

PROGRAM

24. - 27. 4. 2025
Bratislava, Slovakia



XVII. Medzinárodný zborový festival
17th International Choir Festival

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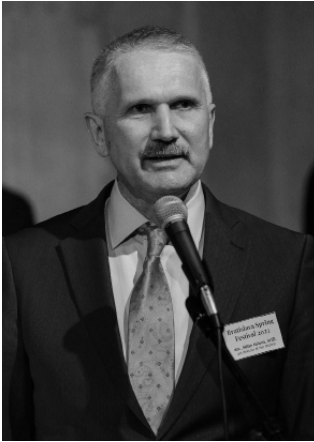
BRATISLAVA
MUSIC AGENCY

Slovakia Cantat

XVII. Medzinárodný zborový festival 17th International Choir Festival

24. - 27. 4. 2025, Bratislava, Slovakia

Hlavný organizátor / Organiser:	BRATISLAVA MUSIC AGENCY
Umelecký riaditeľ / Festival Art Director:	Assoc. Prof. Milan Kolena, ArtD.
Medzinárodná porota / International jury:	Prof. Monika Mielko-Remiszewska /PL/ predsedníčka poroty/chairwoman of the jury Assoc. Prof. Ondrej Šaray, ArtD. /SK/ Assoc. Prof. Milan Kolena, ArtD. /SK/
Spoluorganizátori / Co-organizers:	Bratislavské kultúrne a informačné stredisko Hlavné mesto SR Bratislava Únia speváckych zborov Slovenska Spevácky zbor Apollo
Mediálni partneri / Media:	Kam do mesta Citylife.sk
Fotograf / Photographer:	Vladimír Kuric



Milí priatelia zborového spevu,

Vitajte v srdci zborového spevu, v Bratislave!

Som veľmi rád, že vás môžem privítať na XVII. Medzinárodnom zborovom festivale SLOVAKIA CANTAT 2025. Teší ma, že sa môžeme stretnúť a zdieľať naše nadšenie pre zborový spev. Tento rok sa na Slovakia Cantat 2025 zúčastní 14 zborov zo 7 krajín, teda vyše 450 spevákov z našich susedných krajín. Zbory sa predstaví v 13 súťažných kategóriách. Tento festival je najväčším podujatím svojho druhu na Slovensku, a preto predstavuje pre slovenský hudobný život výnimočnú udalosť. Počas predchádzajúcich šestnástich ročníkov sa na festivale vystriedalo vyše tristo speváckych zborov, viac než päťtisíc spevákov, čo svedčí o neustálom progrese a záujme o festival Slovakia Cantat vo svete.

Verím, že aj 17. ročník festivalu nadviaže a bude ďalej rozvíjať základnú myšlienku festivalu „hudba a umenie ľudí spája“, a zároveň verím, že nepôjde len o frázu, ale že spoločne budeme môcť prežiť skutočné zjednotenie do jednej veľkej svetovej zborovej rodiny, nadviazať nové priateľstvá medzi zborními a krajinami.

Bratislava otvára speváckym zborom počas festivalu svoje najkrajšie priestory na zborové koncerty a vystúpenia a pozýva všetkých spoločne prežiť festivalový program plný krásnej hudby. Verím, že z Bratislavy budete aj vy odchádzať plní nadšenia a pekných zážitkov a že v budúcnosti sa k nám radi vrátite. To vám zo srdca prajem.

Doc. Milan Kolena, umelecký riaditeľ medzinárodného festivalu Slovakia Cantat 2025

Dear friends of choral music,

Welcome to Bratislava, the heart of choral singing!

I am very happy to welcome you to the 17th International Choral Festival SLOVAKIA CANTAT 2025. It brings me great joy and gratitude that we can come together and share our passion for choral singing. This year, Slovakia Cantat 2025 will host 14 choirs from 7 countries, more than 450 singers, who will showcase 13 competition performances. As the largest event of its kind in Slovakia, it is a unique opportunity for the country's choral life. With over 300 choirs and 5000 singers attending the previous sixteen editions, the festival has gained worldwide interest and progress.

