KOR E' VI

Conductor: Belinda Lerøy

Glaspolskan	Ale Möller / Trad.
Ubi Caritas	Ola Gjeilo
Lasciate mi morire	Claudio Monteverdi
Laudate	K. Nystedt

CHORUS EGRSUND

Conductor: Bernhard Kielland

Keep your lamps!	arr. Andre Thomas
April is my Mistress' face	Thomas Morley
Sommerpsalm	Waldemar Åhlén / Carl-David af Wirsén

FJELLKORET

Conductor: Ann Elisabeth Tveit

En solskinnsdag	Arna Hurlen, arr. Ivar Krogh Hovd
Birds	Ola Bremnes, arr. Arne Dagsvik
The drunken sailor	arr. Robert Sund

OSTERØYKORET

Conductor: Jon Flydal Blichfeldt

Nøringen	arr. Frank Havrøy
Herre Jesus gi meg nåde	arr. Bjarne Sløgedal
All about the bass	Kevin Kadish / Meghan Trainor
Wade in the Water	Negro Spiritual

14.00 COMPETITION: CONTEMPORARY**MUSIC (GIK)****VENUE: GRIEGHALLEN****15.00 COMPETITION: UNGDOMSKOR (SFO)****VENUE: GRIEGHALLEN****LA CAPELLA****Conductor: Tony Margeta**

Even when he is silent	Kim André Arnesen / anonymous
The Hymn of Axiom	Vienna Teng, arr. Henrik Dahlgren
Pseudo-Yoik Lite	Jaakko Mäntyjärvi

OLE BULL KAMMERKOR**Conductor: Jon Flydal Blichfeldt**

Darkness Cannot Drive	Tord Kalvenes /
Out Darkness	Martin Luther King Jr.
Virgencita	Arvo Pärt

PADEREWSKI CHAMBER CHOIR**Conductor: Marek Gandecki**

Jubilate Deo	Fredrik Sixten
Come Sleep	D. Brinsmead / J. Fletcher
Kalinda	Sydney Guillaume / Gabriel T. Guillaume

VOLVE VOKAL**Conductor: Gro Espedal**

Miserere	E. Ugalde
Løft meg kun bort	P. Nørgård / H. C. Andersen
Eingong	K. Nystedt / Å. M. Nesse

CORDA**Conductor: Eirin Beate Åserud-Løvliid**

Kveldssang for Blakken	E. Grieg / Nordahl Rolfsen
The Silver Swan	O. Gibbons / E. H. Fellowes
Even when he is silent	Kim André Arnesen / anonymous
Gud, låt solen skina	Georg Riedel / Trad.

SKEDSMO VOICES VOKALENSEMBLE**Conductor: Ingrid Danbolt**

Folketoneimprovisasjon	
Run to you	Bram / Grassi / Høyning/
Voices 2	Kaplan/Maldonado/Olusola

VIVA SANDNES KULTURSKOLEKOR**Conductor: Liv Hugstmyr Særheim**

Jeg er verdens lys	K. Nystedt / Bibelen
Eatnemen Vuelie	Frode Fjellheim
Son de la Loma	M. Matamoros / C. Monier

16.00 CONCERT

VENUE: FOAJÉ GRIEGHALLEN

PARTICIPATING CHOIRS

Skala Operakor

Ondrasek Czech Youth Choir

Skedsmo voices

VIVA Sandnes kulturskolekor

19.00 GRAND PRIX FINALE FOR CHOIRS, AND FINALE NINA SOLO COMPETITION VENUE: GRIEGHALLEN

The contestants will be chosen by the jury from the participating choirs in Syng for oss and Grieg International Choir competition, together with three finalists from Nina Solo competition.

