# One voice for collective singing in Europe





Regional office of IFCM for Europe

# The European Choral Association

In a nutshell

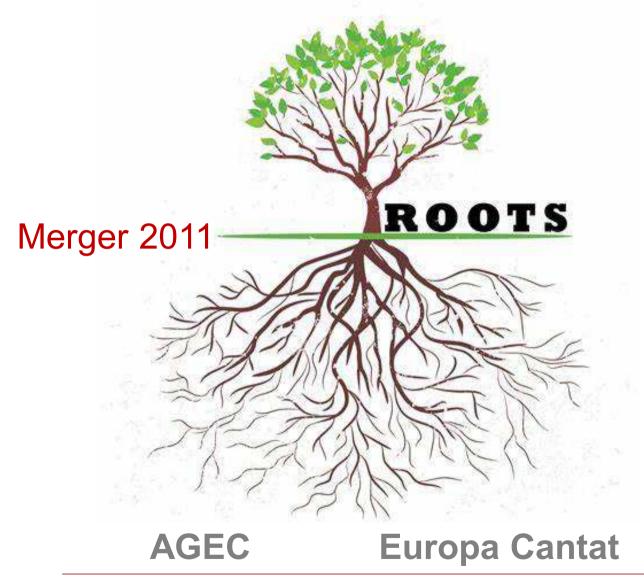






### **The European Choral Association**















# Origins



The European Choral Association is the result of a merger between Europa Cantat - European Federation of Young Choirs (EFYC), founded in 1960/1963 and the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Europäischer Chorverbände (AGEC), founded in 1955. The merger was completed in January 2011.

Since the 1950ies our ambition is to make Europeans sing together and thus contribute to a positive image of European cooperation.







# The European Choral Association as member and partner

**International Music Council - IMC** 

**IFCM** (founding member)

**Culture Action Europe** 

European Music Council - EMC (office neighbours)

**Musica International** 

**Choral Festival Network** 



Members of ECA and their members (= indirect members)



**CHORAL** 

ASSOCIATION

### **Cooperation with**

- TENSO (professional choirs)
- Pueri Cantores & others
- EAS (Music Education in schools)
- AEC (Music universities)
- AMATEO (amateur arts)
- Other European culture networks
- bkj in Germany
- Africa Cantat / America Cantat







### **Members of our network**





### Until 2021:

- Organisations
- Choirs
- Families
- Individuals

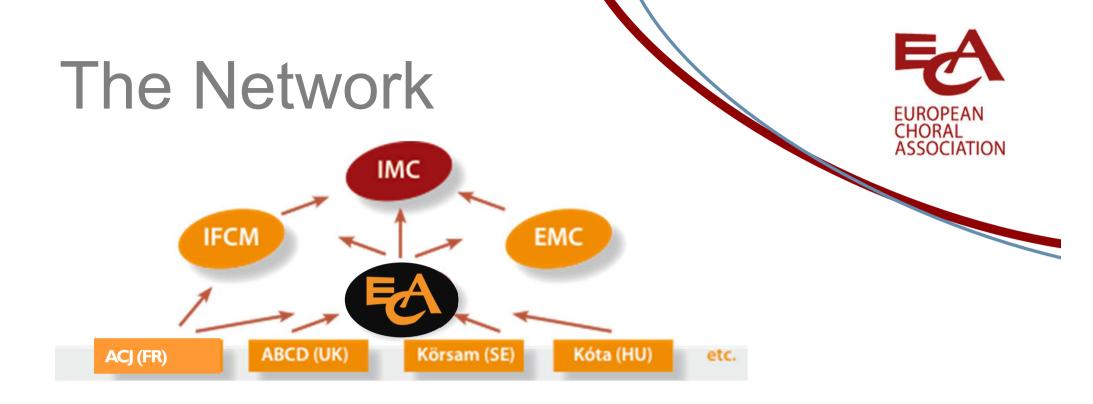
### **Since 2022:**

- Organisations









The European Choral Association - Europa Cantat is a network of organisations in the field of Collective Singing in Europe.

We have more than 60 member organisations in 32 countries (31 countries in Europe plus Israel).







