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NEWS FROM IFCM

WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON CHORAL MUSIC (WSCM) IN ISTANBUL (25-30 April 2023)

Message from Chair of the Artistic Committee, Jan Schumacher, and Administrative Committee, Ki Adams

The **2023 World Symposium on Choral Music** – *Changing Horizons* has just concluded in Istanbul, Türkiye! With support from the Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Culture and Tourism and IFCM, we were able to organize a truly international celebration of collective singing. With guest choirs, invited presenters, and participants from over 60 countries, our time together was a musical and cultural extravaganza. It was a gathering characterized by artistic brilliance and excellence, musical and cultural diversity and exchange, and a dynamic pursuit of knowledge and understanding. Through concerts, keynote presentations, conducting and composer masterclasses, meet-the-composer sessions, open singing, reading sessions, panels, roundtables, lounges, and the EXPO, there was something for everyone!

Changing Horizons, the theme for WSCM 2023, speaks both to the specific IFCM flagship event and to the global choral community on a number of levels. It suggests a new and broader understanding of choral music that includes styles, regions, and traditions of ensemble singing which may have been excluded previously from the conventional definition of choral music. There is enormous creative wealth in these parallel artistic expressions and experiences that has the potential to enrich the evolution of collective singing. To change the horizon is to take our art form and extend its boundaries. The horizon limits our own vision, but horizons need not be stagnant; beyond them, there will always be more to discover.

During our six days together, our community experienced, celebrated, and interrogated the choral landscape around the world. What does it look like at the present and what might/could it look like in the future? Together, we opened ourselves to experiencing and valuing a different aesthetic in group singing. We created spaces in which we were challenged in our own practice at some level. Hopefully, in this crazy world, the 2023 Symposium program managed to 'change' personal horizons as well, supplying new energy and purpose as we individually bring the power of choral singing to our own countries and communities. Peace and understanding begin with us conductors as individuals who have the agency and responsibility to lead and inspire those connected with us. To quote Barack Obama: *Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.*



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We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the members of the WSCM 2023 Artistic and Administrative Committees, the outstanding Turkish WSCM 2023 Team and Staff, Koro Kültürü Derneği Board and Music Commission, IFCM Board and Staff, D-Event, WSCM 2023 Advisors, and YOUNG-Youth International Cultural Management Program. We feel blessed to have been part of a team of creative and dedicated individuals who love collective singing, people, and the host city and country.

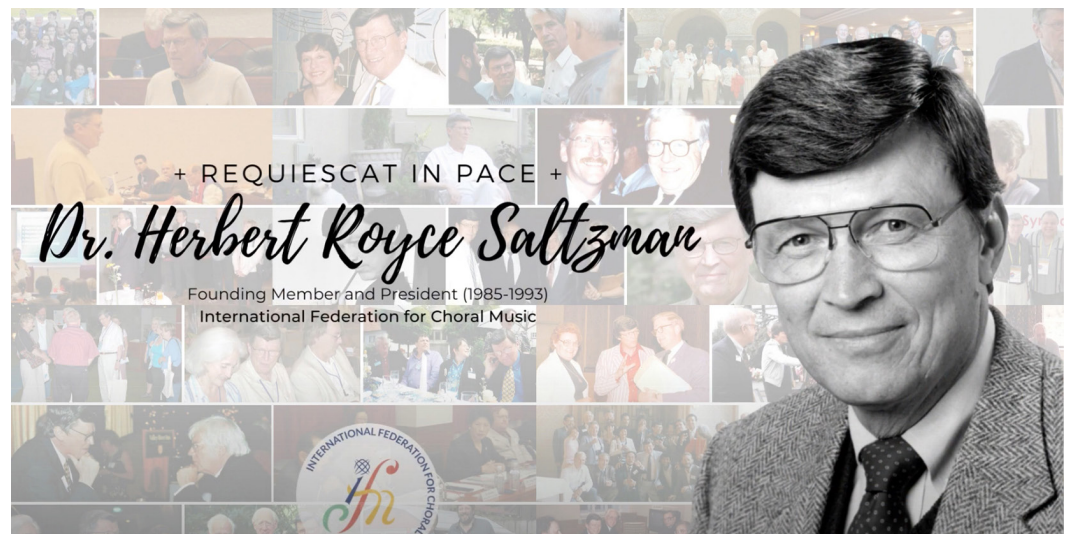
On behalf of the ArtCom and AdminCom, we hope WSCM2023 participants enjoyed their experience in İstanbul. It was a delight to meet so many IFCM members at the various planned events where we had lots of opportunities to share music, ideas, experiences, friendships, food, and fun! We look forward to meeting again in 2026!

