



PROGRAM

Grieg International Choir Festival

Syng For Oss

Bergen, 7. - 10. June 2018



BERGEN KOMMUNE



HORDALAND
FYLKESKOMMUNE



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 & NINA SOLO COMPETITION.

It is a great pleasure to welcome you all to the beautiful city of Bergen, and to the Grieg International Choir Festival & Nina Solo Competition.

Bergen is known as the city between the seven mountains and as the gateway to the magnificent Norwegian fjords. In addition to being surrounded by great nature, Bergen is also a vibrant music city. Bergen is home to Northern Europe's oldest philharmonic orchestra as well as the birthplace of the world renowned composer Edvard Grieg.

In addition to the annual music festivals Bergenfest, Nattjazz and Bergen international festival, Bergen has this year hosted The European Orchestra Festival and will be hosting The Norwegian Band Federations 100th anniversary. Music and song will very much be a part of the city this year.

Music and song is also a large part of the way we celebrate big occasions in Norway. On Norway's National day, 17th of May, Bergen is for example filled songs and joy from different choirs throughout the day. With over 30.000 member the Norwegian Choir Association is Northern Europe's largest organization for choirs, confirming choirs position in Norwegian culture.

This year's Grieg International Choir Festival & Nina Solo Competition sees 20 choirs and 18 soloists competing against each other with participants from all over Europe. A special welcome to all of you who have traveled far to be here and to those of you who visits Bergen for the first time.

I wish you all good luck with the competition and I hope you get some time to enjoy our wonderful city as well.

Marte Mjøs Persen
Mayor of Bergen



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

We are very happy to welcome 20 choirs to the 6. Grieg International Choir Festival for choir competitions and friendship concerts, and 18 young singers for the 4. NINA Solo Competition!

Two years ago Grieg Festival and the NINA Solo Competition joined forces with the Norwegian competition located in Bergen, "Syng For Oss". This was a success, so we will do the same this year with parallel events and shared venues giving you an even greater opportunity to create friendship and cultural understanding during your stay in Bergen.



We look forward to meeting you all and to listen to the music we know you have worked hard to prepare for the festival. For all choirs and singers, it is important with improvements. We hope to join the Grieg festival has been, and will be, a good motivation for your development.

We wish you the best for your stay in Bergen!

Liv Oda Dale
Chairman of the Board of Norwegian Choir Association, Hordaland

Cecilie Lycke
Chairman of the Board of Grieg International Choir Festival

NINA SOLO COMPETITION - FOR YOUNG VOICES

Bergen, 7. - 9. June 2018

FRIDAY 8. JUNE

12:00 - 16:00 **Competition: 1st round**
Venue: Håkonshallen

12:00 Ida Johanne Wahl, Stavanger
Frida Lund-Larsen, Asker
Sofia Loboda, Odessa
Rebecca Svensen, Nærbø
Annika Beinnes, Vadheim
Edvard Adde, Bjørnemyr
Bjørghild Espeland, Nærbø
Ireene Ollino, Estonia
Magnus Haslum, Oslo

14:00 Karen Mathilde Heier Hovd, Jakobsli
Mirjam Künstner, Munich
Melissa Baug, Bergen
Carl-Christian Kure, Oslo
Zuzanna Ciszewska, Poland
Silje Mørch, Bergen
Tobias Vigrestad Mellemstrand, Vigrestad
Solveig Bergersen, Oslo
Jonathan Steen Bjørnseth, Oslo

SATURDAY 9. JUNE

14:00 - 16:30 **Competition: 2nd round**
Venue: Troldsalen /Troldhaugen

19:30 - 22:00 **Grand Prix Choir Competitions and finale NINA Solo Competition**
Venue: Grieghallen

JURY

Prof. Solveig Kringlebotn, Norway
Prof. Juliette Galstian, Switzerland
Prof. Markus Schäfer, Germany

TICKETS

Kr. 200 ,- Ticket at the entrance
Kr. 500 ,- Festival pass for both choir and solo competitions