# The Network



### We have four categories of members:

- A1: Organisations with choirs as indirect beneficiaries
   (= choral organisations, umbrella organisations with direct
   contact to choirs / ensembles)
- A2: Organisations with individuals as indirect beneficiaries (for example conductors' associations)
- A3: Umbrella organisations as platforms
   (with member organisations and no direct contact to choirs/ensembles)
- A4: Other organisations and institutions (without members / without indirect beneficiaries)









# The Network



### **Membership Fees**

The membership fees depend on

- In categories A1-A4:
   the country in which the organisation/institution has ist seat (country groups 1, 2 and 3)
- In categories A1 & A2:
   the size of the organisation
  - B1: > 1.000 members
  - B2: < 1.000 and > 300 members
  - B3: < 300 members











# How do we network? What do we offer?





- Contribute

(active and passive voting rights, Membership Weekends, online contributions, project presentation sessions)



- attend & host events

(discount at events for members / members privileged partners for events across Europe including our Membership Weekends)



profit from offers / training

(peer-to-peer training / invitations to membership weekends for Regional Development countries / workshops at Membership Weekends)









### The Network of individuals



# FRIENDS &



# Our Friends and Supporters

www.europeanchoralassociation.org/friendsofeca/









# FRIENDS &



Since the European Choral Association no longer has direct member choirs, families and individual members, they will be encouraged in 2022 to join the Friends of the European Choral Association.

In a next step, **a broader communication campaign** shall attract new members, e.g. satisfied participants or audience members of successful events.

### There are 2 types of members:

- -> natural persons, 50€/year (benefits for 1 person)
- -> legal persons (incl. Choirs), 100€/year (benefits for 2 p.)

The members **profit from reduced participation fees** for indirect members at events under our label.









### **Our Potential Outreach**

### The importance of statistics





# **Statistics** from 2015

Some white spots







# The Big Figures



4.5% of the European population

37,000,000 collective singers







# Iropean Unio

# 22,5 million singers

If these 22,5 million EU singers would hold hands...

They would form a human chain between the South and the North poles



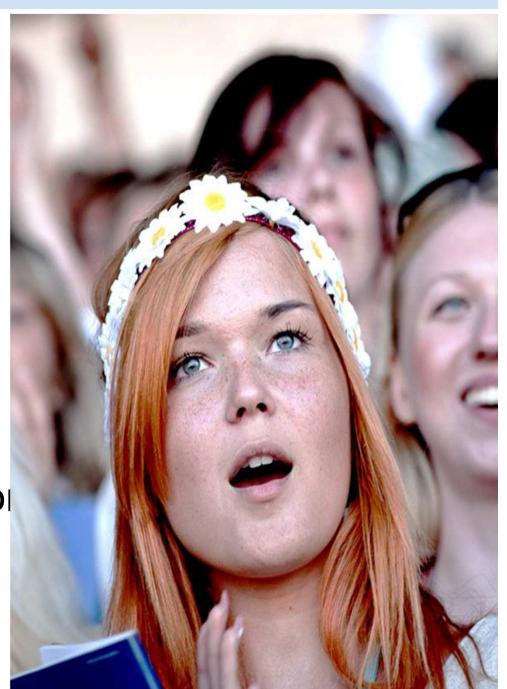
# Why "Singing Europe"?

singingeurope.org your voice makes a difference!

Why was it important for our network?

EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION

- 1.Improve the image of collective singing
- 2.Design relevant activities
- 3.Empower the choral sector



### **Funding**





### In 2022

- EU Network
- Youth Ministry
- City of Bonn
- EU project (TLV)
- Members' fees
- Activities (fees)
- Promotion

### Future?

- new EU project?
- new sources?
- if needed: Friends







# Funding

# EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION

### The European Choral Association

Europa Cantat is funded by

The European Union

- Network Funding Creative Europe (2021-24)
- Project Funding Creative Europe / Erasmus+

Other project income (e.g. from Germany)

The German Youth Ministry & The City of Bonn (incl. 10.000 € for German youth choirs)

Membership Fees from organisations

Communication Fees, License fees, Selling of promotional packages / adverts



Budget about 500.000 €/year















# Who is who?



**Executive Board** (President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer)

Dermot O'Callaghan (Ireland), Burak Onur Erdem (Turkey), Raul Talmar (Estonia), Martine Spanjers (The Netherlands)



### **Further Board members**

(in total 12 people from 10 countries)

Tamara Adamov Petijevic (Serbia), Jeroen Beckers (Belgium), Xavier Devillers (Belgium), Côme Ferrand-Cooper (France), Marco Fornasier (Italy), Josep Vila (Spain), Silvija Pročkytė (Lithuania) and Daphne Wassink (The Netherlands – for the Friends of the European Choral Association)









