



Stowarzyszenie
Miłośników Muzyki Chóralnej
Astrolabium

meeting
music

PER MUSICAM AD ASTRA

4th International Copernicus
Choir Festival and Competition

Participant Information

18-22 June 2016
Toruń, Poland



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PER MUSICAM AD ASTRA
4th International Copernicus Choir Festival and Competition

Toruń (Poland), June 18 – 22, 2016

Organisers

ASTROLABIUM Society of Choral Music Enthusiasts in Toruń

&

meeting
music

The event is co-financed through

Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship
and the Municipality of Toruń

Artistic Committee

Gábor Hollerung (Hungary)
Dr. Kinga Litowska (Poland)
Prof. Krzysztof Szydzisz (Poland)

Project Directors

Piroska Horváth (Hungary)
Dr. Kinga Litowska (Poland)

inchoral
an INTERNATIONAL CHORAL FESTIVAL NETWORK event

Cordial invitation

Dear Choral Music Enthusiasts - Conductors and Choristers,

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that we begin our preparations for the fourth edition of PER MUSCIAM AD ASTRA International Copernicus Choir Festival and Competition.

I would like to invite you, dear choir singers and conductors, to Toruń - located in the very heart of Poland, city of the great Nicolaus Copernicus, gothic architecture and love for culture, the place which between 18-22 June, 2016 will once again become the scene of great choral music celebrations.

The artistic and organizational success of the previous editions of the festival showed us all just how perfectly choral music fits into the unique atmosphere of this beautiful city and how much it moves the hearts of the audiences in Toruń and its region.

As was the case with the participants of the previous editions, we are looking forward to see all of you share your passion, emotions, thrills and the joy of making music together. We would like for your talents, enthusiasm and the magic of choral singing to once again "get us closer to the stars."

Sincerely yours,



Kinga Litowska, Artistic Director

Toruń, July 2015

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</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 – Pop and Jazz</p>	<p>Choirs that choose to participate in the event without competing may take part in the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EP – Evaluation Performance • IC – Individual Coaching • FC – “Meet in Music” – Friendship Concerts • VT – Voice Training <p>The participation to these activities is open to choirs who are taking part to the competition, also.</p>

* Friendship Concert Performance included.

Preliminary Schedule

Saturday June 18	Sunday June 19	Monday June 20	Tuesday June 21	Wednesday June 22
Arrivals	Rehearsals & Competitions		Conductors & Jury Meeting	Departure or extension of your stay
Opening Concert			Grand Prize Competition	
Award Ceremony				
“Meet in Music” – Friendship Concerts Individual Coaching & Evaluation Performances Voice Training				
Excursions and Sightseeing (depending on the schedule of the choirs)				

Participation and Activities

Festival Participation: The Activities

FC – “Meet in Music” – Friendship Concerts

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 can also take part in Friendship Concerts only.
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.
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VT – Voice Training Prof. Krzysztof Szydzisz "Vocal technique – sound – interpretation" *for all choirs*

Programme	Workshop will be led by Prof. Krzysztof Szydzisz – a musicologist, choirmaster, singer, speech therapist and a manager of culture. He honed his skills in Austria, Slovenia, Denmark, Germany, the US, and Poland. He has completed the Eric Ericson Master’s Course. As the founder and conductor of the Adam Mickiewicz University Chamber Choir in Poznan, Poland he has won numerous prizes at international choral competitions and gave concerts on five continents. In his work with the choir, he is paying particular attention to vocal technique and thus to the sound of the group. For many years now he has headed the Voice Emission Department at the F. Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz, Poland. Being extremely appreciated for his experience and competence, he is often invited to serve on the jury of international competitions, as well as to conduct workshops both for choristers and conductors.
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The workshop organized within the framework of PMAA is an excellent opportunity to benefit from the knowledge and skills of a world rank expert in choral singing particularly in the range that is of your choir's greatest interest and demand (be it vocal technique, sound or interpretation) and will allow for your further development and greater joy of singing.

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

I. Category choice

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

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 are advised to sign up for the 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.

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

Participation in the F, S and P categories is free of choice.

