



16. Budapest International Choral Festival and Competition



April 9 – 13, 2017 | Budapest (Hungary)
ANNOUNCEMENT



Cordial Invitation

Budapest International Choir Festival and Competition is a milestone in the history of choral competitions. In 1988, when we founded it we would not have dreamt that on the basis of this new concept an entire network of events would be born all over the world and become known by the name *Musica Mundi*.

We shall keep the clear artistic message and the structure of the event, where every choir will find the category and form of participation best suited for the ensemble's line-up, repertoire, artistic standard and capabilities. Furthermore, we shall improve our professional evaluation system to make it even more transparent, clear, excluding all the possibilities for manipulation.

We intend to underline the intensive communication between participants and the jury, and emphasise the goal of these events to help the development of choirs and strengthen their motivation and dedication to music.

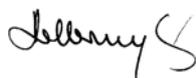
Thus the 2017 choral competition is again a milestone: the new evaluation system of our future events made its debut in 2015 and preserves all the advantages of the well-known evaluation concept that I worked out while introducing new criteria to provide a more efficient assistance to choirs' learning with a more detailed and perspicuous evaluation system. Beside other aspects the jury will give choirs a feedback about the programme dramaturgy, the selection, difficulty etc. In evaluating a choir, taking all the criteria into account, we aim at finding a most desirable proportion of various elements in order to provide a realistic feedback on the choirs' performance.

This new generation of choral competitions – which are now united under the auspices of InChoral – International Music Competitions Network – will focus on cultural exchange, getting acquainted with one another and a shared musical experience, beside well deserved success of the choirs.

In addition to the competition consultations and other form of professional counselling are also designed to serve the participants' development. Joint singing will also get a greater emphasis and a brand new element of this event is the possibility to sing along in a certain composition in the Opening Concert or concert especially organised with this purpose.

We are offering a wider selection of categories. In addition to the well-known categories choirs will have the possibility to sing up for Musica Sacra, Pop, and Jazz and Gospel competitions as well.

We are cordially inviting everyone to join this renewed celebration of choral music in one of Central Europe's cultural centres, in the prestigious concert halls of historical Budapest.



Hollerung Gábor
Artistic Director

Participation Opportunities & Activities

| Competitive participation* | Festival participation Non-competitive participation |
|---|---|
| <p>Choirs may compete in the following categories:</p> <p>A – with requirements (A1 – Mixed Choirs; A2 – Male Choirs; A3 – Female Choirs, A4 – Vocal Ensembles)</p> <p>B – without requirements (B1 – Mixed Choirs; B2 – Male Choirs; B3 – Female Choirs)</p> <p>G – Children and Youth Choirs (G1 – Children Choirs; G2 – Youth Choirs of equal voices; G3 – Youth Choirs of mixed voices)</p> <p>S – Musica Sacra</p> <p>F – Folklore</p> <p>P – Gospel/Pop/Modern</p> <p>J – Jazz</p> | <p>Choirs that choose to participate to the event without competing may take part to the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EP - Evaluation Performance • IC - Individual Coaching • FC – “meeting in music” Friendship Concerts <p>The participation at these activities is open to choirs who are taking part at the competition, also.</p> |

* Friendship Concert Performance included.

Preliminary Schedule

| Saturday April 8 | Sunday April 9 | Monday April 10 | Tuesday April 11 | Wednesday April 12 | Thursday April 13 |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Arrivals | Arrivals | | | Conductors & Jury Meeting | Departures |
| Rehearsals | Rehearsals Opening Concert | Rehearsals & Competitions | | Grand Prize Competition | |
| | | | | Award Ceremony | |
| Friendship Concerts Individual Coaching Evaluation Performances | | | | | |
| Excursions and Sightseeing (Depending on the schedule of the choirs) | | | | | |