# Who is who?



### **Board of Friends**

Daphne Wassink (president), Flannery, Ryan (vice-president), Alfred Jürgens (treasurer), Susanna Kantelinen, Henrike Schauerte, Jean-Claude Wilkens

### **Team**

Sonja Greiner (Secretary General)

Sylvia Kerutt (Office Manager and Membership Relations)

Sophie Dowden (Project & Fundraising Manager)

Beatrice Bonfé (Communication & Marketing Manager)

Joži Vovk (Regional Development Assistant)

Ly Nguyen (student helper, assistant of communication manager)

### **Youth Committee**

-> will be presented to you in more detail in a moment









### Mission & Vision, Values, Strategy





**Approved 2020** 







# Values

EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION

We base our vision and mission on the following core values:

- Inclusivity
- Diversity
- Development
- Empowerment
- Sustainability



We respect the values as described in the <u>Convention of the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expression 2009</u>, as well as in the <u>UN Sustainable Development Goals</u>, and in the <u>Five Music Rights</u> formulated by the European/International Music Council.







# Vision & Mission



Our **vision** is a world where everybody experiences the benefits of singing.

Our **mission** is to be the leading pan-European nonprofit organisation dedicated to life-long learning and cultural exchange through collective singing.







**MISSION** 

# Strategy 2020-30



- 1. Develop the network further
- 2. Support and promote performances
- 3. Offer and support life-long capacity building and training
- 4. Identify inspiring trends
- 5. Raise Awareness of the benefits of collective singing
- 6. Reach Out









# Main events





### **Events for:**

- choirs & vocal ensembles
- singers
- conductors & vocal leaders
- composers & creators
- music educators
- managers







# Main events



### Cooperation Events of the European Choral Association

These events are designed by the European Choral Association and travel between different countries.

- EUROPA CANTAT festival
- EUROPA CANTAT junior
- Leading Voices
- EuroChoir
- World Youth Choir

- -> next 2027, format & place to be confirmed
- -> next 2026, Girona (ES)
- -> Next 2025, Tallinn (EE)
- -> next 2024 Bulgaria
- -> Next 2024 Germany (Beethoven / Tan Dun)







# Main events





### Events under the Label of the European Choral Association

Events in the sector of Collective Singing with differing and flexible structure and programmes. The artistic programme is developed in partnership with the European Choral Association and the participation fees are based on the European Choral Association's solidarity system.

### International events supported by the European Choral Association

Different types of international choral events organised by partner organisations or organisations in which the European Choral Association is a member.







# The EUROPA CANTAT Festival



www.EuropaCantat.org

# **EC-Festivals**

### What makes a "CANTAT" Festival?

- non-competitive
- educational
- "workshops" or "ateliers" at which the choirs are mixed and prepare new repertoire together with a great conductor
- usually open to choirs as well as individual participants and groups (except for children's and youth choir festivals)
- open to all kinds and all levels of choirs
- concerts by participating choirs
- special concerts with guest ensembles
- Open Singing sing along for fun (everybody)