Program details: www.griegfestival.no

Time schedule

THURSDAY 7. JUNE	19:30	Venue: Grieghallen
19:00	Concert	Grand Prix Finale and finale NINA
	Venue: Bergen Domkirke	Solo competition. Competition results and closing ceremony and social gathering.
FRIDAY 8. JUNE		
19:00	Competition: Sacred Music (GIK)	SUNDAY 10. JUNE
	Venue: Korskirken	11:00
19:00	Concert	Church Service
	Venue: Håkonshallen	Venue: Bergen Domkirke, St. Paul Kirke & Johanneskirken
		13:30
SATURDAY 9. JUNE		Concert
09:30 -	Competition:	Venue: Korskirken
11:00	Contemporary Music (GIK)	
	Venue: Grieghallen	
11:15 -	Competition: Blandakor (SFO)	
12:00	Venue: Grieghallen	
12:45 -	Competition: Damekor (SFO)	
14:45	Venue: Grieghallen	
15:00 -	Competition: Folk Music (GIK)	
16:30	Venue: Grieghallen	
16:30 -	Concert	
17:30	Venue: Grieghallen foyer	

Thursday 7. June

19:00 Concert
Venue: Bergen Domkirke

PARTICIPATING CHOIRS

Choir Akademos
Ensemble Sve:a (Svenska Vokalenemblem: Aoide)
Motýli Šumperk

Helene Stureborgs Kammarkör
Christophorus-Jugendkammerchor Versmold
Kvinnekoret Stord con Spirito

Friday 8. June

19:00 Competition: sacred music (GIK)
Venue: Korskirken

CHRISTOPHORUS-JUGENDKAMMERCHOR VERSMOLD

Conductor: Hans-Ulrich Henning

Exultate Deo	A. Scarlatti
Ave maris stella	Edvard Grieg
Denn er hat seinen Engeln	F.Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
Salmo 150 (Psalm 150)	Ernani Aguiar

HELENE STUREBORGS KAMMARKÖR

Conductor: Helene Stureborg

Salve regina	Josep Vila
Ave maris stella	Michael Waldenby
Sequentia de Virgine Maria	Janos Vajda

STAVANGER DOMKIRKES PIKEKOR

Conductor: Jorunn Lovise Husan

Amazing grace	Trad., arr. Kirby Shaw
Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel	Trad., arr. David Morrow
Eg veit i himmerrik ei borg	Trad., arr. Henrik Ødegaard

OS VOCALIS

Conductor: Eirin Beate Åserud-Løvlid

Even when he is silent	Kim André Arnesen
Ave Maria	Cecilia McDowall
Ave Generosa	Ola Gjeilo

MOTÝLI ŠUMPERK

Conductor: Helena Stojaniková

Duo Seraphim	Tomas Luis da Victoria
Agnus Dei	Ivo Antognini
Magnificat	Jan Hanuš

POLYFONI

Conductor: Tarjei Skeie

Northern Lights	Ola Gjeilo
Nigra sum sed Formosa	Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina
Tenebrae factae sunt	Carlo Gesualdo di Venosa

ENSEMBLE SVE:A (SVENSKA VOKALENSEMBLEN: AOIDE)**Conductor: Carolina Friberg**

Kyrie	Hugo Hammarström
Lugsana	Bruno Skulte / Leonids Breikss
Salve Regina	Joseph Gabriel Rheinberger
Alleluia (MC)	A Suite - Montpellier Codex, Piae Cantiones
Cedit hyems eminus (PC)	
Alleluia (MC)	
Aetas carmen melodiae (PC)	

ORIANA YOUTH FEMALE CHOIR**Conductor: Galina Shpak**

Pueri Hebraeorum	Giovanni Palestrina
“Ne otverzhi mene” (“Do not reject me during old age”)	Maksim Berezovskiy
“Slava Otstiu, I Synu, I Svyatome Dukhovi...” (“Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit”)	Irina Aleksiychuk

19:00 Concert**Venue: Håkonshallen****PARTICIPATING CHOIRS**

ORIANA Youth Female Choir
 Vokalensemblet Skrik
 Evas epler
 Naiskuoro Ilona
 Multa Paucis