Participation and Activities

Festival Participation: The Activities

FC – “meeting in music” Friendship Concert

for all choirs

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Programme | Participating choirs may register to perform in local concert settings, such as churches or concert halls, together with other international choirs. The concert should be preferably a cappella or with own instruments. Choirs may take part in Friendship Concerts only. The purpose of these concerts is to provide enjoyable entertainment in a friendly atmosphere. We advise to select your programme in this spirit. |
| Number of singers | unlimited |
| Singing time | 20 minutes |
| Accompaniment | no restrictions (Piano or E-Piano can be provided upon request). |

EP – Evaluation Performance

for non-competing choirs

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Programme | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• three (3) pieces of the choir’s own choice• performed before a panel of qualified international jurors who provide immediate positive artistic and pedagogical inputs for improvement• certificates of participation will be awarded, as well as evaluation ratings and recommendation letters upon request |
| Number of singers | unlimited |
| Singing time | maximum 15 minutes |
| Accompaniment | no restrictions |

EP – Evaluation Performance

for competing choirs

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Programme | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• presentation of competition programme before the competition• performed before a panel of qualified international jurors who provide immediate positive artistic and pedagogical inputs for improvement• evaluation does not involve preliminary decisions regarding the competition result |
| Number of singers | according to category rules |
| Singing time | according to category rules |
| Accompaniment | according to category rules |

IC – Individual Coaching

for all choirs

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Programme | Choirs have the opportunity to rehearse with an internationally known choral expert and to receive stimulating artistic ideas and interpretative guidance. For an effective rehearsal, choirs are kindly asked to prepare one piece in advance. |
|-----------|---|

Competition Participation: The categories

Category A – with requirements

A1 – Mixed Choirs;

A2 – Male Choirs;

A3 – Female Choirs

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Programme | Four (4) pieces have to be performed with respect to these criteria: 1) One freely selected work by a Hungarian composer born after 1945 2) One piece by a composer born between 1809 and 1873 3) One piece by a composer who is alive at the time of the registration 4) One freely chosen piece |
| Number of singers | min. 17 |
| Accompaniment | maximum two (2) pieces can be performed with instrumental accompaniment |

A4 – Chamber Choirs and Vocal Ensembles

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Programme | Four (4) pieces have to be performed with respect to these criteria: 1) One freely selected work by a Hungarian composer born after 1945 2) One piece by a composer born before 1715 3) One piece by a composer who is alive at the time of the registration 4) One freely chosen piece |
| Number of singers | max. 16 |
| Accompaniment | all a cappella |

For all A categories

| | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Age of singers | 16+ |
| Singing time | maximum 20 minutes |

Category B – without requirements

B1 – Mixed Choirs

B2 – Male Choirs

B3 – Female Choirs

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Programme | Three (3) pieces of the choir's own choice from different musical periods, with different character. |
| Number of singers | no restrictions |
| Age of singers | 16+ |
| Singing time | maximum 15 minutes |
| Accompaniment | no restrictions |

Category G – Children's and Youth Choirs

G1 – Children's Choirs

G2 – Youth Choirs of Equal Voices

G3 – Youth Choirs Mixed Voices

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Programme | Four (4) pieces have to be performed with respect to these criteria: 1) One freely selected work by a Hungarian composer born after 1880 2) One piece by a composer born between 1809 and 1873 3) One piece by a composer who is alive at the time of the registration 4) One freely chosen piece |
| Age of singers | G1: max. 16 yrs. G2/G3: girls: max. 19 yrs. boys: max. 25yrs. |
| Number of singers | min. 4 |
| Singing time | maximum 15 minutes |
| Accompaniment | maximum two (2) pieces can be performed with instrumental accompaniment |

Category S – Musica Sacra

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Programme | Four (4) pieces have to be performed with respect to these criteria: 1) One piece by a Hungarian composer born after 1880 2) One piece by a composer born before 1715 3) One piece by a composer who is alive at the time of the registration 4) One freely chosen piece |
| Number of singers | min. 4 |
| Age of singers | no limit |
| Singing time | maximum 20 minutes |
| Accompaniment | maximum one (1) piece may be performed with instrumental accompaniment |