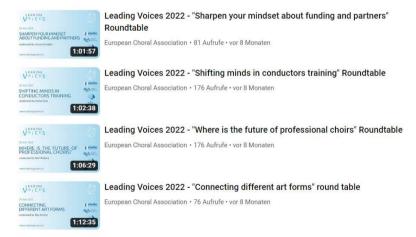
# SHIFTING MINDS IN CONDUCTORS TRAINING

moderated by Stefan Gies

www.leadingvoices.nl

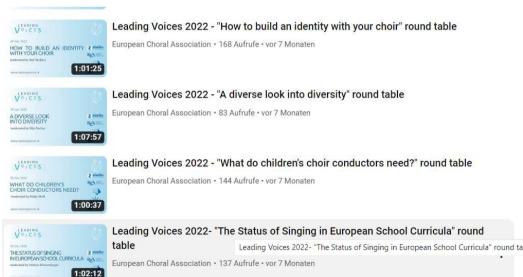






European Choral Association • 82 Aufrufe • vor 8 Monater

Leading Voices 2022: "The greater good: your role as a vocal artist" Roundtable



### -www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL08MtxA3gpNC1C4Qy4 kDpq9qXBCDwiop







VOICES

THE GREATER GOOD: YOUR ROLE AS A VOCAL ARTIST

# Events 2024



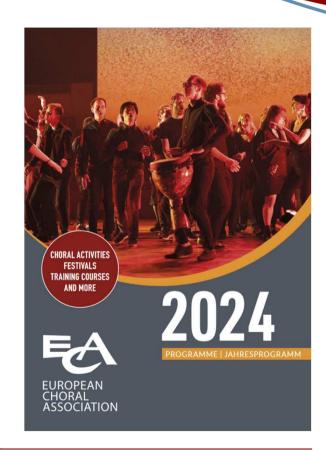
### 2024

January	22-28/01/2024	Walter Strauss Choral Conducting Masterclass	Ankara (TR)
April	11-13/04/2024 17-20/04/2024	Festival di Primavera	Montecatini Terme (IT)
July	dates to be announced	EuroChoir	Varna (BG)
	2-7/07/2024	Study Tour to the 100th Anniversary of the Lithuanian Song Celebration	Vilnius (LT)
	8-14/07/2024	International Choral Festival Barcelona	Barcelona (ES)
	14-21/07/2024	European Seminar for Composers	Aosta (IT)
	21-28/07/2024	Singing Bridges Festival	Novi Sad (RS)



🔕 Events under the Label of the European Choral Association

International events supported by the European Choral Association









# Events 2024

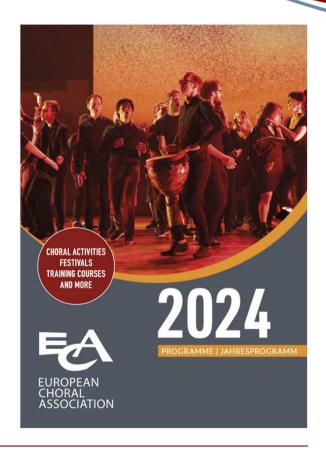


August	7-11/08/2024 18/08-8/09/2024	Arctic Boys Choir Festival World Youth Choir summer session	Bodø (NO) Germany and Italy
September	13-15/09/2024 14-20/09/2024 20-26/09/2024	(Inter)national Congress for Choral Conductors Study Tour to Georgia and/or Study Tour to Armenia	Puteaux (FR) Tbilisi (GE) Yerevan (AM)
October	18-20/10/2024	Fosco Corti International Competition for Choral Conductors	Turin (IT)
November 2025	15-17/11/2024	Membership Weekend 2024	Flanders (BE)
October	3-27/10/2025	RelaxSing Costa Barcelona	Santa Susanna (ES)



🔕 Events under the Label of the European Choral Association

International events supported by the European Choral Association









# Events 2024

# OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONDUCTORS AND VOCAL LEADERS

# EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION



### Dear conductors and vocal leaders,

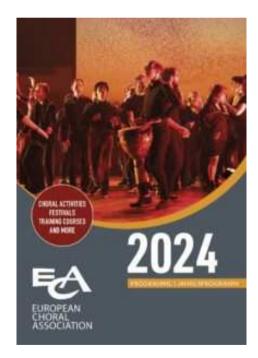
In 2024 there will be a rich choice of activities for you!

We are offering a rich programme for conductors and vocal leaders at some of the cooperation events and events under the label of the European Choral Association which include training courses, conferences and conventions for conductors in different countries.

Walter Strauss Choral Conducting Masterclass	Ankara, Türkiye	22-28/01/2024	p.20
Study Tour to the 100th Anniversary of the Lithuanian Song Celebration	Vilnius, Lithuania	2-7/07/2024	p.23
Study Tour to Singing Bridges	Novi Sad, Serbia	21-28/07/2024	p.26
(Inter)national Congress for Choral Conductor	Puteaux, France	13-15/09/2024	p.29
Study Tour to Georgia	Tbilisi, Georgia	14-20/09/2024	p.30
Study Tour to Armenia	Yerevan, Armenia	20-26/09/2024	p.30
Fosco Corti International Competition for Choral Conductors	Turin, Italy	25-27/10/2024	p.32

There are also **financial support schemes** for conductors and composers such as:

- the Noël Minet Fund Scholarships (p.15)
- Financial Support for peer-to-peer training (p.16)