Saturday 9. June**09:30 - 11:00****Competition: Contemporary music (GIK)****Venue: Grieghallen****CHOIR AKADEMOS****Conductor: Elzbieta Niczyporuk**

Mironczarnia	Jakub Neske / Miron Białoszewski
Ubi Caritas	Ola Gjeilo
Ping Pong	Jan Krutul

ORIANA YOUTH FEMALE CHOIR**Conductor: Galina Shpak**

Ave Maria	Frank Havrøy
“Vesnyanka” (“Mayfly”)	Lesya Dychko
“Zasvichu svichu” (“Lighting a candle”)	Ukrainian folk song /Ganna Gavrylets

ENSEMBLE SVE:A (SVENSKA VOKALENEMBLEMEN: AOIDE)**Conductor: Carolina Friberg**

Cor meum	Hanne Baeverfjord, Orlando diLasso
Cantate Domino	Sandra Milliken
Laudate eum solo et luna	Sandra Milliken / psalm 148:2
In paradisum	Mårten Jansson
Laudate Domino	Rihards Dubra / psalm 150

NAISKUORO ILONA**Conductor: Teemu Tammola**

Rakkaus repii jäsenet	Markku Kilpiö
I de stora skogarna	Einojuhani Rautavaara
Perhosen voima	Lotta Wennäkoski
Hvem styrden hit din väg?	Mia Makaroff

KVINNEKORET STORD CON SPIRITO**Conductor: Tore Kloster**

Vind – Einsamflygar	Kjersti Follesø
Joli kjem	Ørjan Matre
Ave Generosa	Ola Gjeilo

HELENE STUREBORGS KAMMARKÖR**Conductor: Helene Stureborg**

A spotless rose	Fredrik Sixten
O Oriens	Cecilia McDowall
Pange lingua	György Orbán

MOTÝLI ŠUMPERK**Conductor: Helena Stojaniková**

Jubilate Deo	Xabier Sarasola
Ave Generosa	Ola Gjeilo
Gigue	Petr Eben

11:15 - 12:00

Competition: Blandakor (SFO)

Venue: Grieghallen

KOR E TONEN

Conductor: Thea Meidell Sjule

Ned i vester soli glader	Folk song, arr. Grete Pedersen
Libera me	Lajos Bárdos
Månemannen	Vamp, arr. B. sonstad

VOKALENSEMBLET SKRIK

Conductor: Christian Holter

Tu es Petrus	Christian Holter
Don't kill my vibe	Sigrid, arr. Christian Holter
Bukkevisa	Trad., arr. Christian Holter

STORDKORET

Conductor: Liv Kari Bru

Ned i vester soli glader	Folk song, arr. Grete Pedersen
I will greatly rejoice	Knut Nystedt
Sov, sov, liten gut	Folk song, arr. Frank Havrøy
Kärlekens tid	Benny Andersson / Ylva Eggehorn

OSTERØYKORET

Conductor: Jon Flydal Blichfeldt

Woke up this morning	Spiritual
Blå salme	Henning Sommerro / Erik Bye
Because	Lennon / McCartney, arr. Christine Wilhelmsen

12:45 - 14:45

Competition: Damekor (SFO)

Venue: Grieghallen

EVAS EPLE

Conductor: Erlend Fagertun

Vise for gærne jinter	Egil Monn Iversen / Alf Prøysen / arr. Trygve Bröske
Stille	Johan Kvandal / Einar Skjæråsen
I am not yours	Stephen Chatman / Sara Teasdale
Tota pulchra es	Maurice Duruflé

OS VOCALIS

Conductor: Eirin Beate Åserud-Løvlid

Both sides now	Joni Mitchell, arr. Tove Kragset
Is-soleja	Odd Johan Overøye / Olav H. Hauge
Til deg du heid og bleike myr	Ingunn Solem / Arne Garborg / Ketil Bjørnstad