Category F – Folklore

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| Programme | The ensembles are asked to perform a folklore programme typical of their home country, which may include a folk scene or a custom traditional in the country or a scene with choreography from the daily life in the home country of the participants. The choreography should reflect traditional customs. The main emphasis should be on the vocal part. The singers should wear traditional costumes. Notice: In case sheet music is not available, a short description for the jury written in English is requested. |
| Number of singers | min. 4 |
| Age of singers | no limit |
| Singing time | maximum 15 minutes |
| Accompaniment | allowed |

Kategorie P – Gospel/Pop/Modern

| | |
|---|--|
| Programme | A programme of 15 minutes has to be performed. Improvisation by the vocalists is desirable but not compulsory. Instrumental solos have to be kept within limits as just the performance of the choir is evaluated. |
| Number of singers | min. 4 |
| Age of singers | no limit |
| Singing time | maximum 15 minutes |
| Accompaniment, Amplification & Playback | Instrumental accompaniment including electronic instruments (live or playback) is permitted. Playback of the voices is not permitted. Acoustic amplification of the choir or instruments is possible. Equipment suited to the respective venues will be made available on site. The adequate realisation of technically complex requirements (for example the use of headsets or separate microphones for each singer and so on) cannot be guaranteed. In that case we kindly ask the choirs to bring their own equipment. |

Category J – Jazz

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|---|--|
| Programme | A jazz programme of 15 minutes has to be performed. Improvisation by the vocalists is desirable but not compulsory. Instrumental solos have to be kept within limits as just the performance of the choir is evaluated. |
| Number of singers | min. 4 |
| Age of singers | no limit |
| Singing time | maximum 15 minutes |
| Accompaniment, Amplification & Playback | Instrumental accompaniment including electronic instruments (live or playback) is permitted. Playback of the voices is not permitted. Acoustic amplification of the choir or instruments is possible. Equipment suited to the respective venues will be made available on site. The adequate realisation of technically complex requirements (for example the use of headsets or separate microphones for each singer and so on) cannot be guaranteed. In that case we kindly ask the choirs to bring their own equipment. |

GP – Grand Prize Competition

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Programme | Two (2) freely chosen a cappella pieces which must differ from the ones already performed in the competition programme; the music scores of these two pieces must be approved by the artistic director. Please, choose pieces which best reflects the choirs abilities and knowledge. |
| Number of singers | According to category rules |
| Singing time | maximum 8 minutes |
| Accompaniment | No pieces can be performed with instrumental accompaniment. Amplification of the voices is allowed according to the category rules. |

Category Overview

| Category | A | | B | G | | | S | F | P | J |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------|-----------|------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|----------|----------|
| | A1, A2, A3 | A4 | B1-B3 | G1 | G2 | G3 | S | F | P | J |
| Age of singers | 16+ | 16+ | 16+ | max. 16 | Girls: max.19 Boys: max.25 | Girls: max.19 Boys: max.25 | no limit | no limit | no limit | no limit |
| Number of singers | min. 17 | max. 16 | unlimited | min. 4 | | | min. 4 | min. 4 | min. 4 | min. 4 |
| Number of pieces | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | | | 4 | no limit | no limit | no limit |
| Maximum singing time | 20 minutes | 20 minutes | 15 min | 15 minutes | | | 20 min | 15 min | 15 min | 15 min |
| Maximum Number of accompanied pieces | 2 | none | all | 2 | | | 1 | all | all | all |
| Amplification | not allowed | | | | | | | allowed | | |
| Playback | not allowed | | | | | | | Instrumental playback allowed | | |

Competition Participation: Advice on your category and programme's choice

I. Category selection

All choirs may participate in only one of categories A or B or G. Choirs may additionally choose to participate in categories F, S, P and J independent of their participation in categories A, B or G.

Female sections of choir competing in A categories may also compete in A3 or A4 categories (depending on the number of singers), while male voices may participate in A2 and A4 categories. Female and male sections of mixed choirs competing in B may also sign up for category B2 or B3 respectively.