Sunday 19th June

11.00 CHURCH SERVICE

VENUE: JOHANNESKIRKEN

PARTICIPATING CHOIR

Ondracek Czech Youth Choir

14.00 CONCERT

VENUE: JOHANNESKIRKEN

PARTICIPATING CHOIRS

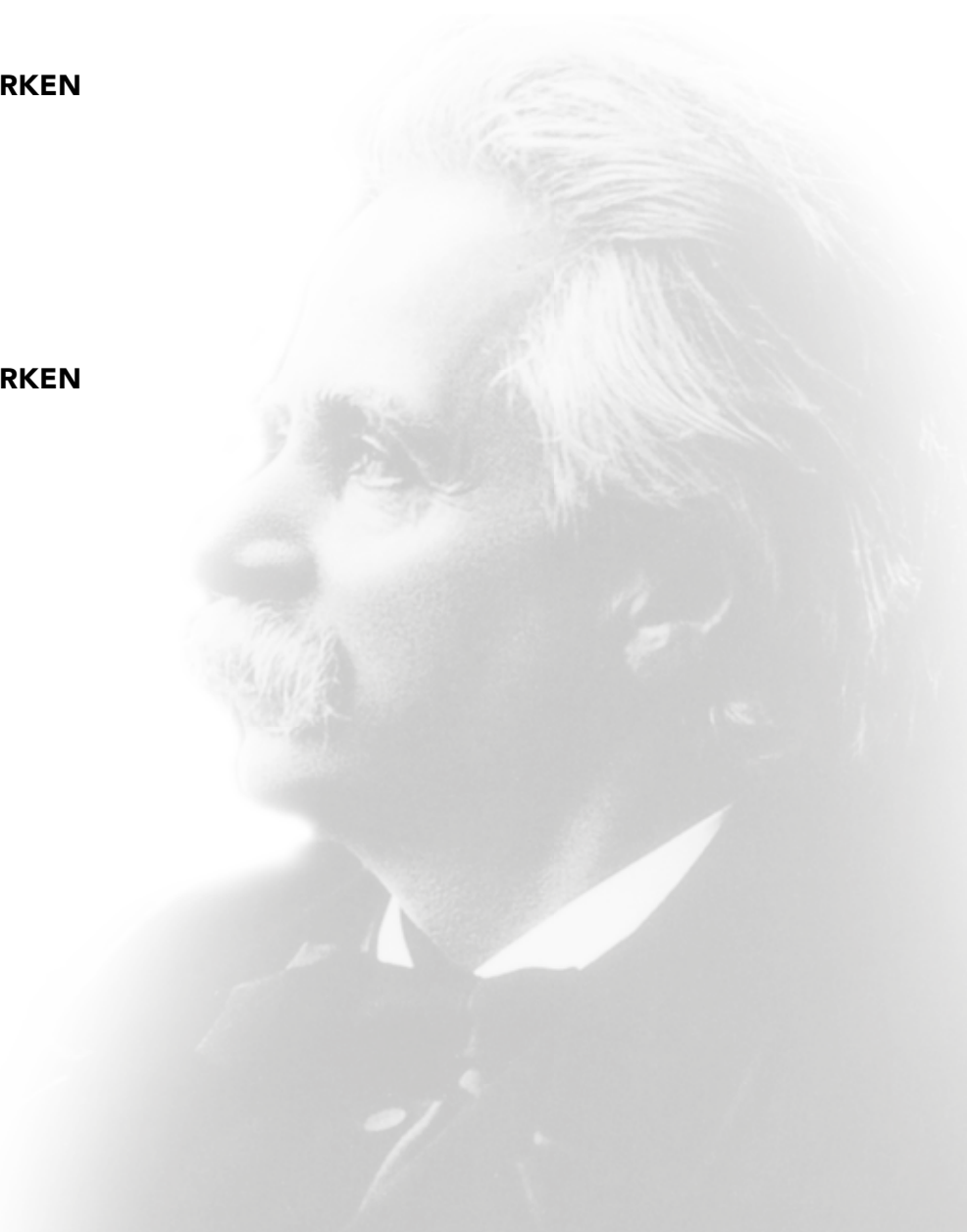
Cantilena

Multa Paucis

Bergen Mannskor

Corde

Paderewski Chamber Choir



Adjudicators



MARGRETHE EK - NORWAY

Margrethe Ek from Norway, started conducting at the age of 14. Ek studied music for eight years, including master in singing, an education in music performance and presentation, and a diploma in conducting from the Norwegian Academy of Music. She has written a book of the health benefits of singing in a choir (Cantando 2012). An article of choir and health benefits are to be published in the bulletin of international federation of choral music (IFCM april 2014). Ek currently works as a professor in Kirkeparken high school. She has previously worked at the University of Oslo within the subjects of song and conduction for 11 years. Being a conductor filled with energy and dynamic presentations, she has conducted several ensembles at high levels within several genres – both choirs and instrumental ensembles (symphony orchestras and wind ensembles). Ek's different ensembles have often been seen on national TV and radio, and they have participated in choir contests at international levels with great results. Margrethe Ek has been acknowledged as both a lecturer and a visiting conductor for both businesses and musical ensembles in Norway. She is often invited to be a judge in both national and international choir contests. Today Margrethe Ek is the conductor of Moss Ensemble Consensus, founded in 2010.



TERJE KVAM - NORWAY

Terje Kvam is educated as church musician and theologian. He graduated as organist at the Conservatory in Oslo in 1963. From 1968 to 1987 he worked as an organist in Nordstrand Church where he established Nordstrand Church Choir which developed into a vocal ensemble at a high level, with a number of major oratorio performances. From September 1982 to December 2014 he was appointed as cantor in Oslo Cathedral, where he built up a reputable choral community with Oslo Cathedral Boys Choir, Oslo Cathedral Youth Choir, Consortium Vocale (specialized in Gregorian chant) and last but not least Oslo Cathedral Choir, which is recognized as one of the country's leading vocal ensembles. With the Oslo Cathedral Choir Kvam has performed all of the great oratorios, requiems and passions written by great composers like Schütz, Monteverdi and Purcell, via Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and Brahms to