OBITUARY: DR. HERBERT ROYCE SALTZMAN

IFCM is deeply saddened about the passing of our dear friend and Honorary Member, Royce Saltzman, in Eugene, Oregon, USA, on 3 April 2023, in his 95th year. Royce was a conductor, an educator, the Co-Founder/Executive Director of the Oregon Bach Festival, President of ACDA (1979-1981), and Founding Member and President of IFCM (1985-1993). He was a generous, creative, and enthusiastic choral leader and a man of long-term vision and positive action whose diplomacy and wisdom combined with his networks and exchange spaces created an incredibly significant legacy for the universal choral family and for future generations.

"Royce's commitment to IFCM started in 1979 when he met a group of choral leaders determined to create an international organization that would facilitate cooperation and exchange between choirs, educational institutions, and national organizations. In 1981, at the national ACDA Convention in New Orleans, Royce initiated a choral summit, attended by leaders from thirteen countries. The group addressed issues such as touring, education, the sharing of information and materials, but foremost, the possibility of establishing an international organization that would facilitate cooperation and exchange. Royce then chaired an interim committee that met in Loughborough, England, to establish statutes, choose a name that would represent its global outreach, and determine Founding Organizations, which would provide support and validity to this fledgling alliance. Thus, in 1982, the child IFCM was born." *

This child is now 41 years old. Thank you, Royce! May your life and legacy inspire many choral leaders around the world.



*Extract of the article published in the *International Choral Bulletin* in 2011, **From Father to Daughter....**, by Kathy Saltzman Romey, one of Royce's daughters. An article

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celebrating the life of Royce will be published in the July issue of the *International Choral Magazine*.

IFCM President, Emily KuoVong, and the IFCM Board members send their deepest condolences to Phyllis and to daughters Kathy, Lisa, Jody, and Marta and their children.

[More on Royce's commitment at the Oregon Bach Festival](#)

CALL FOR CANDIDATES TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHORAL MAGAZINE

IFCM calls for candidates to fill positions on the Editorial Board of the [International Choral Magazine](#) (ICM) for a three-year term beginning in the Summer 2023.

Here is the official [Call for Interest](#). If a position on the ICM Editorial Board is of interest to you, please complete [Application Form](#) by **15 May 2023**.

We are looking forward to receiving your application!

INTERNATIONAL CHORAL MAGAZINE
formerly known as the International Choral Bulletin (ICB)

BE PART OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD!

Help us fill these pages.

Apply until the 15th of May 2023
<https://bit.ly/IntlChoralMagEB2023>

#InternationalChoralMagazine

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6th INTERNATIONAL CHORAL COMPOSITION COMPETITION 2023/2024

categories
Mixed Voices | World Choral Day Song

Submit until **30 September 2023**
For more information: www.ifcm.net

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IFCM CHORAL COMPOSITION COMPETITION 2023/2024

IFCM has organized five international choral composition competitions since this project was created in 2010. The aim of these competitions is to promote the creation and distribution of new, innovative, and accessible choral repertoire.

IFCM announces its **6th International Competition for Choral Composition** to promote new works in choral music and to encourage innovation in choral writing which fits the needs of a 21st-century choir. We are looking for compositions that combine originality, imagination, and creativity within the context of contemporary global themes.

Rules and Regulations

Deadline: 30 September 2023. Submission to be sent to secretarygeneral@ifcm.net.

Applications fees are US\$12.00 (**HDI3**) / 18.00 (**HDI2**) / 25.00 (**HDI1**). Fees vary according to the country of nationality of the composer.