Individual choir members may participate in smaller ensembles formed out of their primary choir but may NOT sing in more than one primary choir.

When choosing the category please, keep in sight your choir's previous experience, results, capabilities in performances at home and abroad. Choirs with more experience in the international choral scene, at a higher grade of vocal and musical training, choirs of music schools and conservatories as advised to sign up for A categories.

Choirs with less experience, with a less frequent rehearsal praxis or more limited rehearsal possibilities or recently founded choirs regardless of the number of singers are advised to sign up for B categories.

In categories with an age restrictions a limited number of singers may diverge from what is given, up to a certain age. May you have questions, please always consult the organisers.

II. Programme selection

In the programme selection, when choosing the compositions, please consider the structure of the programme carefully. We suggest aiming at finding the right proportions in dramaturgy, the diversity of musical characters and the suitable order of the pieces. We advise to select pieces which best reflect the choir's knowledge, the singers abilities, eventually their national choral traditions and age group of singers.

The organisers are happy to help you in your category and programme's choice. Do not hesitate to contact us:

meeting music

Budapest International Choral Festival and Competition

Phone: +49 6403 9784225

E-mail: info@meeting-music.com

Competition Rules

GENERAL RULES

- a) All non-professional choirs are welcome to compete in this event. With the exception of the conductors, its members must all be amateurs, e.g. they are not allowed to earn their livelihood by professional singing.
- b) The order of performances within a category is scheduled at random.
- c) **INDIVIDUAL CONCERTS AND PERFORMANCES:**
Choirs are kindly asked to inform the organizer about their individual programmes during their stay.

MUSIC

- a) **ACCOMPANIMENT**
At least one pitched instrument is used. In categories requiring a cappella selections instruments without definite pitch may be used (percussion instruments).
- b) **CHANGES OF KEY:**
In case, you wish to change the key of the pieces, please, inform the organizer prior to the competition.
- c) **ACTUAL SINGING TIME:** Actual singing time is the duration of the performance time only. It excludes entrance, exit, and applause. Participating choirs are asked not to sing a piece in different categories. Please, fill in separate repertoire pages for each category.
- d) **MUSIC SCORES**
 - ❖ Five copies of every piece should be submitted via postal mail. *The scores must conform to internationally recognized sheet music standards (five lines of notes).*
 - ❖ Submitted score sheets will be given back to the choirs after the competition.
 - ❖ In case of scores with titles and names of composers not written in the Roman alphabet, please write them down with clear handwritten Latin letters.
 - ❖ Please note that published choral compositions may only be sung using the original scores or authorized copies. The use of unauthorized copies or handwritten copies is not allowed.
 - ❖ If your scores are published as score book, please preferably submit authorized copies.

Diplomas and Awards according to the **inchoral** Evaluation system

Diplomas

According to the score, **Bronze, Silver, and Golden Diplomas** will be awarded.

In the event the choir does not achieve a diploma, the choir will receive a Certificate of Participation. The choir with a Golden Diploma and the highest score in each category becomes the Category Winner.

| Diploma | Level | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | I | II | III | IV | V | VI | VII | VIII | IX | X |
| Bronze | 1-1.49 | 1.5-2.49 | 2.5-3.49 | 3.5-4.49 | 4.5-5.49 | 5.5-6.49 | 6.5-7.49 | 7.5-8.49 | 8.5-9.49 | 9.5-10.49 |
| Silver | 10.5-11.49 | 11.5-12.49 | 12.5-13.49 | 13.5-14.49 | 14.5-15.49 | 15.5-16.49 | 16.5-17.49 | 17.5-18.49 | 18.5-19.49 | 19.5-20.49 |
| Gold | 20.5-21.49 | 21.5-22.49 | 22.5-23.49 | 23.5-24.49 | 24.5-25.49 | 25.5-26.49 | 26.5-27.49 | 27.5-28.49 | 28.5-29.49 | 29.5-30 |

Grand Prize Competition

The winner of the competition will be awarded the **“Budapest” Grand Prize** of 2.000 EUROS (In words: two thousand Euros).