newer works like Stravinsky's Psalm Symphony and Kodaly's Psalmus Hungaricus. A number of commission works have also been performed such as Kverno's "St. Matthew's and St. Mark's Passion", Sven-David Sandström's "Stille etter Gud" and "Moses», Söderlind's "A Nordic Requiem" and others

Kvam has also made numerous recordings, such as Kverno's Matthew Passion for two choirs and 10 soloists a capella and Beethoven's Missa Solemnis with The Hanover Band. The latter is the first recording with original instrumentation.

From 1973 to 1993, Kvam was appointed Professor of choral conducting and liturgy at the Norwegian Academy of Music. He is often used as a guest conductor throughout the country. The last three years he has been artistic director of Schola St. Petri, and with this ensemble performed Mozart's Coronation Mass, Bernstein's Chichester Psalms, Britten's Ceremony of Carols, Händel's Messiah, Haydn's The Creation and Mozart's Requiem. From 2015 Terje Kvam works along with Marianne Hirsti as artistic director of Ad fontes - Academy of Music and Liturgy.



ANDREA ANGELINI - ITALY

Born in Bologna, Italy, Andrea Angelini earned a Doctorate of Music (Piano) at Ferrara's Frescobaldi Conservatory. His interests led him to the choral field, and he earned a Bachelor studying at the International Art Academy in Rome with Fulvio Angius. He also studied organ at Pesaro's Conservatory of Music. Finally he got his PHD in Choral Music at the Cesena Conservatoire of Music. He is the Artistic Director and Conductor of the professional group Musica Ficta Vocal Ensemble that frequently performs in important Festivals in Italy and abroad. Dr. Angelini is the Artistic Director of the Choral Festival Voci nei Chiostrì held annually in Rimini each spring. He has been member of the Jury at many International Choir's Competitions in Italy, Europe and Asia. He frequently leads choral workshops in Italy and abroad. He has led similar workshops in Romania, Russia, Belarus, Moldavia and China too. He is the artistic director and one of the tutors at the Rimini International Choral Workshop, where he teaches with Peter Phillips, director of the Tallis Scholars. Mr. Angelini is also the artistic director of the Rimini International Choral Competition, of the Claudio Monteverdi Choral Competition and of the Queen of the Adriatic Sea Choral Festival and Competition and of the Liviu Borlan Choral Festival. He is the Editor of the International Choral Bulletin (ICB), the membership magazine of the IFCM (International Federation for Choral Music). He is a member for Italy of the World Choir Council. Actually he is the President of AERCO, the Emilia-Romagna Regional Association of Choirs.