I am confident that the 17th edition will continue to embody the festival's core ethos of "music and art connect people." I believe that this sentiment will not merely be a cliché, but we will genuinely form new friendships between choirs and countries.

Bratislava opens for the festival choirs its best music venues for choir concerts and performances. You are invited to enjoy the festival programme full of beautiful music together. I have every confidence that your visit to Bratislava will leave you with countless unforgettable experiences and cherished memories. I truly hope that you will feel compelled to return to this remarkable city in the future, and I send this wish from the depths of my heart!

Assoc. Prof. Milan Kolena, Art Director of the International Choir Festival Slovakia Cantat 2025

PROGRAM FESTIVALU

24.4.2025 ŠTVRTOK / THURSDAY

19:00 OTVÁRACÍ KONCERT FESTIVALU / OPENING CONCERT

Chór dieťačky Ogólnokształcącej Szkoły Muzycznej im. Karola Lipińskiego /PL/, Wattana Girls' Chorus /TH/, Mladinski pevski zbor Mavrica /SL/, Academic Choir of the Veterinary Faculty Phrenicus /SL/, Zbor Ženske opće gimnazije Družbe sestara milosrdnica /HR/, Sunnmøre Festivalkor /NO/, Komorni zbor Orfej Ljutomer /SL/, Mješoviti pjevački zbor Nadbiskupske klasične gimnazije s pravom javnosti /HR/, Ars Voce /CZ/, Con Fuoco /PL/

Jezuitský kostol/ Jesuits Church, Františkánske námestie/ Franciscan square

25.4.2025 PIATOK / FRIDAY

SÚŤAŽ SPEVÁCKYCH ZBOROV A ORCHESTROV / CHORAL AND ORCHESTRAL COMPETITION

Zrkadlová sieň Primaciálneho paláca, Primaciálne námestie / Mirror Hall of the Primate's Palace, Primatial square

Kategória: Detské spevácke zbory do 16 rokov / Category: Children's choirs up to 16 yrs

09:00 Chór dieťačky Ogólnokształcącej Szkoły Muzycznej im. Karola Lipińskiego /PL/

09:20 Wattana Girls' Chorus /TH/

Kategória: Sakrálna hudba s inštrum. sprievodom / Category: Musica Sacra with instrum. accompaniment

09:40 Chór dieťačky Ogólnokształcącej Szkoły Muzycznej im. Karola Lipińskiego /PL/

Kategória: Ľudová pieseň a cappella / Category: Folksong a cappella

10:00 Wattana Girls' Chorus /TH/

10:15 Academic Choir of the Veterinary Faculty Phrenicus /SL/

Kategória: Zmiešané zbory dospelých / Category: Mixed adult choirs

10:30 Komorni zbor Orfej Ljutomer /SL/

10:48 Con Fuoco /PL/

11:06 Academic Choir of the Veterinary Faculty Phrenicus /SL/

Kategória: Sakrálna hudba a cappella / Category: Musica Sacra a cappella

11:24 Komorni zbor Orfej Ljutomer /SL/

11:42 Con Fuoco /PL/

12:00 Academic Choir of the Veterinary Faculty Phrenicus /SL/

Kategória: Mládežnícke zbory do 21 rokov (SA) /Category: Youth choirs up to 21 yrs (SA)

15:00 Zbor Ženske opće gimnazije Družbe sestara milosrdnica /HR/

15:18 Ars voce /CZ/11:35 Mixed Choir Obala Koper /SL/

Kategória: Mládežnícke zbory do 21 rokov (SATB) / Category: Youth choirs up to 21 yrs (SATB)

15:36 Mješoviti pjevački zbor Nadbiskupske klasične gimnazije s pravom javnosti /HR/

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Kategória: Súčasná zborová hudba / Category: Contemporary music