Special Prizes

The jury may award special prizes for outstanding performances and unique presentations.

Terms & Conditions of Participation

Deadline for registration: **November 30, 2016**

Early bird deadline: **September 30, 2016**

Please provide the following documents together with your registration:

Checklist for application:

APPLICATION FORM

Correctly and clearly filled in

APPLICATION FEE

Please, enclose proof of payment. Payment with Visa or Master Card is accepted (see application form).

AUDIO RECORDING

Please send mp3, WAV, WMA, or CD with at least three (3) pieces (preferably a cappella) not older than two years. Please write the titles and composers of the pieces as well as the date of recording.

SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF your CHOIR

Please send the biography in English as an editable text document (e.g. Word).

PHOTO OF your CHOIR

Please, make sure that it is suitable for reproduction (landscape format, .jpg or .bmp file - no PDF, min. 300 DPI, min. 12 x 7.5 cm). The picture should not be older than two years.

MUSIC SCORES OF COMPETITION REPERTOIRE

- Five pieces of all scores have to be available as hardcopies, for the competition.
- PDF-files previously sent via e-mail have to be turned into hardcopies until the 30th January 2017 and send to the following address until the 30th January 2017.

**Budapest International Choir Festival and Competition / Interkultur Hungaria
1087 Budapest, Kerepesi út 29/b.
Hungary**

- EP Evaluation Performance: three (3) Scores are requested.
- IC Individual Coaching: one (1) score is requested.
- FC Friendship Concerts: no scores need to be submitted.

Costs

Application Fee

To participate in the event the following registration fees have to be paid *per choir/ensemble*

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Participation to the Festival and/or Competition* | 200 € |
| Additional Category and/or Festival Activity, each | 200 € |
| Early bird discount | 100 € |

*Includes one Category or one Festival Activity

The application fee has to be submitted in **upon registration**. Payment can be made via bank transfer or by credit card (Visa or Master Card). Any banking costs that arise must be paid by the registrant.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Account holder: | meeting music |
| Name of the Bank: | Deutsche Bank |
| Bank code: | 513 700 24 |
| Account number: | 032 78 66 |
| SWIFT-Code (BIC): | DEUTDE DB 513 |
| IBAN for EU countries: | DE03 5137 0024 0032 7866 00 |
| Purpose | HB-17 + name of choir (please state your name in full) |

In case of cancellation of your participation: we will refund the paid amount detracted from 200 €.

Event Package

For organisational reasons and to ensure optimal conditions, a participation in the event is possible only if the accommodation is booked through the organisers.

The event package includes following services:

- Participation to the event in the chose Category/Activities
- A part of the non-subsidized organisation costs
- 4 nights' accommodation in the following categories: **(Economy), Standard, Comfort and Superior.**

All included services and rates are described in the document "Event Package & Prices", which you can order by sending us an email to info@meeting-music.com.

If a registration is received without specific information the down payment invoice will be made and sent on the basis of double rooms in Comfort Class.

Registration is binding for the choir, in regard to both participation in the festival and the travel services provided by the organisers. Confirmation of the order (deposit invoice) through the organisers constitutes a travel contract in the sense of § 651a BGB (German Civil Code). The General Conditions of Travel of the organisers shall apply. They are enclosed in each offer. Please read these conditions carefully. Ignorance of these legally valid conditions does not provide exemption from any resulting obligations. The costs due to the organisers for the event package are due on the date indicated on the invoice. Banking information is also located on the invoice.

We would like to draw your attention to the fact that participation in the event is only possible if the payment has been received net and by deadline. Delay in payments may affect your participation. Any costs incurred due to such action are to be borne by the group.

Travel Expenses

The organisation of the journey to the event is responsibility of the choir members and additional persons. The travel expenses and airport transfers are therefore not included.

General Information

Language of Correspondence

German and English are used on official documents. This includes, but is not limited to, the Official Participant Information, travel documents such as schedule and vouchers as well as invoices. These are all legally binding.