# One voice for collective singing in Europe





Regional office of IFCM for Europe

# Online material for conductors and vocal leaders







# EC-TV

EUROPA CANTAT FESTIVAL

2021 LJUBLJANA SLOVENIA 16-25 JULY

TV Archive



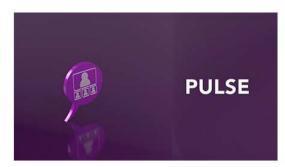


**EUROPEAN** 

CHORAL ASSOCIATION





















#### **Next Webinar – in September 2023**



#### **CHOIRS FOR ECOCIDE LAW**

Wednesday | 20 September 2023 | 17 CEST



Merzi Rajala



Kirsi Kaunismäki-Suhonen

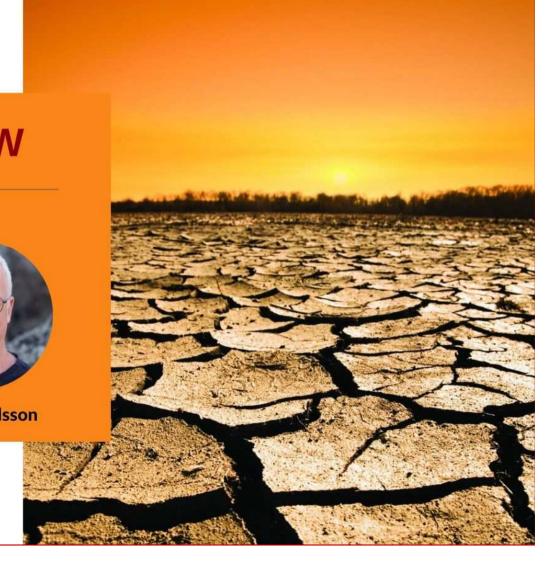


**Peder Karlsson** 





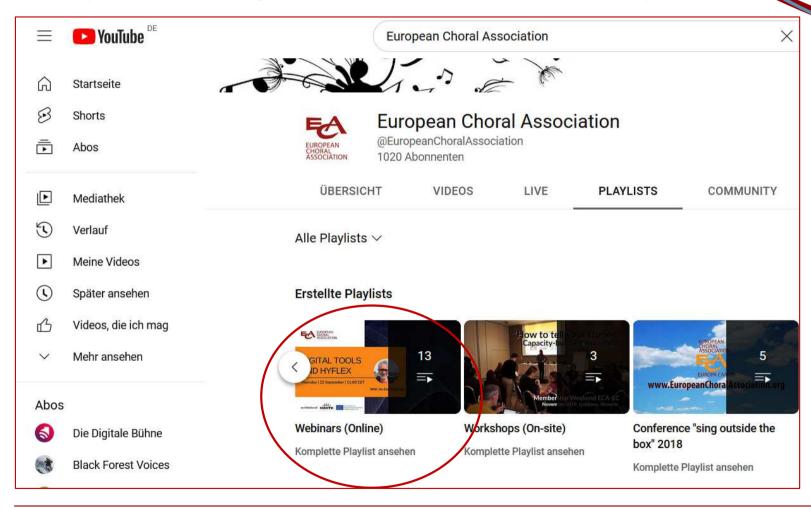




# Playlist Webinars



#### www.youtube.com/@EuropeanChoralAssociation/playlists











# Online calendar



ABOUT

EVENTS

ACTIVITIES

RESOURCE

#BENEFITSOFSINGING

FRIENDS

LOG IN

0

#### CALENDAR OF CHORAL EVENTS

In this calendar, you will find choral events and activities for choirs and singers, vocal leaders/conductors, creators/composers, educators/teachers and managers all over Europe and beyond. All the events are international and usually open to the participation of people from all over the World.

The European Choral Association does not specifically recommend all of the events, it merely wishes to offer a platform with information on choral music as a service to its members and users. Only events marked with the logo of ECA are official events of our association – further details on these events can also be found under "Our activities".

If you are searching for festivals and competitions that have been recognized as quality events with a fair and transparent system, you can also check the Website of the Choral Festival Network – the international network for choral competitions and festivals, of which the European Choral Association is a member on behalf of its festivals.

#### **Event Search**

#### www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org/activities-listing









## Our members



ABOUT US

**EVENTS** 

ACTIVITIES

DESCHIPCES

#BENEFITSOFSING!

