

ECA-EC BOARD ELECTIONS 2021

Candidature Marco Fornasier

Motivation

My adventure as a manager in the choral community began over 15 years ago. By working as a contact person of a national association member of the European Choral Association-Europa Cantat, I have always felt and cultivated a sense of belonging, attachment and deep admiration towards the European federation.

Remembering when my relationship with choral music begins is a difficult task. I am a son of a choir conductor; I grew up singing and playing music from an early age. In addition to my musical studies, being the practical and rational person that I am, I have always cultivated my economic and management studies with interest and personal pleasure. Numbers and music are the passions of my life and every day I feel privileged to be able to reconcile these two apparently different aspects of life. I think that having graduated from Economics, allows me to have a different point of view towards choral events and to be able to optimise the talents and skills of each element of a working group.

Experience, knowledge and know-how are the features I feel I can provide now. During the long time I have spent in the field of event management I have learned the most precious and interesting lessons of my professional and personal life.

Throughout my career I had the good fortune to cross paths with the ECA-EC, collaborating with other national federations and international institutions in the realisation of many projects supported with funds from the European Union. These projects allowed me to get to know other federations and, above all, many highly competent people, motivating me to promote, in the context of my own country, the importance of the European choral network, the Europa Cantat Festival and the value of a federation representing the entire choral movement.

I believe this is the right moment to offer in an even more direct way, my personal contribution in carrying forward together with many people who share the ideals, that dream that the founding fathers tried to pursue sixty years ago.

I am a simple person who does not like big titles. I believe that ideas and even more facts make people great.

Why are you interested in becoming a Board member of the European Choral Association-Europa Cantat?

What makes you a good Board member?

Over the years I have had the pleasure of collaborating in many events of the European Choral Association-Europa Cantat: in particular, the preparation and the organisation of the festival Europa Cantat Torino 2012 allowed me to work concretely on one of the most important events of international choral music. It was an experience that overwhelmed me, giving me enormous satisfaction and the confirmation that commitment, dedication, strategy and competence are essential features to lead an association at any level.

I have learned a great deal from ECA-EC and I hope that, as a Board member, I will be able to share in its growth and development over the next few years, working in team and listening to the different voices that represent a democratic organisation such as ECA-EC.

I strongly believe that the ECA-EC can contribute in a decisive way to improve the quality of choral life in Europe by building the bases of society for a real European Union and I could be a good member helping the federation to reach new important goals.

How can you contribute to the development of the federation and what would you like to focus on during the period on board?

What I can offer to the European Choral Association-Europa Cantat is my experience, my ideas, the time and the professionalism that I have acquired in these years of service to choral music and that I think I can further deepen within a leading federation such as ECA-EC. The challenges I have taken on with Feniarco in recent years have been numerous and have allowed me to gain experience in many areas of choral music. It has also enabled me to meet and come into direct contact with many European choral realities and their teams, establishing important relationships and synergies.

I would like not only to be part of the ECA-EC projects but also to cultivate the comparison of ideas, the development of the European cultural scene by giving voice in a competent and professional way to the amateur choral music from all over Europe. It will be important to listen, to share, to innovate in the wake of tradition and of the valuable background of teachers, that the new board will be able to inherit from those who have so far carried on the soul of the European choral community. I will also be happy to represent the Italian choral movement with its own distinctive identity and its desire to create bridges between different cultures and traditions.

What is your vision about the European Choral Association-Europa Cantat and its activities?

Today, more than ever, the role played by European Choral Association-Europa Cantat is of primary importance in the international choral landscape. Speaking of Europe at this time is even too easy. Since its birth, ECA-EC has been uniting the nations of Europe by networking their music, their languages and their cultural life. Sense of belonging, sustainability, empowerment, mutual understanding are the aspects of the federation that I most respect and share. Behind the proposed activities, musical and choral events I constantly find a special attention to issues which are necessary for the future of Europe such as inclusiveness, diversity and sustainability. I share that vision that only a broad-minded and highly sensitive association can have.

The recent pandemic has overwhelmed everyone's lives and brought deep changes in society. The role of choral music has also been and will be subject to transformation. In this particular moment, I believe it is more necessary than ever to be ready for rapid changes and to listen to the new requirements that have arisen, trying to be close to the needs of the territories and communities. I am deeply convinced that ECA-EC will be able to answer to this social emergency with the quality and sensitivity that has always set it apart.

Biography

Marco Fornasier was born in San Vito al Tagliamento in 1976. Since he was a child, he followed his passions: music, sport and economy. He graduated at the age of 19 in piano at the Conservatoire G. Tartini of Trieste, then he started studying harpsichord obtaining a diploma at the Conservatoire J. Tomadini of Udine. At the same time, he got a diploma in accounting and then a degree in Economics at Udine University.

He is a great fan of Renaissance and Baroque music and he has collaborated as continuist (harpsichord and organ) with several orchestras and choirs in his region, including the Ensemble Orologio and the Baroque Orchestra G.B. Tiepolo, with whom he has performed in prestigious contexts and with internationally renowned soloists and musicians such as Emma Kirkby, Bruce Dickey, Doron Sherwin and many others.



Choral singing is a family style: in 1990 he joined the Corale di Rauscedo, conducted by his father, both as a singer and as organist and artistic consultant, a role he still holds.

After the experience in the economic management of a construction company and in several activities at local and regional level, in 2006, he began working with Feniarco, the national federation of choirs in Italy, for the implementation of specific projects funded by the Ministry of Social Policies. Shortly afterwards he became the coordinator of the Feniarco secretariat, taking care of the organisational, economic and programming aspects of the federation, trying to combine artistic, social and cultural needs with a good and consolidated business management.

Since the beginning of his work in Feniarco, he is the manager of the Italian Youth Choir following directly its activities, stages and concerts. Moreover, his aptitude for computer science led him to create the project that puts on the web all the websites of the Italian Regional Choral Associations and the project *Italiacori.it*, the database of Italian choral music, which is continuously implemented.

From 2009 to 2012, in parallel with the work in Feniarco, he was the business manager of the Festival Europa Cantat Torino 2012, promoted by the same national federation in collaboration with the European Choral Association-Europa Cantat.

Classical and choral music is not the only genre of his interest. He has always cultivated a passion for rock music that has led him to collect over 1500 records and to attend over 300 concerts of some of the most famous groups in the history of *popular* music.

He loves sports and competitions: for many years he has been part of the organising committee of one of the major youth soccer tournaments in Europe, having the good fortune to host the first steps as a champion of Leo Messi.

San Vito al Tagliamento, 30th September 2021

**To the
BOARD AND GENERAL SECRETARIAT
EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION - EUROPA CANTAT
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Candidature to the Board of the European Choral Association-Europa Cantat

It is with deep conviction and pleasure that I recommend Marco Fornasier as a candidate to the new board of the European Choral Association-Europa Cantat.

Marco has been working in Feniarco since 2006, taking care of all the organisational and managerial aspects of our Federation, from the research of economic resources to planning, from budgets to final accounts, to the relationships with the political and musical bodies that govern the choral Italian network.

Trained fundraiser, he is responsible for coordinating and cultivating relationships with the national territory represented by regional choral associations, other organisations and institutions, including ECA-EC and IFCM, and the Italian choirs.

During these years Marco has contributed with his personal experience, hardworking and qualities to the professionalisation of the events and initiatives that Feniarco proposes at national and international level.

For these reasons, with proud enthusiasm, I fully support Marco as a candidate for the next board of ECA, in the belief that its contribution can be appreciated in Europe.

Thank you for your attention.

Best regards.

Ettore Galvani
Feniarco's president