VACLOVAS AUGUSTINAS - LITHUANIA

Vaclovas Augustinas (b.1959) graduated twice from the Lithuanian Academy of Music, receiving diplomas in choir conducting in 1981 (under Prof. Hermanas Perelšteinas) and composition in 1992 (under Prof. Julius Juzeliūnas). He was member of rock groups “Saulės laikrodis” and “Antis” (keyboards, vocal); after the reunion of “Antis” in 2007, he continues to compose songs and perform with them. Since 1992 he has been chief conductor and artistic director of the Vilnius Municipality Choir “Jauna muzika”. Vaclovas Augustinas is a member of Lithuanian Composers Union and the Lithuanian Choral Union. Since 2002 he works as a guest conductor with Netherlands Radio Choir, Chamber Choir of Novosibirsk Society, State Choir „Latvia“ and with number of Lithuanian choirs. In 2015 he was a guest conductor at „Kirchenmusikalische Werwoche des Erzbistum Köln“. V. Augustinas often works as the juror at different national and international choir competitions (including Marktoberdorf International Choir Competition 2005, Latvian National Choir Competition 2013, World Choir Games 2014 and others). His works are being regularly performed in Lithuania and abroad at various festivals, concert venues and choir competitions. Choral works, naturally, represent the most significant and substantial part of his creative output. Since 2011 V. Augustinas is a full time professor at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre. Since 2014 – the head of Composition Department. In 2010 V. Augustinas was awarded the most prestigious award in the country – Lithuanian National Arts and Culture Prize.



BERNIE SCHERLOCK - IRELAND

Bernie Sherlock has an international profile as an adjudicator, choral animateur, and teacher of conducting, and she has won several international prizes for her conducting and interpretation. Her award-winning chamber choir New Dublin Voices is a consistent prize-winner at major competitions around Europe as well as in Ireland. Most recently this includes the Grand Prix in Budapest, Hungary; the Grand Prix in Arezzo, Italy, and the Fleischmann International Trophy at the 2015 Cork International Choral Festival. She is a Lecturer in Music at the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama, Artistic Director of the Association of Irish Choir's annual International Conducting Summer School, and the Irish representative on the World Choir Council. Bernie studied choral conducting for two years with Peter Erdei and Ildikó Herboldy Kocsár in Hungary, followed by orchestral conducting with Gerhard Markson in Dublin. She earned a BA in music from Trinity College Dublin and a Masters in Performance and Musicology from NUI Maynooth.

Participating choirs



BERGEN MANNSKOR

Bergen Mannskor (Bergen Male Choir) was founded in 1998. However, many of its members have a record of choir singing that dates back much further. The choir takes pride in carrying forward the tradition of mainly unaccompanied male voice singing. It therefore makes sure to have on its set repertoire a number of the old songs commonly associated with male choirs. Alongside this the choir sings a variety of songs of more recent origin, both in Norwegian and other languages. As members of an all round choir the singers feel equally comfortable with sacred and secular music and believe that focus should be on quality rather than genre. Bergen Mannskor counts 38 members at present, but would be happy to enrol some more. The choir's conductor of is Jon Flydal Blichfeldt. He combines his sound qualifications as a musician and a conductor with never failing enthusiasm and an ability to keep the singers on their toes.



CANTILENA

When driving south west from Trondheim, you will find a row of communities filled with singing people. Some of these people are a part of Cantilena. The choir is almost 30 years old, and some members have been part of the choir since the start – you might be able to tell from the colour of their hair. However, some of the singers (i.e. lady singers) cheat! But Cantilena also has younger members, and together they form a very worthwhile choir. Their experienced conductor is Bjørn Borge from Bodø. They are looking forward to performing at their best in front of you.



CHORUS EGRERSUND

Chorus Egersund is an independent mixed choir that was started in 1979. The choir consists of 46 sopranos, altos, tenors and basses. Bernhard Kielland has been our conductor since January 2014 and the choir has experienced immense development under his leadership, both in numbers and musically. Our versatile repertoire is basically sung a capella, but we also perform certain pieces with accompaniment.