15:54 Mladinski pevski zbor Mavrica / SL/

Kategória: Zbory seniorov / Category: Choirs of seniors

16: 10 Sunnmøre Festivalkor /NO/

Kategória: Detské spevácke zbory do 16 rokov / Category: Children's choirs up to 16 years

16:30 Bratislavský detský zbor /SK/

Kategória: Spirituál, Gospel, Pop, Jazz / Category: Spiritual, Gospel, Pop, Jazz

18:00 The Chamber Choir /SK/

Kategória: Zmiešané zbory dospelých / Category: Mixed adult choirs

18:20 Choirchestra /CZ/

Kategória: Komorné zbory 9 - 24 spevákov/ Category: Chamber choirs 9 – 24 singers

18:40 Kassiopea /CZ/

26.4.2025 SOBOTA / SATURDAY

FESTIVALOVÉ KONCERTY / FESTIVAL CONCERTS

13.00 Mladinski pevski zbor Mavrica /SL/, Chór dziecięcy Ogólnokształcącej Szkoły Muzycznej im. Karola Lipińskiego /PL/, Bratislavský detský zbor /SK/, Wattana Girls' Chorus /TH/

14:15 Zbor Ženske opće gimnazije Družbe sestara milosrdnica /HR/, Ars voce /CZ/, Mješoviti pjevački zbor Nadbiskupske klasične gimnazije s pravom javnosti /HR/, The Chamber Choir /SK/, Kassiopea /CZ/

16:00 Academic Choir of the Veterinary Faculty Phrenicus /SL/, Con Fuoco/ PL/, Komorni zbor Orfej Ljutomer /SL/, Sunnmøre Festivalkor /NO/, Choirchestra /CZ/

Hudobná sieň Klarisky / Klarisky Music Hall, Farská 4

19:00 FESTIVALOVÝ KONCERT A VYHLÁSENIE VÝSLEDKOV SÚŤAŽE / FESTIVAL CONCERT A COMPETITION RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT

Jezuitský kostol/ Jesuits Church, Františkánske námestie/ Franciscan square

27.4.2025 NEDEĽA / SUNDAY

Odchod medzinárodných speváckych zborov

Departure of international choirs

MEDZINÁRODNÁ POROTA / INTERNATIONAL JURY

Prof. Monika Mielko-Remiszewska /Poland/ *chairwoman of the jury*

Prof. Monika Mielko-Remiszewska is a graduate of Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, majoring in Music Education (1988), as well as Postgraduate Choirmaster Studies (2000) and Postgraduate Voice Emission Studies (2002) at the F. Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz. She began working at the Institute of Artistic Education at UMCS in Lublin in 1987 as a trainee assistant. She is currently a professor of musical arts, lecturing on subjects such as conducting, score reading, vocal ensembles, and vocal technique. Since 1993, she has been the conductor of the Academic Choir of the Medical University of Lublin. She has prepared and conducted over 700 concerts, including 18 oratorio vocal-instrumental works (e.g., *Messiah* by G.F. Handel and *St. John Passion* by J.S. Bach). Under her direction, the choir has won over 40 awards and distinctions at national and international choral festivals and competitions. Prof. Mielko-Remiszewska is also an active promoter of musical life. Since 2014, she has served as the president of the Lublin Branch of the Polish Association of Choirs and Orchestras (PZChiO), and since 2022, as the vice-president of the PZChiO's Management in Warsaw. Since 2015, she has also been the president of the Dr. M. Hajnos Academic Cultural Association, which supports the Academic Choir of the Medical University and the Academic Children's Choir "Pueri Nostri", of which she is the founder and artistic director. In 2016, she became the director of the International Festival of Choral Music CANTANTES LUBLINENSIS in Lublin. She also serves on the jury of national and international competitions, including the Prof. Jan Szyrocki International Festival of Choral Song in Międzyzdroje and the Prof. Józef Świder International Festival of Music in Cieszyn. Her achievements have been recognized with numerous honors, including the Bronze and Silver Cross of Merit, the Medal of the Commission of National Education (KEN), the 700th Anniversary Medal of the City of Lublin, the 450th Anniversary Medal of the Union of Lublin, and the Medal of Merit for the Medical University of Lublin.