CORONA

Conductor: Irene Simonsen

Voi voi	G. Elgaaen, arr. A. Edenroth
Neslandskyrkja	Trad., arr. K. Nystedt
My Funny Valentine	Lorenz Hart/Richard Rodgers, arr. Kirby Shaw

FRYD

Conductor: Kristin Skau

Ave maris stella	Edvard Grieg
Jag haver ingen kärare	Trad.
Om ödet skulle skicka mig	Trad.
A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square	Manning Sherwin / Eric Maschwitz

KORALL

Conductor: Chris Lund

To Night	Tine Grieg Viig / Charlotte Smith
Ta na Solbici	Samo Vovk
Hide and seek	Imogen Heap / Jason Womack

MULTA PAUCIS

Conductor: Mikael Ringstad Hedne

Hide and Seek	Imogen Heap, arr. Kristoffer Fossheim Håvik
November	Gjermund Larsen, arr. Kristoffer Fossheim Håvik
It was a lover and his lass	Ward Swingle / William Shakespeare

KVINNEKORET STORD CON SPIRITO

Conductor: Tore Kloster

Ave Maria	Gustav Holst
Chorus from Hellas	Rebecca Clarke
Gjenta	Odd Johan Overøye

15:00 - 16:30

Competition: Folk music (GIK)

Venue: Grieghallen

NAISKUORO ILONA

Conductor: Teemu Tommola

Küigel kartlik	Veljo Tormis/ Harju-Jaani parish
Annikan laulupolska	Annika Fuhrmann
Läksin minä kesäyönä käymään	Trad., arr. David Hamilton
Näcken och Jungfrun	Trad., arr. Jenny Wilhems

STAVANGER DOMKIRKES PIKEKOR

Conductor: Jorunn Lovise Husan

I himmelen	Trad., arr. Karin Rehnqvist
Eg veit i himmerrik ei borg	Trad., arr. Henrik Ødegaard
Springdans frå Vestfold	Trad., arr. Tone Krohn

CHOIR AKADEMOS

Conductor: Elzbieta Niczyporuk

Oj, nasi jada	Trad., arr. Grzegorz Miškiewicz
Kwiaty polskie	Trad., arr. Grzegorz Miškiewicz
Jechał Jasio młody	Trad., arr. Wojciech Rudziński
Kukułeczka	Trad., arr. Elżbieta Niczyporuk

MULTA PAUCIS

Conductor: Mikael Ringstad Hedne

Å, her møter mangt	Trad. from Seterdal, arr. Kristoffer Fossheim Håvik
Neslandskyrkja	Magnus B. Landstad / trad. from Seljord, arr. Knut Nystedt
Se, hvor klarner det nu opp på jorden	Hans A. Brorson / trad. from Vardal, arr. Henrik Ødegaard

CHRISTOPHORUS-JUGENDKAMMERCHOR VERSMOLD

Conductor: Hans-Ulrich Henning

Wach auf, meins Herzens Schöne	Walter Rein
Laula kultani	E. A. Hagfors
Túrót eszik a cigány	Z. Kodaly
Sohran Bushi (Japanisches Fischerlied)	O. Shimizu (arr.)
El último café	H. Stamponi, (arr. E. Dublanc)

EVAS EPLER

Conductor: Erlend Fagertun

Bendik og Årolilja	Trad., arr. Jens Bugge Olsen
Eatnemen Vuelie	Frode Fjellheim / B. S. Ingemann
Bruremarsj fra Lødingen	Trad., arr. Erlend Fagertun / Halvdan Sivertsen
No kjem de med brurgrauten	Trad., arr. Erlend Fagertun

16:30 Concert

Venue: Grieghallen foyer

PARTICIPATING CHOIRS

Kor e Tonen
Christophorus-Jugendkammerchor Versmold
Stordkoret
Corona
Osterøykoret

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 10. June

11:00 Church Service

Venue: Bergen Domkirke, St. Paul Kirke Johanneskirken

PARTICIPATING CHOIRS

Stavanger Domkirke Pikekor	Bergen Domkirke
Motýli Šumperk	St. Paul kirke
Christophorus-Jugendkammerchor Versmold	Johanneskirken