CORDA

Corda is a girls' choir made up of girls from Octavia and the Bergen Cathedral Girls' Choir. The choir has joint rehearsals two to three times a year, and give about six concerts together every year. The choir has visited Estonia, Italy and England. In June 2015, the choir went on a mini-tour of the Hordaland county, giving concerts in Nordheimsund, Knarvik and Bergen. They have on several occasions participated at the Bergen International Festival, last time in 2015 together with Herborg Kråkevik in the Grieghallen. In 2016, they will give a mini-concert during the International Hanseatic Days, and they are presently working on the musical "Må korsets tre slå rot" which will be presented during the Bergen kirkeautunnaale (church music festival) in the autumn of 2016. The choir received a silver diploma at the 2014 choir competition at Riva del Garda. The choir members, aged 10 to 19, come from Bergen and its surroundings. Their conductor is Eirin Beate Åserud-Løvlid.



CORONA

Corona is a womens choir from Stord, also known as the "Island of Summer" by the west coast. The choir was founded in 2005 and last year we celebrated our 10th anniversary. Corona sings a varied selection of both classical, popular music and jazz, as well as church repertoire.

The choir has participated in festivals and competitions both at home and abroad - and reached its peak with 1st place in the women's class in "Syng for oss" in 2012. Now and then we arrange our own concerts and popular choir cafes, preferably with both cakes and musical guests. Corona means to crown and surround, which corresponds well with the choirs goal to express our joy of singing, beautiful chords and timbre to the audience. Corona currently consists of 20 singing ladies and our talented conductor since 2014; Irene Simonsen



CORSONUS

Ladies' choir CorSonus has 34 members and comes from Hjørundvåg, a rural area in the community of Hareid in Sunnmøre. Their repertoire spans from ballades to pop. The choir sings both a capella and with accompaniment. Their conductor is Iris Kristine Tangen Nanseth.



FJELLKORET

Fjellkoret is a choir for mixed voices from the Fjell community in the isle of Sotra. The choir was founded in 1985 and we are about 50 singers. We have staged many performances in the cultural centre in Fjell and we see ourselves as project based choir. Our shows have taken up music by the Beatles, Johannes Kleppevik, musicals, Jakob Sande, different locally based musicians and lately, also film music. We also take part in various concerts, we give an annual Christmas concert and we go on tour and attend seminars nationally and abroad. We have on several occasions taken part in choir competitions and won Syng for oss in 1997.



FOLLESØ MANNSKOR

Follesø Mannskor is based in the community Follese in Askøy outside Bergen. Its members are from 34 to 82 years of age. They come from Askøy and its surroundings, and they are on average 50 years old. The choir had their 100th anniversary in 2014, which was celebrated with a concert in Håkonshallen in Bergen and participation in the Sligo International Choir Festival in Ireland. Follesø Mannskor seeks to perform at a high level. They challenge themselves through competitions and concerts with a varied repertoire. The choir has performed well in several competitions over the past few years and in April 2017, they will participate in the Interkultur choir competition Canta En Primavera in Malaga, Spain. The choir welcomes more singers and the autumn season will be a good time to take up singing with Follesø Mannskor.



KOR E TONEN

Kor e tonen is a mixed choir of about 20 members between the ages of 20 and 50. The choir is affiliated with the association Bergen Ungdomslag Ervingen and they are based in the community centre Gimle in Kong Oscarsgate in Bergen. Kor e' tonen has a versatile repertoire ranging from traditional folk songs and classical pieces to pop and jazz.



KOR É VI

Kor é Vi was founded in 1992. It is a mixed choir of 50 members. They come chiefly from Ytrebygda, but some of them are from other parts of Bergen. They rehearse every Thursday in Ytrebygda church.

Kor é Vi has constantly been taking up new musical challenges. Their repertoire ranges from rhythmical music to musicals, profane choir music and sacred music, both new and traditional. Kor é Vi has participated in several choir competitions, both nationally in “Syng for oss” and abroad. The choir has had interesting cooperation with other choirs, soloists, musicians and directors. Since 2014, Belinda Lerøy is their inspiring conductor and artistic leader.



