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NEWS FROM IFCM

WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON CHORAL MUSIC, DOHA, QATAR

30 December 2023 – 5 January 2024

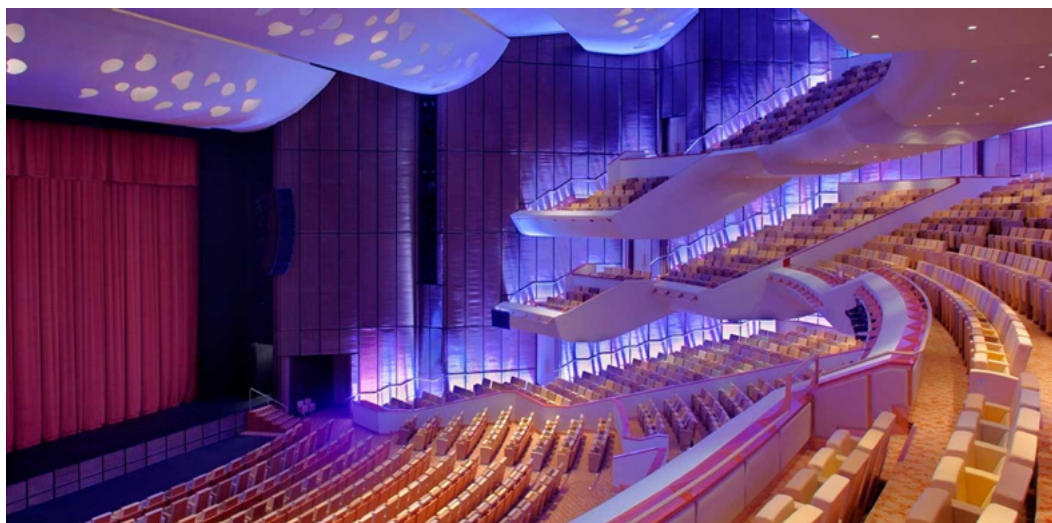
The WSCM 2023/24 Call for Vocal and Choral Ensembles and Presentations coming this month! As we emerge from Covid, the choral world needs something to look forward to - an event that gathers our global community; uplifts, energizes and inspires our membership; and offers a massive celebration of our art form. The World Symposium on Choral Music in Qatar, **from 30 December 2023 to 5 January 2024**, will provide exactly what we are all craving.

- Performances by a diverse selection of 24 outstanding vocal and choral ensembles from around the world
- 40 experts offering talks on a plethora of choral and singing related topics
- Three gala concerts by some of the most thrilling artists in choral and collective singing
- Conducting workshops lead by renowned choral conductors
- Reading sessions of some of the most exciting new publications in choral music
- Premieres of newly-commissioned choral works
- A fringe festival that offers all choirs and ensembles the opportunity to take the stage
- Options to earn internationally recognized university graduate credit
- An exhibition featuring all the latest in publications, music-related technology, choral equipment, choral organizations, upcoming festivals and events, and much more
- Organized excursions to Qatar's beautiful deserts and beaches
- Scholarship and funding opportunities to assist participants and choirs in need of financial subsidies

The World Symposium on Choral Music in 2023/24 in Qatar will be all this and more, and the first step will be the call for Vocal and Choral Ensembles and Presenters.

This June, stay tuned for all the details of the call! The WSCM's Artistic Committee will be putting together a geographically and stylistically diverse programme of exceptional quality. With Qatar hosting the WSCM 2023/24, participants and guests alike can look forward to a once in a life time choral experience. Whether as a featured ensemble, a speaker, a student, or a participant, plan to be part of this historic event!

Details will be released on the WSCM 2023/24 website at www.wscm2023.com. We look forward to welcoming you to Qatar!



Qatar National Theatre

IFCM CHORAL COMPOSITION COMPETITION 2022

The International Federation for Choral Music has organized four 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 **Fifth 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 for applications is **15 January 2022**.

**SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANISATION COUNTRIES YOUTH CHOIR (SCOCYC) GATHERING**

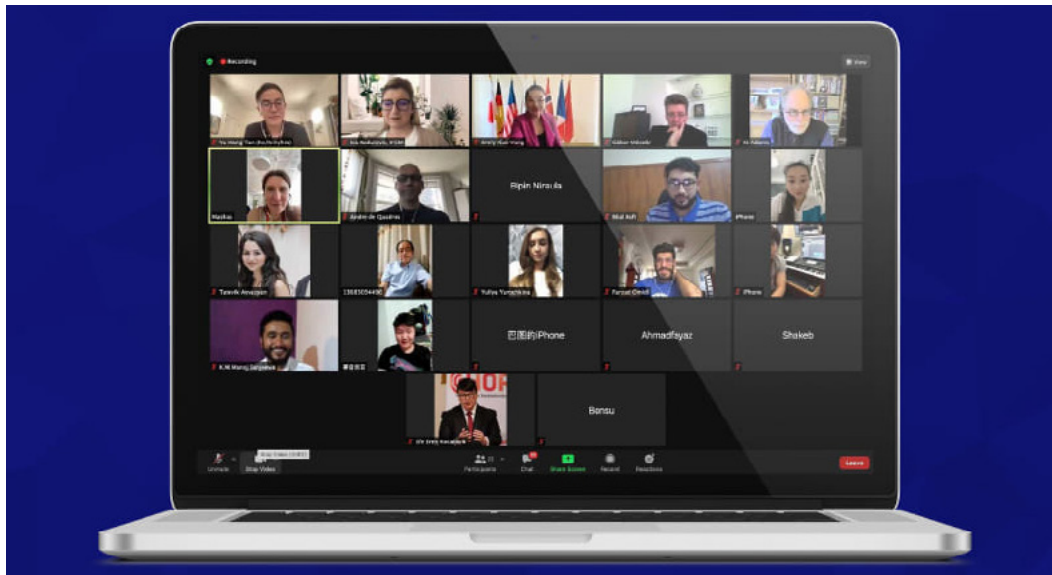
With many fond memories of their time together in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, and Beijing, China, singers, instrumentalists, and conductors of the 2019 **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Countries Youth Choir** (SCOCYC) gathered online on 18 May 2021 to reminisce and reflect on this historic moment in the international choral world. Meeting across 16 time zones, they were joined by Emily Kuo (IFCM President), Gábor Móczár (SCOCYC committee chair), Ki Adams (SCOCYC artistic chair), and Yu Hang Tan (session manager). Special invited guest Ambassador Wang Kaiwen (recently SCO Deputy Secretary-General and now Deputy Secretary-General of Xi'an Eurasian Economic Forum) spoke about the significance of this project in bringing together singers from 16 of the 18 countries in the SCO for a cultural dialogue, i.e., rehearsing and performing together as a choir. The SCO countries represented in 2019 were Afghanistan, Armenia, Belarus, Cambodia, China, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Uzbekistan. Conductors André de Quadros (India-USA) and Maria Goundorina (Russia-Sweden) led the reflection with two questions:

- In what ways has the SCOCYC made a profound change in the way you view music and the world?
- Discuss the most memorable musical moment you had at the SCOCYC.

Reflections from the participants will be included in the SCOCYC promotional video being prepared to promote future sessions.

The gathering ended with a video, *A Time to Remember*, a photo video collage of images from 2019 with a sound track by Inner Mongolia morin khuur player, Han Mu Ren. Everyone

left inspired and encouraged that 'we will meet again' to sing together as an 'instrument' for developing mutual trust, friendship, and respect.



ICB CHORAL REVIEWS

Have you discovered an exciting book about choral music? a CD? A fascinating playlist or an amazing choir video? Tell us about it! Contact the ICB Editor.

NEWS FROM IFCM FOUNDING MEMBERS

EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION - EUROPA CANTAT (ECA-EC)

Programme changes of the [Europa Cantat 2021](#)

Live in Ljubljana or online

While the pandemic and different measures aimed at curbing the spread of infections continue to shape our lives, the [festival's diverse program](#) has undergone several changes.

After months of hard work and efforts to construct various scenarios, we have found ourselves at a point where there are no more options, and we are obliged to make radical changes to our programme due to various risk factors.

Unfortunately, the very core of our festival, the ateliers of 4 days, 6 days, and 8 days as well as the Study Tour will have to be cancelled completely. The Slovenian authorities do not wish to increase the risk of mass infections by gathering so many people from different countries in one place and letting them sing together in large groups for several days.

BUT DON'T WORRY! WE ARE NOT GIVING UP – NO WAY!

We will be able to implement some other parts of the project, LIVE IN LJUBLJANA or ONLINE.

Here are few hints of the programme:

- [Concerts](#) of invited groups and the [Listen to Slovenia](#) cycle
- A "Day of Choirs"
- [PULSE programme](#), including the publishers' Reading Sessions and educational offers of some choral organisations (VoxBazaar), ONLINE
- A "Virtual Foyer", offering all registered participants and everybody else connected to Europa Cantat 2021 an online platform to meet old friends, make new ones, meet

JUNE 2021

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our choral world*



IFCMeNEWS

conductors, organise virtual meetings, and much more; also, it is the social platform for our big Europa Cantat family.

- An online TV programme with interviews, videos from Ljubljana, background information, a look behind the scenes, impressions from live concerts... AND MUCH MORE!