13:30 Concert

Venue: Korskirken

PARTICIPATING CHOIRS

Stavanger Domkirkes Pikekor
Motýli Šumperk
Fryd
Choir Akademos

Adjudicators



TOVE RAMLO YSTAD - NORWAY

Tove Ramlo-Ystad is educated as a singer and conductor with a Master Degree from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim. Her teachers and mentors in conducting has been Stefan Sköld, Anders Eby and Mogens Dahl. She has conducted the female choir Cantus since their beginning in 1986. Cantus has received a lot of attention, won several competitions and is known by their nordic sound. This sound was the reason Disney discovered Cantus, and led to Cantus being preferred to sing in their animation movie 'Frozen'. Earlier she has been the conductor of both mixed and male ensembles. Now her experience is much used as a mentor for younger conductors. Tove Ramlo-Ystad is working for the Norwegian Choral Association as a music director, where developing education systems for conductors in Norway is one of the main issues.

Tove Ramlo-Ystad is one of Norway's most acknowledged choir conductors. She is a very popular and inspiring guest conductor and she is frequently used as an adjudicator in international choir competitions.



JÜRGEN BUDDAY - GERMANY

Jürgen Budday is artistic director and founder of the Maulbronn Chamber Choir. He has been the Artistic Director of the Monestary Music Festival of Maulbronn at the first UNESCO World Heritage Site of Baden-Württemberg from February 1979 until October 2013. With the Maulbronn Chamber Choir he won several first prizes. He realized over 20 recordings with the Maulbronn Chamber Choir, including 10 oratorios by G.F. Händel. He has activities as guest conductor, workshop leader and juror in the country and abroad. In 1998 he received the Cross of Merit of the BR Germany. Since 2002 he is Chairman of the Advisory Choir Board at the German Music Council and thus has the overall management and is Jury Chairman of the Board of the German Choir Competition.

In 2011 he was appointed Professor by the Prime Minister of the state Baden-Württemberg and received the Georg-Friedrich-Händel-Ring in 2013. In 2014 he was appointed Artistic Director of the International Chamber Choir Competition in Marktoberdorf and honorary citizen of the town of Maulbronn.



THEODORA PAVLOVITCH - BULGARIA

Theodora Pavlovitch is Professor in choral conducting and Head of Conducting Department of the Bulgarian National Academy of Music. In her artistic life she has worked with The Bulgarian National TV-choir (1986 -1991) and Vassil Arnaudov Sofia Chamber Choir (from 1991 and recently). Under her baton the choir won prestigious awards at international competitions, took part in many high-level international festivals, in TV and radio-programs, concert tours in 25 countries. Since 2005 Theodora Pavlovitch is conductor of the Classic FM Radio Choir.

In 2007/2008 she conducted the World Youth Choir, honoured by UNESCO with the title Artist for Peace, recognizing the WYC's success as a platform for intercultural dialogue through music. Prof. Theodora Pavlovitch is frequently invited as a member of Jury-panels at international choral competitions, conductor and a lecturer at prestigious international events in 26 European countries, the USA, Japan, Russia, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, Israel and Argentina. For her artistic achievements Prof. Theodora Pavlovitch has been awarded Golden Century – Star - National Award bestowed by the Minister of Culture of Bulgaria, Golden Lyre by the Union of Bulgarian Musicians and several Special Prizes of the Bulgarian Choir's Union and Classic FM Radio.



HELLE HØYER VEDEL - DENMARK

Helle Høyer Vedel trained at The Royal Academy of Music, Aarhus.

Since 1981 she has served as choirmaster of Aarhus Music School, leading children and youth choirs as well as teaching instrumental students ear training.

For many years she has been the conductor of several mixed choirs, but now she focusses her energy mainly on the young singers: The children's choir of Aarhus Music School, The girls' choir at the Royal Academy of Music, Aarhus, Korvida (young female choir) and Aarhus Girls' Choir. Likewise, she has been an occasional lecturer in the conduction of children's choirs at The Danish School of Education, Aarhus University and The Royal Academy of Music, Aarhus.