KORALL

Korall is a female choir from Bergen, but they originated in a neighbourhood in Kringlebotn. The choir is close to 20 years old, and during this time, it has expanded its local affiliations. Over the years, the members have experienced great development through challenging competitions both nationally and abroad, and through local commissions. This requires a large volume of practice and repetition, but our conductor, Chris Lund, steadily leads us through the musical challenges we meet.

We like the challenge of complicated materials, but we also enjoy to give “simple” works a good presentation.



LA CAPPELLA

La Cappella was established in 1986 by Robert Sund to enrich the women’s choir tradition in Sweden with material performed at the highest level. The choir aims to push the envelope for a women’s choir as an instrument, shifting genres and always on the lookout for a new and exciting repertoire. Through the years La Cappella has won numerous Swedish and international awards and prizes. Karin Eklundh was the successful conductor for La Cappella through twenty years until the spring of 2014 when Tony Margeta took over. In 2015 La Cappella won both their categories as well as the Grand Prix in the international choir competition, “Voci dal Lido”, in Lido di Jesolo, Italy. In 2016 the choir celebrates its 30th anniversary with, among other activities, arranging a choir festival intended for Swedish female choirs. Tony Margeta is the conductor and artistic leader of the female choir La Cappella since 2014. He has extensive experience of choral music while working with several choirs in Sweden. From 2010-2012 he was appointed Principal Conductor of the National Swedish Choral Association. During 2004-2015 he was the conductor and artistic leader of the mixed choir, Falu Kammarkör, with whom he won several choir competitions such as Grieg Grand Prix in Norway and Grand Prix in Bad Krozingen.



MIXED CHOIR "BURTNIEKS"

Choir "Burtnieks" was founded on April 6, 1989 by employees of several publishers, their friends and families. Nowadays singers represent various industries and choir unites different age groups – students, teachers, medical staff, publishers and many others. Egils Lipsans has been the Artistic director and Chief conductor from the very beginning. There are also Conductor Andris Pundurs, Choir Master Ainars Knesis, Vocal Teacher Inga Lisovska and Principal accompanist Jelena Bugajenko on the current Artistic lead team. One of the main directions of the choir is popularization of Latvian composers – the classics and modern original music – as well as folk song arrangements. The choir has performed famous works of worldwide known composers, such as – The Final Choir of the 9th Symphony by L. van Beethoven, Stabat Mater by G. Verdi, Mesa es dur by F. Schubert, Requiem by G. Faure etc. Choir "Burtnieks" is a laureate of different local as well as international festivals and competitions. It is a member of the international organization "Europa Cantat" since 1993 and regularly takes part in its festivals. Choir has successfully performed in the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Finland, Greece, France, Austria, Hungary, Slovakia, Switzerland, Poland, Estonia, Lithuania and Canada.



MULTA PAUCIS

Multa Paucis was founded in 2008 by artistic director Mikael R. Hedne along with several of the group's present members. For the 2015/2016 season the choir consists of 16 members, all university students or young professionals based in the Bergen area. Over the last couple of years the choir has had the pleasure of collaborating with several young instrumentalists and composers, also based in the Bergen area. Ever since the beginning in 2008, Multa Paucis has had a special focus on two areas of music: Norwegian traditional music and contemporary music, the latter equally rooted in Norwegian and Scandinavian composing practise.



OLE BULL KAMMERKOR

Ole Bull Chamber Choir was founded on 15 January 2015. Ole Bull (1810-1880) was a famous and sought-after violinist. He was not afraid to take artistic risk and was by many considered to be ahead of his time. Even though he is not associated with choral music, Ole Bull was, and still is, a central figure on the Norwegian music scene and his life and career has put its mark on the arts scene in Bergen and the surrounding

areas. Just like Ole Bull, the choir's ambition is to be daring and adventurous and to share high quality musical experiences with audiences both at home and abroad.

The choir has had a busy inaugural year with three solo concert productions as well as taking part in other choral events in Bergen. In October 2015, the choir took part in the national choir championships in Trondheim and placed third in both Sacred Music, Category A (silver diploma) and Secular Music, Category A+ (gold diploma). The choir has 22 members aged between 22-52. Their main focus is on presenting a cappella classical and contemporary choir music.