MEDZINÁRODNÁ POROTA / INTERNATIONAL JURY

Assoc. Prof. Milan Kolena, ArtD. /Slovakia/

Milan Kolena is one of Europe's most dynamic choral conductors and educators. As artistic director of major international festivals in Bratislava, he brings together over 1,500 performers annually through seven festivals that unite musicians from around the world in powerful harmony. At the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava, he mentors future conductors with passion for choral conducting and Gregorian chant. With his ensembles – the Apollo Choir and Schola Gregoriana Bratislavensis – he's won top prizes and wowed audiences across Europe, Russia, South Africa, and Asia. His workshops and masterclasses, from the U.S. to China, are known for their energy, depth, and inspiration. In 2015, he was named Best Conductor at the Singing World Festival in St.



Petersburg. As a jury member at the World Choir Games and competitions worldwide, he champions artistic excellence and youth talent. His Apollo Choir has captured Grand Prix titles in Moscow (2018), Barcelona (2023), and Greece (2024). He also serves as Vice President of the World Youth and Children Choral Artists' Association and Member of the INTERKULTUR World Choir Council. Dr. Kolena believes in the power of music to connect hearts, cross borders, and change the world – one voice at a time.

Assoc. Prof. Ondrej Šaray, ArtD. /Slovakia/



Ondrej Šaray studied orchestral conducting with Zdeněk Bílek at the Conservatory in Bratislava. He also studied with Ladislav Slovák at the Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts in Bratislava. Since 1983 he has worked as the conductor of the Bratislava Children's Choir. In 1987 he established the Youth Choir Echo and in 1992 the Amadeus Choir Bratislava. Ondrej Šaray has won many significant domestic and international awards with these choirs. As a conductor, he has performed throughout Europe, Canada, Africa, the USA and he also cooperated with the noted orchestras of Slovakia (Philharmonic Orchestra, State Philharmonic Orchestra Košice, State Chamber Orchestra Žilina). He and his choirs appear regularly in vocal-instrumental compositions with the Slovak Philharmonic

Orchestra, Slovak Chamber Orchestra of Bohdan Warchal, Capella Istropolitana and Musica Aeterna. Ondrej Šaray has also made recordings for Slovak Radio, Slovak Television and BBC London. Besides conducting, he teaches at the Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts in Bratislava.

Academic Choir of the Veterinary Faculty Phrenicus /SL/

Conductor: Mrs. Katja Bogovič

Academic Choir of the Veterinary Faculty Phrenicus has been active since 2014. The choir offers not only exploring and interpreting a diverse repertoire of choral literature, but also great company and opportunities to build new connections and friendships. The choir performs at various faculty events and conferences within the field of veterinary science. Each May, it concludes its season with an annual concert. Last academic year, the choir took to competitive stages for the first time. It returned from the regional competition with a gold award of distinction and a special prize for the best performance of a Slovenian folk song. At the national competition Naša pesem, alongside Slovenia's most renowned choirs, it was awarded a high silver plaque. Since 2018, the choir has been led by Katja Bogovič.



Katja Bogovič graduated with honours in musicology at the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana. During her studies, she upgraded her knowledge of solo singing with prof. Mihaela Komočar Gorše and prof. Barbara Nagode and has been member of a mixed choir (conductor Sebastjan Vrhovnik) and a chamber choir (conductor Marko Vatovec) of the Academy of Music in Ljubljana. She is currently conducting Men's choir Kapele and the Academic Choir of the Veterinary Faculty in Ljubljana while also being an artistic leader and mezzosoprano in Vocal group Aria. She is a recipient of awards at regional and international competitions for performing competition programs and individual compositions.

At the Slovenian national choir competition in 2024 she was recognized as a young promising conductor. Being a cultural enthusiast also transfers to her profession as she works in the programme office of one of the most important festivals in Slovenia and Europe, Festival Ljubljana.