JONATHAN RATHBONE - ENGLAND

Jonathan Rathbone started his musical career as a chorister at Coventry Cathedral. He gained a second degree at the Royal Academy of Music where he studied composition with John Gardner. Jonathan joined the Swingle Singers in 1984 and was musical director of the group for a decade. During that time he turned from composition to arranging - creating the majority of their arrangements, both a cappella and with orchestra. He left the group in 1996 to spend more of his time writing and now spends the much of his time arranging and orchestrating. He conducts five choirs in north London – London Forest Choir, The Rowantree Choir, Havering Singers, the Crofton Singers and Middlesex University Choir (where he also teaches harmony). He spent a week in Bergen last October working with the Edvard Grieg Kor, culminating in a concert at Troidhaugen. The concert featured an entire programme of Jonathan's arrangements, including several a cappella versions of Grieg's orchestral works and songs. The EGK will be recording Jonathan's arrangement of the Holberg suite later this week. He is an in-house composer with Peters Edition. But Jonathan is also busy as an orchestrator. He recently wrote four arrangements for the Philharmonie Südwestfalen (a German orchestra). And last year, he re-orchestrated Vaughan Williams' "Dona Nobis Pacem" for Stephen Cleobury and the choir of Kings College Cambridge. The CD has received wide-spread praise for the orchestration.

Participating choirs



CHOIR AKADEMOS - POLAND

The Akademos Choir was founded in 2006 by the conductor Ms Elzbieta Niczyporuk in Lublin, Poland. It frequently performs in the region and beyond and for several years now has also travelled abroad, earning recognition from the international public at music festivals in Venice, Jesolo, Paris, Barcelona, Rome and Vienna. The group's most prominent successes and awards include: The Golden Diploma at the 4th International Musik Reisen Faszination Festival in Venice, The Golden Diploma at the 2nd International Choir Festival "Cantu Gaudeamus in Bialystok, Eightfold: The Golden Diploma in the Regional Choir Competition of Lublin Voivodeship, The Distinction Award at the XXI International Festival of Carols and Folk Christmas songs in Bedzin, The Education Superintendent for Lublin Voivodeship Award, and the Special Award of the Dean of the Faculty of Arts at Marie-Curie University at the 3rd National School Choirs Competition. Conductor Ms Elzbieta Niczyporuk has gained acclaim as an artist, being awarded with: the Golden Badge of the Polish Association of Choirs and Orchestras - for special artistic and organizational achievements (May 2012). Under her guidance, both choirs have been graced with numerous awards and distinctions in local, national and international contests and festivals.



CHRISTOPHORUS-JUGENDKAMMERCHOR VERSMOLD - GERMANY

Hans-Ulrich Henning founded the choir in 1979 together with pupils of the Christophorus School in Versmold. Key competency in the arts lies at the centre of the schools education system of the "Christian Association of Youth Villages". The choir, with six hours of rehearsals, professional vocal training and frequent week-long choir camps, enjoys exceptionally good opportunities for development. Thus, it is not surprising that the choir has won numerous first prizes in national and international competitions, amongst them the Grand Prix in Olomouc / Czech Republic in 1993. Its numerous choral partnerships feature bilateral projects, like for example the German-Latvian performance of "Miserere" by G. Donizetti in the Riga Cathedral. The choir has cooperated with WDR (West German Broadcasting Corporation) for many years, e.g. with the world premiere of a choral jazz piece, and frequently participates in its Christmas concerts. In 1985, 2002 and 2010 the choir was a finalist in the German Choral Competition. The choir also is the Winner of Goldmedal and Special Award for best dramatics at the IV. International Festival of Advent and Christmas Music, Bratislava.