The choir is conducted by Jon Flydal Blichfeldt, who over the last 17 years has been a central figure among choirs in Bergen and the surrounding areas.



ONDRASEK CZECH YOUTH CHOIR

The Ondrasek choir comes from small Moravian town called Novy Jicin where it was founded in 1967. The name of the choir was chosen by Václav Ptáček (1930-2011), the founder of the choir, as a synonym for free and open-minded youth. In 1992, Josef Zajicek assumes the conductor's baton; he was one of the first members of the choir.

There comes a brand new chapter in the life of the choir; a great success in the home country is followed by a lot of prizes from around the world. The name Ondrasek is to be heard on the most prominent stages around Europe. The choir wins in Arezzo (1995), Llangollen (2000), Malta (2007), makes trips to Japan (1998), South Africa (2000), Ural (2004) China (2012), USA (2014) and almost all European countries.

The Ondrasek choir is divided to five departments. Ondrasek Chamber Choir is the youngest ensemble, it was founded in 2005 and consists from former members of the children's concert choir. Although the Chamber Choir exists only 7 years, it has gained a lot of prizes and achievements from Czech and European competitions. In 2006, the choir obtained the first prize Cum Laude on the festival in Neerpelt, Belgium. Two years later, the Chamber Choir won the Excellent prize in Montreux, Switzerland. In 2010, the Chamber Choir took part in prestigious Fleischmann International Trophy in Cork, Ireland, and won the third prize. Next year the choir came back from The International Festival in Tallin, Estonia, with the third prize as well. The Chamber Choir performs more sophisticated pieces from Czech and foreign authors. It concerns with sacred and temporary compositions and Czech and Moravian folk songs. The choir has also participated on recording nine CDs.



OS VOCALIS

Os Vocalis was founded in 1982 and consists of about 20 ladies from Os and Bergen. The choir's ambition is continuously to develop musically and they have a versatile repertoire spanning over different styles and eras. Singing is the main pass-time for the members, and being amateurs, we still aim to present at a high musical level. Os Vocalis has visited Prague, London, Budapest, Bratislava, and during the summer of 2015, we gave a concert in Taunton, England, together with Wessex Male Choir. Our conductor is Eirin Beate Åserud-Løvlid.



OSTERØYKORET

Osterøykoret is a mixed choir from the island of Osterøy, and its members come from all over the island. The choir celebrated their 100th anniversary in 2014. Jon Flydal Blichfeld has been our conductor since 2011. Our membership has been growing over the last few years, and the choir now has about 50 members. The repertoire varies from classical music to pop and folk songs. We are presently working on music from the 1960s and -70s, and we are planning concerts both in the spring and in the autumn.



PADEREWSKI CHAMBER CHOIR

Paderewski Chamber Choir was established in 2012 by its conductor Marek Gandecki. The singers are students of various faculties of the Ignacy Jan Paderewski Academy of Music in Poznan, Poland: music education, instrumental, theory of music, conducting, composition and sacred music. The conductor, professor Marek Gandecki, works at the Academy of Music in Poznan in the Department of Choir Conducting, Musical Education and Sacred Music. The ensemble's broad repertoire consists of a cappella works of various epochs: both old music (written by such composers as Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, Claudio Monteverdi, Heinrich Schutz, Thomas Tallis, Waclaw z Szamotul) and the music of the 19th, 20th and 21st century (compositions by Edvard Grieg, Francis Poulenc, Ola Gjeilo, Paul Mealor, Ēriks Ešenvalds, Sydney Guillaume, Eric Whitacre, Miłosz Bembinow and many others). The choir also performs vocal-instrumental works, including compositions by Antonio Vivaldi, Johann Sebastian Bach, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Gabriel Fauré. The philosophy of singing performed by the conductor and his choir, as well as their common musical inquiry, have been noticed many times. The choir earned numerous major awards, among others Grand Prix of the 14th Choir Festival of Lodz, Cantio

Lodziensis (2013), Grand Prix of the 6th Nationwide Competition ARS LITURGICA in Gniezno (2014), 1st prizes both in the 26th Nationwide Festival of Sacred Music in Rumia (2014) and the 49th International Festival of Choral Song in Miedzyzdroje (2014). But the most important prize of all is Grand Prix of the 46th Nationwide Festival of Choirs LEGNICA CANTAT (2015), which is the most prestigious choir competition in Poland.