UPDATE ON THE WORLD YOUTH CHOIR

The 2023 alumni session of the **World Youth Choir** will take place 3-12 June 2023 in Croatia, Slovenia, and Hungary. A short rehearsal period is organized at the International Cultural Centre of Jeunesses Musicales Croatia in Grožnjan, followed by concerts in Ljubljana (Slovenia),

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Budapest and Veszprém (Hungary). For this post-pandemic, restart alumni session, 43 alumni singers from 32 different countries were selected to participate and represent the World Youth Choir. Find the selected singers list [here](#).

The World Youth Choir will perform under the artistic direction of Zoltán Pad (Hungary) as main conductor and Petra Grassi (Italy/Slovenia) as second conductor. Find more information about the conductors [here](#).

The World Youth Choir is a program supported by [Jeunesses Musicales International](#), the [European Choral Association](#), and IFCM. Various national and local organizations have collaborated with the WYC patrons to make this alumni session possible. These partners include [Jeunesses Musicales Croatia](#), [Javni sklad RS za kulturne dejavnosti JSKD](#), [Jeunesses Musicales Hungary](#), [Ministry of Culture and Media of Croatia](#), [Veszprém-Balaton 2023](#) and the [European Music Council](#).



AFRICA CANTAT

[Africa Cantat 2](#) is actively preparing to welcome hundreds of festival goers expected in Yaoundé from 1-6 August 2023. The festival will take place on the Nkolbisson campus of the [Catholic University of Central Africa](#) in Yaoundé.

This peaceful and ecological site, which boasts quality infrastructures, is the ideal setting for the 'festival village' with its lush green spaces preserving biodiversity and landscape heritage, as well as its multifunctional venues. All the workshops and most of the concerts will take place on site, close to the accommodation and restaurants, favouring exchanges and conviviality and, above all, quality performance spaces.

The largest international festival of choral music in Africa, initiated by the [Confederation of African Choral Music](#) (ACCM) under the patronage of the Ministry of Culture and Arts of Cameroon, Africa Cantat 2 is organised by the [Association of Friends of the Madrigal Choir of René Esso of Cameroon](#), and supported by the [IFCM](#), the [European Choral Association](#), [A Coeur Joie International](#) (ACJI), [Afrikiyo](#), and the [Cameroon Federation of Choral Music A Coeur Joie](#) (FECAMUSH-ACJ). It is funded

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by the regional programme “**ACP- EU CULTURE - Creating in Central Africa**” with the contribution of the European Union and the support of the Organisation of ACP States.

Register [here](#).

Let's sing in the heart of Africa!



AMERICA CANTAT 10

The America Cantat 10 festival will take place in the City of La Plata, Argentina (capital of the Province of Buenos Aires), 11-15 October 2023. We will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the first version of America Cantat which was held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, in 1992.

Those who join this celebration will be able to choose between several workshops:

- *Silvio*, a workshop dedicated to the works of Silvio Rodríguez with choral arrangements by Eduardo Ferraudi and presented by Digna Guerra (Cuba)

INTERNATIONAL CHORAL FESTIVAL

AMERICA CANTAT 10

Come to sing!

23 | oct. 11/15 La Plata -Argentina-

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- *The Voice of the Rainbow*, a workshop for children's choirs presented by Elisenda Carrasco (Spain)
- *Contemporary American Music*, presented by Cecilia Espinosa (Colombia)
- *Popular Brazilian and Uruguayan Music*, presented by Federico Trinidad (Brazil/Uruguay)
- *American Music with African Roots*, presented by Mabel Troia (Venezuela)
- *Carnaval de los Andes*, presented by composer Camilo Matta with some sections presented by Viviana Bognar (Argentina)
- *Utopia*, an overview of the Renaissance and Baroque movements and Spanish and Latin American Baroque music presented by Leonardo Garcia Alarcon (Argentina)

In addition to the workshops, lectures on styles and rehearsal techniques will be offered by:

- Roberto Saccente (Argentina)
- José María Sciutto (Italy/Argentina)

Participants will enjoy concerts by prestigious choirs such as the Coral Femenino de San Justo, conducted by Roberto Saccente, and the Coro Nacional de Música Argentina, conducted by Guillermo Tesone.