CORONA - STORD

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 has a repertoire containing 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 18 singing ladies and our talented conductor since 2014 is Irene Simonsen



DAMEKORET KORALL - BERGEN

Korall is a female choir from Bergen, originally from the local community of Kringlebotn. We celebrated our 20th anniversary in 2016, and since the start, we have expanded to several parts of town. Throughout the years, the choir members have experienced great development by participation in challenging choir competitions, both nationally and abroad, and by taking up request performances locally. This requires great discipline and intensive rehearsals. Our skilled and patient conductor is Chris Lund helps us through all the musical challenges that we may meet. We like complicated scores, but we also enjoy presenting simpler things in a way that proves our interest in good musical impartment. We see ourselves as a choir with great charms, humour and versatile musical intentions.



ENSEMBLE SVE:A (SVENSKA VOKALEMBLEN: AOIDE) - SWEDEN

Ensemble Sve:a is a small vocal ensemble of currently 6 and maximum 12 singers. The ensemble was founded by Carolina Friberg in 2012. They have since the start performed in a variety of genres and places, from Verdiopera at Folkteatern in Gothenburg to popsongs at a reception for Bruce Springsteen and The E Street Band. The next big project after this choir festival is a collaboration with the composer Molly Teleman and the poet Hiromi Ito that will manifest itself as a series of concerts in Sweden next year and hopefully take the ensemble to Japan.



EVAS EPLER - OSLO

A female choir presently consisting of 22 singers. We are based in Oslo and attached to Grefsen church. The choir was founded in 2012 by conductor Erlend Fagertun and their aim is to sing beautifully in tune, touching as many people as possible in as many genres as possible, in the largest possible number of settings.



FRYD - FLORØ

Fryd is a ladies’ choir from the coastal town of Florø. The choir was founded in 2007 and consists of 20 ladies who get on well together. Their repertoire is varied, with both classical and pop music. Their competent conductor since the beginning is Kristin Skau.



HELENE STUREBORGS KAMMARKÖR - SWEDEN

Helene Stureborg’s Chamber Choir (HSK) was established in the autumn of 2011 on the initiative of alumni singers from the renowned and rewarded choir Stockholm’s Musikgymnasium’s Chamber Choir (SMK). Over the years, other singers have joined the choir. Since the start HSK has participated in the great, yearly Advent concerts in the City Hall. We have also participated in arena concerts such as Chess in Concert and I love Musicals. In addition to this we usually have four concerts of our own per choir year – autumn, Christmas, spring and summer.

In June 2016 the choir celebrated its’ five year-anniversary by winning the Fleischmann International Trophy in the renowned choir competition in Cork International Choral Festival in Ireland.

2017: Concert with Andrea Bocelli in Stockholm. La-la-land in Concert
2018: Invitation as guest choir at the Cork International choir competition



KOR E TONEN - BERGEN

A mixed choir connected to the folklore association BUL Ervingen and is based in Bergen. The choir was founded in 1979 and comprises about 40 relatively young singers. They have a varied repertoire.



KVINNEKORET STORD CON SPIRITO - STORD

This female choir is based on the island of Stord, south of Bergen, but it has singers from very different parts of the country. The choir was founded in 1990 and has been a project choir since 2000. There are new projects every six months with 2-4 rehearsal weekends in addition to the concert/ journey. Every member decides for herself which projects to participate at. The number of singers thus varies from project to project, typically 10-20 singers. The choir is conducted by Tore Kloster who suggests many of the works performed. Every choir member has great influence on the trail chosen by the group and every voice is appreciated. When they are together it is important to spend time well, so discipline is quite tough. Their aim is to maintain a high musical level and that does not come by not working hard. Appart from that, the choir members enjoy each other’s company and the rehearsals a lot.



MOTÝLI ŠUMPERK - CZECH REPUBLIC

Motyli Šumperk children's choir was founded in 1962. Though small at its inception, the choir soon found a place among major national vocal ensembles. Although the choir performs outside of large cultural centres, it has been a well-known and sought-after ensemble at home and abroad for a long time, and its history includes a number of notable moments. Over 2,000 singers have graced the ranks of the choir, which has toured most European countries. The choir has been featured on radio and television and has released a number of recordings. Many prominent figures from the professional music scene have accepted invitations to collaborate with the choir. The Motyli Šumperk concert choir is a regular and successful participant in important domestic and international festivals and competitions (Prague, Bratislava, Celje, Halle, Neerpelt, Nantes, Montreux, Llangollen, Tolosa, Basel, Preveza, Barcelona, Malta).