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 choice

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
PER MUSICAM AD ASTRA
Phone: +49 6403 9784225
E-mail: info@meeting-music.com

Competitive Participation: The Categories

A with requirements

A1 *Mixed Choirs*

A2 *Male Choirs* (T(T)B(B))

A3 *Female Choirs* (S(S)A(A))

Programme	Four (4) pieces have to be performed with respect to these criteria: 1) One piece by a composer born between 1809 and 1873 2) One piece by a composer who is alive at the time of the registration 3) & 4) Freely chosen pieces
Number of singers	A1: min. 4, A2 & A3: min. 3
Age of singers	16+
Singing time	maximum 20 minutes
Accompaniment	maximum two (2) pieces can be performed with instrumental accompaniment

B without requirements

B1 *Mixed Choirs*

B2 *Male Choirs* (T(T)B(B))

B3 *Female Choirs* (S(S)A(A))

Programme	Three (3) pieces of the choir's own choice from different musical periods, with different character.
Number of singers	min. 8
Age of singers	16+
Singing time	maximum 15 minutes
Accompaniment	no restrictions

G Children's and Youth Choirs

G1 *Children's Choirs*

G2 *Youth Choirs of equal voices*

G3 *Youth Choirs of mixed voices*

Programme	Four (4) pieces of the choirs own choice of different character and preferably from different epochs.
Age of singers	G1: max. 16 yrs. G2/G3: girls: max. 19 yrs. boys: max. 25yrs.
Number of singers	min. 8
Singing time	maximum 15 minutes
Accompaniment	maximum two (2) pieces can be performed with instrumental accompaniment

S Musica Sacra

Programme	Four (4) pieces have to be performed with respect to these criteria: 1) One piece by a Polish composer 2) One piece by a composer born 1808 or before 3) One piece by a composer who is alive at the time of the registration 4) One freely chosen piece
Age of singers	no restrictions
Number of singers	minimum 4
Singing time	maximum 20 minutes
Accompaniment	Maximum one (1) piece can be performed with instrumental accompaniment.

F Folklore

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 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.
Age of singers	no restrictions
Number of singers	minimum 4
Singing time	maximum 15 minutes
Accompaniment	Piano accompaniment and traditional instruments are allowed.

P Pop and Jazz

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.
Age of singers	no restrictions
Number of singers	minimum 4
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.
Number of singers	according to category rules
Singing time	maximum 8 minutes
Accompaniment	not permitted

Category Overview													
Category	A			B			G			S	F	P	
	A1	A2	A3	B1	B2	B3	G1	G2	G3				
Age of singers	16+			16+			max. 16	Girls: 19	Boys: 25	max .25	no limit	no limit	no limit
Number of singers	A1 – min. 4 A2 & A3 – min. 3			minimum 8			minimum 8			minimum 4	minimum 4	minimum 4	
Number of pieces	4			3			4			4	no limit	no limit	
Maximum singing time	20 min			15 min			15 min			20 min	15 min	15 min	
Maximum Number of accompanied pieces	2			all			2			1	all	all	
Amplification	not allowed										allowed		
Playback	not allowed										Instrumental playback allowed		

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 organiser about their individual programmes during their stay.

MULTIPLE PARTICIPATION

- a) Individual choir members may participate in smaller ensembles formed out of their primary choir but may NOT sing in more than one primary choir.
- b) All choirs may participate in only one of categories A or B or G. Choirs may additionally choose to participate in categories F, S and P independent of their participation in categories A, B or G.
- c) Female sections of choir competing in A categories may also compete in the A3 category, while male voices may participate in the A2 category. Female and male sections of mixed choirs competing in B may also sign up for category B2 or B3 respectively.

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**
 - a. Five copies of every piece should be submitted at the latest by your arrival. The scores must conform to internationally recognized sheet music standards (five lines of notes).
 - b. Submitted score sheets will be given back to the choirs after the competition.
 - c. 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.
 - d. 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.
 - e. If your scores are published as score book, please preferably submit authorized copies.

Do you need any advice on your literature's choice? Please contact Your Publisher:



P & H Publishers

Tel.: +49 (0) 6403-9784225

email: office@ph-publishers.com

www.ph-publishers.com

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

“The new evaluation system of all our future events shall preserve 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 choir 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.”

Gábor Hollerung.

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

“PER MUSICAM AD ASTRA” Grand Prize of 2.000 EUR

(In words: two thousand Euro)

Special Prizes

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

Terms & Conditions of Participation

Deadline for registration: **February 28, 2016**

Early bird deadline: December 15, 2015

Please provide the following documents together with your registration:

Checklist for application:

APPLICATION FORM

Correctly and clearly filled in.

REGISTRATION FEE

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

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, prior to your arrival to the competition.
- 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	PL-16 + name of choir (please state your name in full)

In case of cancellation of your participation: we will refund the paid amount detracted from by the amount of 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, 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 Announcement, 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 their signature on the registration form, the signatory accepts the terms of the ARB (General Conditions of Travel) and the organiser's liability for them and for all persons registered.

Audio and Audiovisual Recordings

All rights regarding the audio and audiovisual 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:



4. PER MUSICAM AD ASTRA

Konrad-Adenauer-Str. 36

35415 Pohlheim, Germany

Phone: +49 6403 9784225

Fax: +49 6403 9761249

email: info@meeting-music.com

www.meeting-music.com