SKALA OPERAKOR

Skala Operakor was established in 2011 in Oslo, and is an active and ambitious choir consisting of about 40 singers. We are basically an opera choir presenting works of Verdi, Mozart and Wagner, but we also sing other classical music. The choir regularly gives concerts, both on their own and in cooperation with renowned orchestras like Lillestrøm Musikkorps and Bærum Symfoniorkester. Skala Operakor has also participated in several opera performances and concerts hosted by Oslo Operafestival. The choir has taken part in the program Stjerneekamp on Norwegian TV when the artists in the show are tested in the operatic genre.



SKEDSMO VOICES - VOKALENSEMBLE

Skedsmo Voices is a large active choral environment divided into three age groups. The association consists of about 70 members coming from all of Romerike and Oslo. Skedsmo Voices – Vokalensemble is an offer to the more ambitious singers. Their repertoire ranges from contemporary music to folk, pop and improvisational music. The ensemble has participated in several choir competitions, and has, among other things, received a gold diploma in Young Prague 2013. We work on developing talents and the vocal ensemble has given concerts together with professional performers, i.e. the a capella groups Pust and Nordic Voices. Our conductor is Ingrid A. Danbolt.



STUDINEKORET SIRENENE

Studinekoret Sirenene is the official choir for female students at the University of Bergen. We were founded in 1997, and the group mainly consists of students at the University of Bergen. Our name, The Sirens, is taken from Homer's Odyssey, from the mythical creatures that lured sailors from their ships with their beautiful voices. Most of the time, we consist of up to 32 singers. Our repertoire is varied and contains selections of jazz, pop, folk songs, and classical music. Amalie Skarsgaard has been our conductor for approximately two years, after three years of being a singer herself.



VIVA SANDNES KULTURSKOLEKOR

VIVA, Sandnes kulturskolekor is a part of Sandnes school of Music and Art, one of the oldest and biggest in Norway. The choir was established in 1968 and consists of 40 girls and boys aged from 12-19. Most of them receive vocal and instrumental training. VIVA's object is to be a choir on a high musical level, singing with great enthusiasm and passion combined with a positive social atmosphere that encourage the members' behavior, respect and care for each other and - good mood! With its wide musical repertoire, drama is an important element. The members together face big challenges, singing both opera and classical songs as well as musicals and popular songs. VIVA performs in great concert halls as well as marked places. The most important thing is to make people happy with their song. VIVA is a spearhead among choirs in Norway and was Finalist of "Norway's got talent" 2014. VIVA was the same year also honored by singing in Carnegie Hall, New York. VIVA has won a lot of national and international prizes and has represented Norway at many festivals and conferences all over the world. VIVA has been touring in very many countries: Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Faroe Islands, Germany, England, Scotland, Wales, Spain, USA, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and South-Africa.



VOKALGRUPPEN YR

The a capella group YR is a quartet of experienced soloists. They are either educated in music or work with music on a daily basis – or both: Wolfgang Schmid – bass, Rolf J Stewart – tenor, Felicity Burbridge Rinde – mezzosoprano/ alto, Eva M Stewart – soprano The a cappella quartet was formed in 2005 and has over the years had different members. Today's ensemble has sung together since November 2012. The a capella quartet YR wants to perform vocal music at a high level – whatever the genre.



VOLVE VOKAL

Volve Vokal is a female ensemble from Bergen aiming to be innovative at a high artistic level. Their repertoire is varied, but they are especially committed to new Norwegian vocal music. The ensemble uses different artistic expressions in their musical performance, and they seek to give their spectators concerts that communicate on different levels. Volve Vokal attempts to explore the choir concert genre and to provide new impulses to the choral setting. Their conductor is Gro

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