FRIENDS

LOG IN

#### MEMBER ORGANISATIONS:

#### Category A1: Organisations with choirs as indirect beneficiaries

(All direct and indirect members of these organisations and institutions, choirs or ensembles and their members as well as individual members who can prove their membership will profit from reduced participation fees for indirect members at activities of the European Choral Association and in partnership with the European Choral Association, as long as the organisation is in good standing)

- Armenia: Armenian Little Singers | contact: alschoir@gmail.com
- Austria: Chorverband Österreich (ChVÖ) | www.chorverband.at | contact: info@chorverband.at
- Belgium: Fédération Chorale Wallonie Bruxelles A Cœur Joie ASBL; www.acj.be | contact: acj@skynet.be
- Belgium: Koor&Stem vzw | www.koorenstem.be | contact: info@koorenstem.be
- Belgium: Vlaamse Federatie van Jonge Koren (VFJK) | contact: info@vfjk.be
- Estonia: Eesti Kooriühing (Estonian Choral Association) | www.kooriyhing.ee/eng/|contact: kooriyhing@kooriyhing.ee
- Finland: SULASOL (Finnish Amateur Musicians' Association) | www.sulasol.fi | contact: info@sulasol.fi
- · France: A Cœur Joie (ACJ) France | www.choralies.org | contact: info@choralies.org
- France: Confédération Musicale de France (CMF) | www.cmf-musique.org
- Georgia: Georgian Choral Society | www.geochoralsociety.org | contact: geochoralsociety@gmail.com
- Germany: Arbeitskreis Musik in der Jugend e.V. (AMJ) | www.amj-musik.de | contact: info@amj-musik.de
- · Germany: Deutsche Chorjugend e.V. | www.deutsche-chorjugend.de | contact: info@deutsche-chorjugend.de
- · Germany: Deutscher Chorverband e.V. | www.deutscher-chorverband.de | contact: info@deutscher-chorverband.de
- Greece: Hellenic Choirs Association | www.stegl-chorus.gr | contact: info@stegl-chorus.gr
- Hungary: KÓTA Association of Hungarian Choirs and Orchestras | www.kota.hu | contact: kota@kota.hu
- . Ireland: Sing Ireland | www.singireland.ie | contact: info@singireland.ie
- Israel: Hallel Israelian Choral Organisation | www.hallel-isco.org.ii | contact: hallelchoirs@gmail.com

#### www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org/member-organisations

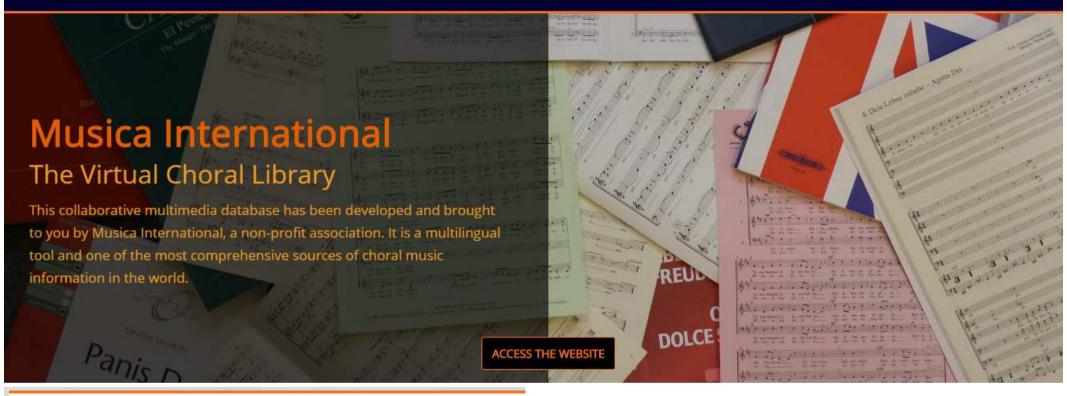








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COMPOSER OR ARRANGER	
TITLE (BEGINS WITH)	
KEYWORDS, WORDS OF TITLE,	
Send	More criteria
COMP	More criteria er searches

www.musicanet.org



# Anna Bobrikova Youth Committee



# Opportunities for youth







# **Europa Cantat Junior**



Festival for children's choirs (participants under 18)

Includes workshops, concerts, Open Singing, Study Tour, and non-choral activities with a schedule adapted to the age group.

Next edition: Girona, Catalonia, Spain, summer 2026. More info coming soon!



(c) Europa Cantat Junior, Ghent, 2023







## World Youth Choir



The World Youth Choir (WYC) is an international ensemble of the best young choral singers from all over the world. Age limit is 18-26 y.o.