All choirs participating in America Cantat 10 which wish to give concerts will be able to do so in various halls at the festival's location in the city of La Plata or in Buenos Aires.

More details [here](#).

Register [here](#).

MUSICA INTERNATIONAL

Have you considered organizing a concert around the theme of the Four Elements (air, water, fire, earth)?

Musica International database (www.musicanet.org or <https://www.ifcm.net/service/access-to-musica-international-database> for IFCM members) is an ideal resource for building a concert program around a given theme, particularly because the database is developed as a collaborative project in which all choral musicians are invited to participate. As Musica International is a structured database, conductors can obtain specific, targeted responses by combining multiple and different search criteria.

As an example, Musica International suggested the Four Elements theme in its recent newsletter (https://www.musicanet.org/musicamail/202303/202303_en.html) and invited everyone to share their favorite pieces which might fit within a Four Elements themed program. Here is a sampling of the proposals received:

- "Clair flambeau du monde (*l'air, la terre et l'onde*)" from *Les Indes Galantes* by Jean-Philippe Rameau: <https://www.musicanet.org/bdd/en/score/151461-clair-flambeau-du-monde-jean-philippe-rameau>
- "Let them not say" by Chris Hutchings: <https://www.musicanet.org/bdd/en/score/118448-let-them-not-say-chris-hutchings>
- "Power of nature" by Alwin Schronen: <https://www.musicanet.org/bdd/en/score/172274-power-of-nature-alwin-michael-schronen>

A new keyword, <4 elements> or <four elements>, has been created for all the scores related to this topic. You can now use the keyword to begin your search and then narrow it down by including additional criteria such as voicing, key, duration, type of choir, genre, difficulty, other keywords, and more.

If you have a choral piece which refers to one or more of the Four Elements, contact Musica International at librarian@musicanet.org. If the score is already labeled in the database, Musica's librarian will add the keyword to the respective descriptive record. Otherwise, if there is sufficient information on a piece that is not yet included in the database, a new record will be created.



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THE ASIA PACIFIC YOUTH CHOIR GOES TO PENANG ISLAND, MALAYSIA, IN 2023

The **Asia Pacific Choral Council Working Committee** and its coordinators, Yoshi Egawa, Jennifer Tham, and Susanna Saw from the host organisation, are very happy to announce that the **Asia Pacific Youth Choir** (APYC 2023) will be held in Penang Island, Malaysia, 16-23 July 2023.

The 32 young talented singers who were selected in 2020 will join the session. Chi Hoe Mak (Malaysia) and Tracy Wong (Malaysia/Canada) will lead the choir.

If you are a singer from the Asia Pacific region and you want to participate in a APYC session, the next recruitment will be organized next year. The dates will be announced on IFCM website, IFCMeNEWS, and social media. Stay in touch and don't miss the opportunity.



NEWS FROM IFCM FOUNDING MEMBERS

EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION (ECA)

Online webinar: "When Choral Music isn't enough"

Do not miss the second webinar of the year

WHEN: Wednesday 17 May 2023, 17:00 CEST, Online

WHO CAN ATTEND: Everyone can attend. Participation is free.

HOW TO REGISTER: <https://bit.ly/RegisterWebinar2023-2>

MEET THE LECTURER: [Robert Hollingworth](#)

Robert Hollingworth founded *I Fagiolini* in 1986. In addition to working with this ensemble, Robert has directed the English Concert, Academy of Ancient Music, BBC Concert Orchestra, Irish Baroque Orchestra, and some of the world's finest chamber choirs including Accentus, NDR Chor (North German Radio Choir), the National Chamber Choir of Ireland, BBC Singers, Danish National Vocal Ensemble, RIAS Kammerchor, and Capella Cracoviensis.

Robert is the Artistic Director for Stour Music, a festival of early music held in the Stour valley, Kent, England, and is Reader in Music at the University of York where he directs 'The 24' and runs an MA in Solo-Voice Ensemble Singing. He has written and presented programs on BBC Radio 3 and, more recently, created over 30 episodes of the YouTube choral series

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'SingTheScore' as well as presenting the podcast 'Choral Chihuahua' with Eamonn Dougan. This online event is organised in the frame of [IGNITE](#), co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union.