Despite the change, you are still invited to Ljubljana, the Green Capital of Europe. Take the opportunity to explore Slovenia and its beautiful treasures and iconic landmarks, all the way from the Alps to the Adriatic Sea, and enjoy great music at one of the Europa Cantat evening concerts.

Stay in touch for more [programme updates](#).

[#singwithlove](#)



Advocacy through storytelling | Online Workshop

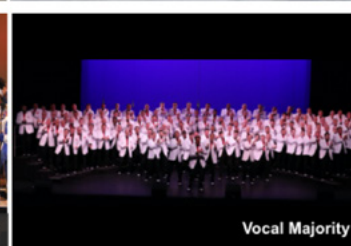
11 June 2021, 3:00pm – 6:00pm CEST

One of ECA-EC's capacity building workshops developed for staff of cultural organisations, this workshop will explore how organisations can use storytelling as a powerful tool to support their advocacy work. All singers want to have their voices heard. However, it is just as important that singers are a strong voice for the sector, telling compelling stories of how the arts (choral singing in particular) holds the potential to transform the lives of individuals and communities, contributing to well-being, cohesive societies, and economic prosperity. Guiding the participants will be the wonderful Julie Ward.

Register right [here](#)!

AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION (ACDA)

The ACDA virtual national conference, [Diversity in Music](#), was a great success. For a limited time, people can still [join ACDA and register](#) for the conference, which will allow them to view all sessions and recordings through December 2021.



[ACDA's regional conferences](#) have been scheduled for 2022! Calls for performing choirs and

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR CHORAL MUSIC monthly electronic newsletter

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interest sessions are still open in Eastern, Southwestern, and Northwestern Regions.

- Eastern Region (Boston, Massachusetts), 9-12 February 2022
- Midwestern Region (Chicago, Illinois), 16-19 February 2022
- Southern Region (Raleigh, North Carolina), 23-26 February 2022
- Southwestern Region (Little Rock, Arkansas), 28 February – 3 March 2022
- Western Region (Long Beach, California), 2-5 March 2022
- Northwestern Region (Spokane, Washington), 9-12 March 2022

NEWS FROM IFCM MEMBERS

IFCM IS VERY HAPPY AND PROUD TO WELCOME A NEW MEMBER

In the Choir category:

InChorus France (Pascal Adoumbou, conductor) <https://www.inchorusfrance.com>

SUMMA CUM LAUDE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL VIENNA 2021

October 30th – November 3rd, 2021

Vienna, Austria (Europe)

The Summa Cum Laude Festival Vienna is Austria's premier global youth music festival for choirs, bands and orchestras. It takes place in Vienna's most important and most beautiful concert venues: The Golden Hall of the Musikverein, the Grand Hall of the Konzerthaus and the MuTh Concert Hall of the renowned Vienna Boys' Choir – offering an international environment where more than 1.000 young musicians enjoy intercultural exchanges and build bridges that span continents.

We would like to emphasise how happy and grateful we are to announce the next SCL Festival after a year of lockdowns, isolation and cultural austerity. We are so much looking forward to a Festival full of music and joy, full of live and musical encounters!

office@scfestival.org - <http://www.scfestival.org/contact>



WHAT'S ON IN JUNE AND JULY 2021 IN OUR CHORAL WORLD

30 June-11 July: Festival of Voices, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia — <https://festivalofvoices.com/>

5-11 July: 56th Barcelona International Choir Festival goes online! Spain — www.fcec.cat

5-11 July: 38th International Choir Festival of Preveza, 27th International Competition of Sacred Music, Preveza, Greece — <http://www.armoniachoir.gr/festival/index.php>

6-11 July: Chanakkale International Choir Festival and Competition, Chanakkale, Turkey — <http://www.canakkalekorofestivali.com/>

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IFCMeNEWS

7-10 July: International Youth Music Festival I & Slovakia Folk, Bratislava, Slovak Republic — www.choral-music.sk

8-12 July: Musica Orbis Prague Festival Online, Czech Republic — <https://www.musicaorbis.com/>

11-16 July: Edinburgh Early Music Summer School, United Kingdom — www.lacock.org

16-25 July: Europa Cantat Festival 2021, live in Ljubljana or online, Slovenia — <https://europacantat.jskd.si/>

21-25 July: 12th International festival of choirs and orchestras, Tuscany, Italy — www.mrf-musicfestivals.com

26-29 July: International Youth Music Festival II and Bratislava Cantat I, Bratislava, Slovak Republic — www.choral-music.sk

29 July-1 Aug: 1st Classical Music Summer Festival, Vienna, Austria — <http://www.concerts-austria.com/summer-festival-vienna>

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.