Next session: August 18 to September 8 2024, in Germany, with a concert tour in Germany, the Netherlands and Italy (tbc). Apply before December 22, 2023!



# EuroChoir





#### Who can apply?

- Young singers between 18 and 30 years old
- Good sight readers ready to prepare scores in advance
- Eager to network and have cultural exchange
- English is the working language

#### Next session:

- Bulgaria, 4-17 July 2024
- Conductors: Donka Miteva and Marco Amherd.

More information and audition dates Are coming soon!









## Network of National Youth choirs



EP:IC project: survey for the participants of the National/Regional Youth Choirs, EuroChoir, World Youth Choir, and National/International Youth Orchestras.

Nationality and country of residence, education, professional occupation, and consequences of participating in these choir projects were studied.

Results: high level of education, strong networking, raise in the internationalisation, development of the career in music, long-term connection with former ensemble mates.

Current Youth Committee: connecting National Youth Choirs, performing a case study, supporting new choirs



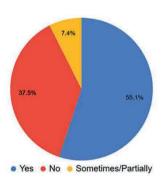


Fig. 2: Proportion of respondents whose careers involve music







# Young Event Management Programme (YEMP)



YEMP is a training for future choral managers which normally happen in the frame of the Europa Cantat festival.

- First happened in Utrecht (2009)
- Participants get some training, then help preparing and organising the festival
- YEMP is a strong tool to recruite motivated young people for the future events and projects









### Youth Involvement



It was the year 1995. Sonja Greiner attended her first board meeting with the board of Europa Cantat - European Federation of Young Choirs. There were 12 men and 1 woman on that board, and the youngest board member was 50 years old. A long path towards age balance and youth involvement was still lying ahead of them...

We work on the development of the youth involvement ways since 1994. European Choral Association involves young people on all levels:

- Volunteers at different events
- Young decision-makers at events (e.g. through the YEMP programme)
- Youth Committee (next slide!)
- Age diversity in the Board
- Interns in the Team



Youth Involvement handbook







## Youth Committee



Youth Committee is an internal structure within the organisation. We are 7 people, new committee is selected every 3 years. We support the board, work in the frame of the European Choral Association, and provide a youth perspective.

We have several projects we conduct ourselves, we are present in every working group of the Association, we contribute to the events and projects of the Association.

 Project presentation in the General Assembly tomorrow! Youth Committee blog









# Who is who?

Joana Costa (PT)
Alba Roorda Martinez (NL/ES)
Ben Jacob (IE)
Augustas Kvedaravičius (LT)
Anna Bobrikova (FIN/RUS)
Kertu Süld (EE)
Neris Özen (TR)















# Multiannual projects



#### Recent projects:

- Upgrade Connect Reach Out (Network Funding)
- EPIC (coordinated by us)
- SHIFT (coordinated by the EMC, we were partners)
- Training Leading Voices (coordinated by ZIMIHC)

#### **Current projects**

IGNITE (Network Funding)

#### **New / future projects**



- Choral TIES (coordinated by us, agreement not signed yet)
- Follow-up project of IGNITE(Next Network Funding project)























2021-2024







# **IGN**iting an Inclusive and sustainable future for collective singing Throughout Europe

From 12-2021 until 11-2024, **IGNITE** shall contribute to the European **Green Deal**, increase **diversity**, **inclusion** and **equity** in the sector, strengthen the network, increase its representativeness, **empower and train** people in the sector, increasing their capacity to become resilient and sustainable, be **active internationally**, cooperate at European level, and **make use of modern technology**.



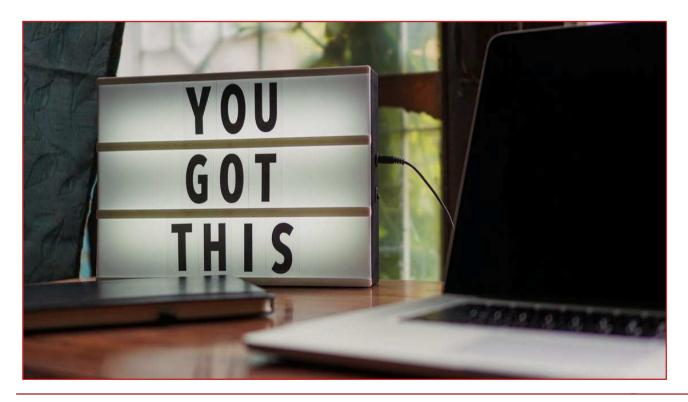








# Let's get more concrete: What's in it for our network?













**IGN**iting an Inclusive and sustainable future for collective singing Throughout Europe



Planning
Managing
Evaluating











**IGN**iting an Inclusive and sustainable future for collective singing Throughout Europe

# METWORK OR A

# Growing & Connecting

- Regional Development
- Membership Weekends (invitations)
- Connecting Friends
- Youth involvement
- Networking cafés
- Networking with others
- Singtank