Liability

The organiser is responsible for the artistic and musical design and the execution of the events. Its liability comprises of all organisational matters of the event. Any liability with regard to organiser's liability is expressly excluded. Any liability of such kind would be that of the authorized agencies and / or the management of the respective congress or concert halls, catering and transport companies. The organisers accept liability as travel organiser in the sense of § 651a German Travel Law and on the basis of the "Allgemeinen Reisebedingungen"(ARB). With his / her signature on the registration form, the signatory accepts the terms of the ARB (General Conditions of Travel) and the organiser's liability for him / herself and for all persons registered.

Audio and Audio-visual Recordings

All rights regarding the audio and audio-visual recordings of the event ("Recordings") as well as their exploitation are herewith being granted exclusively to the organiser by the choir / artists. All rights granted to the organiser hereunder may be exploited by the organiser in perpetuity without any limitation as to time, territory and/or manner of exploitation free of any rights of third parties. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, this includes in particular the following exclusive rights in the Recordings which can also be transferred by the organiser to a third party at the organiser's discretion: the organiser shall be exclusively entitled to reproduce the Recordings wholly or partly by way of producing vinyl discs, music cassettes, compact discs, DATs, Mini Discs, Digital Compact Cassettes or other sound carriers and by producing video cassettes, picture discs, compact disc videos, DVDs or other audio-visual carriers or other data carriers or by means of other technical devices and to sell or otherwise distribute these reproductions by retail, wholesale or other distribution channels such as clubs, mail order or TV-response. This also includes the right to exploit the Recordings in the context of online and especially internet applications of any kind and of any system, regardless of the way of transmission and business model, and to use, upload and distribute these Recordings in data bases, networks (e.g. internet and all its services) or anything similar of any kind and especially to disseminate and transmit these Recordings to users of databases / networks via cable or other ways of transmission for the purpose of perception and/ or reproduction and/ or distribution against payment or free of charge. This also includes the right to publicly perform or broadcast the Recordings by private or public broadcast stations, including digital radio services, via cable, satellite or other technical transmission services either against payment or free of charge (including the right to collect in the organiser's own name broadcast fees accruing in connection with the public performance or broadcast of the Recordings). The organiser's rights also include the right to edit and/or alter the Recordings (e.g. by producing mixes or remixes), to couple the Recordings with other recordings (e.g. with recordings of other artists) and the right to release and sell the Recordings on so-called "special product" audio- or audio-visual carriers. Furthermore, the organiser shall be entitled to grant synchronisation rights in the Recordings for movies, videos, TV and/or movie commercials, image films etc., to translate them into other languages, to use them for multimedia purposes of any kind or to rearrange them in any other way (e.g. to create remixes or do sampling). This also includes the exclusive right to use the Recordings in games / PC games as well as other and also interactive multimedia productions (incl. so called "websites") for goods, services and advertising purposes of any kind.

Finally, this includes the non-exclusive right to use the choir's /artist's name as well as images of the choir / artist in the context of the exploitation and the advertising and promotion measures mentioned above. The organiser does not pay any money to the ARTIST for the exclusive grant of rights mentioned above. The ARTIST accepts explicitly that the positive promotion effect resulting from an exploitation of the Recordings by the organiser represents an adequate return service for this transfer of rights. In case of a commercial release of the Recordings on CD, the parties will negotiate separately in good faith about an adequate royalty to be payable to Artist according to standard business practice.

Changes

The organiser reserves the right to make changes and amendments to the existing information material and/or the announcement in the event of unforeseen technical, organisational or artistic circumstances or act(s) of God. The organiser also reserves the right to make changes to the program contents and schedule.

Contact

To register and to enquire about the organisation or any other query regarding the event and your participation please refer exclusively to the following address:



Budapest International Choir Festival

Konrad-Adenauer-Str. 36

35415 Pohlheim, Germany

Telefon: +49 6403 9784225

Fax: +49 6403 9761249

E-Mail: info@meeting-music.com

www.meeting-music.com