

Noël Minet Fund Committee  
European Choral Association  
Haus der Kultur  
Weberstr. 59a  
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# Attendance report

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Novi Sad, 12.05.2023.

From the 25<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2023 I attended The World Symposium for Choral Music in Istanbul with more than 2500 choral enthusiasts from all over the world. Istanbul was the perfect location for this occasion, rich in culture and with more than 15 million citizens, it represents a multicultural crossroads of the East and the West, making the theme of the symposium "Changing Horizons" very fitting. It brought together different cultures and welcomed diversity and all the world's musical cultures, encouraged teaching and learning of new practices and directions in choral music and questioned all existing ones.

From the morning keynote presentations, lectures, workshops, reading sessions, panels, roundtables and the EXPO to the afternoon and evening concerts there was never a dull moment. Each part of the programme was a learning opportunity and an invaluable experience. I personally had the opportunity to learn about movement, choreography from Panda van Proosdij, different tango arrangements for choirs from Santiago Ruiz and the usefulness of icebreakers from Tine Fris Ronsfeld, just to recount a few. I got to know of useful tools that are available when building concert programmes and about concert design.

More than 50 choirs from all over the world performed and so in the afternoons and evenings we got to experience different cultures through choral music in stunning venues. The organisers made sure that the invited choirs represented all parts of the world and made sure to broaden our horizons.

Events such as this will always be important and valuable to everyone, not just the choral community. It's a place where people have a chance to meet and connect, build lasting relationships, discover new concepts and exchange views and ideas and so I hope to attend many more in the future.

Jovana Kuzmanović