MULTA PAUCIS - BERGEN

“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.”



NAISKUORO ILONA - FINLAND

Female choir Ilona was founded in 2009 by a small group of music lovers who had a long history of playing classical instruments. Now they wanted to sing in a choir. The choir has since then grown into a happy group of about 30 singers. Ilona performs mostly a cappella. The choir's repertoire consists mainly of music by Finnish composers, both traditional and contemporary. Occasionally Ilona has performed with some other choirs and chamber music groups. Teemu Tommola has conducted Ilona from the beginning. He graduated from Sibelius Academy choral conducting class in 2007. Tommola also composes and arranges music that Ilona has frequently performed. Tommola's compositions have always been great audience favourites at Ilona's concerts.



ORIANA YOUTH FEMALE CHOIR - UKRAINE

The choir was founded in 2008 and is supported by the Ukrainian Cultural Centre. Their repertoire includes folklore, classical choral works and sacred music. The choir's mission is to revive and maintain the rich Ukrainian traditions of choral singing. They have won a large number of both national and international awards, the last of which two gold medals at the Tampere vocal music festival in Finland in 2017.



OS VOCALIS - OS

This is a female choir founded in 1982 consisting of about 20 ladies from Os and Bergen. Although amateurs, we are living our passion of singing good choral music from different eras and in different styles. Our competent and inspiring conductor is Eirin Beate Åserud-Løvlid. We arrange our own concerts and perform at special venues for cooperations and associations. We also regularly participate at choir competitions and choral festivals.



OSTERØYKORET - OSTERØY

This is a mixed choir of 45 singers, renowned for their good soloists and rich timbre. The choir was founded in 1914 and is led by Jon Flydal Blichfeldt. He emphasises vocal technique, harmony and dynamics. Their repertoire includes Händel's Hallelujah chorus, hymns, gospel, pop, musical theatre and even big band music. They see themselves as a local community countryside choir, and they aim to be the best version of themselves.



POLYFONI - OS

We are a vocal group primarily focusing on early music. We sing secular and sacred music by composers from all over Europe, i.e. Dowland, Palestrina, Gesualdo and Wilbye, and wish to promote both the madrigal genre and the sacred music of the renaissance.



STAVANGER DOMKIRKES PIKEKOR - STAVANGER

A girls' choir based at the Stavanger cathedral. It was founded in 1979 and is regarded as a quality choir in the Stavanger area. The girls come from different schools and communities to gather in their common interest of part singing. The choir focuses on participation, belonging and quality. The singers participate at church services and regularly give concerts and performances both inside and outside the cathedral walls. Their conductor since 2012 is Jorunn Lovise Husan.



STORDKORET - STORD

Stordkoret was established in 1978 and thus celebrates its 40th anniversary this year, which will be marked by a special concert in the autumn.

Throughout these 40 years, the choir has performed several works of sacred music in cooperation with musicians from Bergen filharmonic orchestra and professional solo singers. Some of their performances during these past few years have been: Missa Di Gloria by Puccini, Ein Deutsches Requiem by Brahms, Requiem by Mozart, the Christmas Oratorio by Bach, Messiah by Händel and Berlinermesse by Pärt. Amongst their secular performances the concerts of works by Theodorakis and the Norwegian music group Vamp, have been the most successful.

Stordkoret participate at choir competitions both nationally and abroad.



VOKALENSEMBLET SKRIK - BERGEN

Vokalensemblet Skrik is a choir from Bergen, aiming to give its audience memorable experiences from a repertoire of a cappella music. We give our own concerts, cooperate with other choirs and musicians, we perform on request and we participate at choir competitions.

Since we started working with our new conductor in 2016, we have in many ways become a renewed choir, both in terms of members, but also in the way we come across to our audiences. Our new conductor Christian Holter is not only a competent singer, he is also a capable music arranger and composer – skills from which the choir benefits.

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