Watch the [introduction video](#) and learn more!



WHEN CHORAL MUSIC ISN'T ENOUGH

Wednesday | 17 May 2023 | 17:00 CEST

With Robert Hollingworth

an initiative of   Co-funded by the European Union



Breaking Down Walls – Advocacy statement calling for more cooperation in the sector

The European Choral Association has just published an advocacy statement under the title: **“Breaking Down Walls – A vision for increased unity and cooperation in the collective singing community”**.

Inspired by the success of [Leading Voices 2022](#) in Utrecht, which created many new and strengthened connections between people from different genres and styles, the European Choral Association calls on all those who are working with collective singing to reach out to others in the sector, in particular, decision makers and funding bodies to support organisations and events in the sector.

This advocacy statement has also paved the way towards a panel which took the topic to a global level at the [World Symposium on Choral Music](#) in Istanbul at the end of April 2023.

Read the advocacy statement [HERE](#)



BREAKING DOWN WALLS

advocacy statement calling for more cooperation in the sector

AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION (ACDA)

The American Choral Directors Association is happy to announce its [Regional Conferences 2024](#):

- [Northwestern Region](#) (Spokane, Washington), 24-27 January 2024
- [Midwestern Region](#) (Omaha, Nebraska), 7-10 February 2024
- [Southern Region](#) (Louisville, Kentucky), 21-24 February 2024

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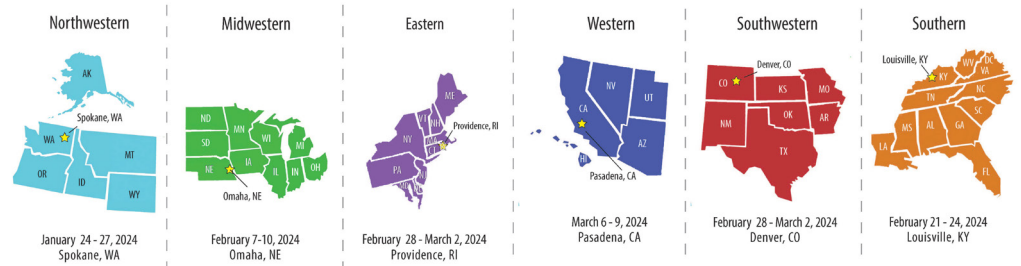
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- **Eastern Region** (Providence, Rhode Island), 28 February- 2 March 2024
- **Southwestern Region** (Denver, Colorado), 28 February- 3 March 2024
- **Western Region** (Pasadena, California), 6-9 March 2024



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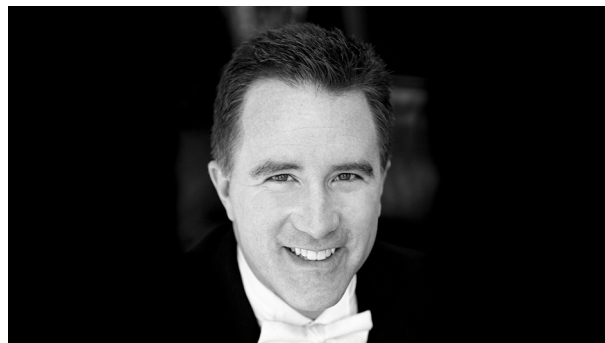
FENIARCO: 12th European Academy for Choral Conductors Fano/Italy, 27 August - 3 September 2023

The [European Academy for Choral Conductors](#) is a two-year professional masterclass organised by Feniarco and open to conductors from all over the world. *Made in USA: Choral Music from North America* is the topic chosen for this edition, with compositions by Copland, Lauridsen, Bernstein, Barber, Ticheli, Runestad, and others. A high-level pilot-choir will work with the conductors throughout the week. The guide for this musical journey will be [Brady Allred](#), artistic director and conductor of the Salt Lake Choral Artists.

Applications deadline 31 May 2023

More details on feniarco.it/en/

REGISTER [HERE](#)



We invite you to visit the [Calendar of Choral Activities](#) published by the European Choral Association — Europa Cantat and the American Choral Director Association ACDA's Network [ChoralNet](#) to check on the choral events planned in the coming months.

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