**IGN**iting an Inclusive and sustainable future for collective singing Throughout Europe



### Capacity **Building**

Online & Offline

- Physical workshops (1/year)
- Webinars
- Funding for Peer-to-Peer training
- Resources online
- IGNITE grants





hebluediamondgallery.com







IGNiting an Inclusive and sustainable future for collective singing Throughout Europe



#### Representation

Alone and with others

- for singing in music education
- for amateur music / amateur arts
- for the future of conductors' training
- for environmental issues (Choirs for Ecocide Law)





hebluediamondgallery.com





#### **#BenefitsOfSinging campaign**

www.EuropeanChoralAssociation/BenefitsoOfSinging





**IGN**iting an Inclusive and sustainable future for collective singing Throughout Europe

Research & **Data Collection** 

- model registration database
- curated research database on benefits of singing
- Surveys
- statistics (add to Singing Europe)













**IGN**iting an Inclusive and sustainable future for collective singing Throughout Europe



# Reaching Out Communicating & Disseminating

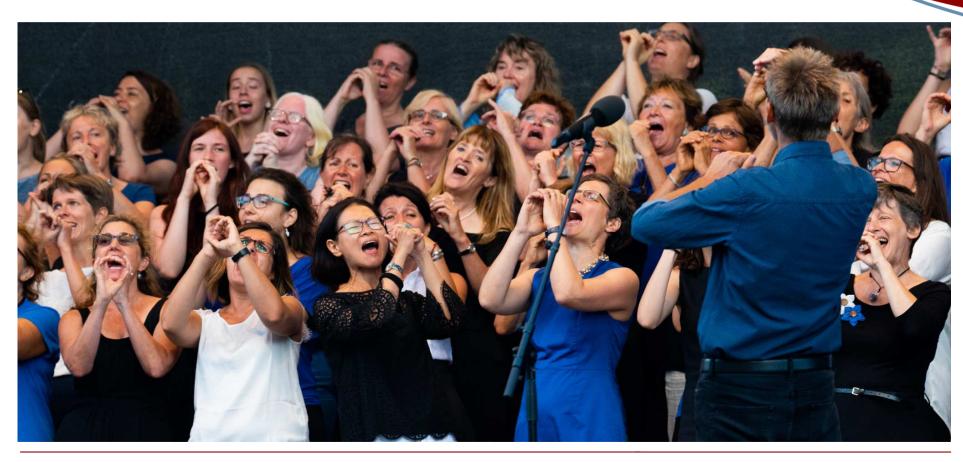
STADT. CITY. VILLE. BONN.





# Communication



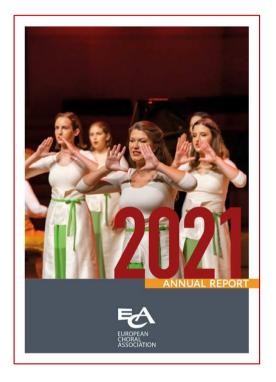








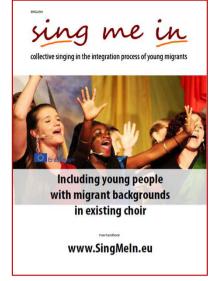
# **Publications**







# Project results





SHIFT







## www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org

The latest from choral Europe and the world of singing: The ECA-EC newsletter







#### Social Media

# LET' **STAY** IN TOUCH!

Connect with us

on Social Media!



/EuropeanChoralAssociation



/europeanchoralassociation



/EuropeanChoralAssociation



/ecaec



European Choral Association

# **Any questions?**











# One voice for collective singing in Europe





Regional office of IFCM for Europe

Thank you very much for your attention!

# Sonja Greiner / Anna Bobrikova

SecretaryGeneral@EuropeanChoralAssociation.org