Competition programme

F1: Ludová pieseň a cappella

F1: Folksong a cappella - for choirs

1. Julijan Strajnar - Romarski vrtec (after the folk motifs from Slovenian devotional songs)
2. Damijan Močnik - Zarja (Three Slovene Folk Songs of Dawn)
3. Ubald Vrabec - Gularja sem tiela jmiet (folk song of the Slovene minority in Italy)
4. Samo Vremšak - Marko skače (after the folk motifs from Prekmurje)

D3: Zmiešané zbory dospelých

D3: Mixed adult choirs

1. Sergej Rahmaninov - Bogoroditse Djevo (prayer)
2. Moses Hogan - The Battle of Jericho (spiritual)
3. Hilarij Lavrenčič - Venci veli (folk song from Bela Krajina)
4. Samo Vovk - Ta na Solbici (Samo Vovk and Barbara Grahor)

H1: Sakrálna hudba a cappella

H1: Musica Sacra a cappella

1. Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina - Sicut cervus (Ps 42)
2. Nikolai Kedrov - Otche nash (Mt 6:9-13)
3. Tine Bec - Deliver me, O Lord (from the Office of the Dead)
4. Andrej Makor - Bogoroditse djevo (from Tri Dukhovniykh Khora)

Ars voce /CZ/

Conductor: Mr. Jan Chumchal



The girls' choir **Ars Voce** has been active at the Pedagogical High School in Krnov since 2002, when it was founded by teacher and choir conductor Kamil Trávníček. The principal conductor and artistic director is teacher Jan Chumchal. **Ars Voce** regularly performs concerts and

participates in important national and international festivals. The choir is mainly composed of students studying to become preschool teachers. Its repertoire includes compositions from various musical genres and stylistic periods.

PhDr. Jan Chumchal, Ph.D., graduated in Music Education and Civic Education at the Faculty of Education of the University of Ostrava, where he completed his postgraduate studies in Music Theory and Pedagogy in 2021. His research focuses on the didactics of music education and the

musical culture of the Wallachia region. He has been working with the girls' choir **Ars Voce** since 2016. He currently teaches at the Pedagogical High School in Krnov and the Department of Music Education at the University of Ostrava.

Competition programme

C1: Mládežnícke zbory do 21 rokov (SA)

C1: Youth choirs up to 21 yrs (SA)

1. John Leavitt - Exsultate
2. Antonín Dvořák - Dyby byla kosa nabrůšená
3. Otmar Mácha - Chodila po roli
4. arr. Eugen Suchoň - Bodaj by vás
5. arr. Jace Wittig - Down in the River to Pray
6. Spiritual - Spring



Bratislavský detský zbor/SK/

Conductor: Mr. Robert Tišťan

Bratislava children choir was founded in 1962 at the Municipal Cultural Centre in Bratislava. Since 1967, the choir performed on stages in fifteen European countries, Japan, Canada, Africa and the USA, and has performed with the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra. Róbert Tišťan became the conductor of the choir in 2007 and the choir has managed to expand its membership and gradually regain its long-standing successful tradition since then. Every year BADZ presents itself not only to the domestic audience, but also at festivals abroad. In 2017 the choir recorded a CD and toured Slovak cities. In 2018 the choir won the International Competition Canco Mediterrania in Lloret de Mar and Barcelona, 1st place in the folk music category and 2nd place in the sacred music category.

Robert Tišťan studied church music and conducting at the Conservatory in Žilina, followed by studies at the Academy of Performing Arts and the Faculty of Education at Comenius University in Bratislava. After completing his education, he began teaching at the Church Conservatory and the Miloš Ruppeltd Elementary Arts School (ZUŠ) in Bratislava, where he continues to work as a lecturer of specialized subjects and, most notably, as a conductor. He leads the CKBA Choir, the Bratislava Children's Choir (BADZ), and the Miloš Ruppeltd Elementary Arts School String

Orchestra. From 2013 to 2021, he served as the conductor of the Donaustimmen mixed choir in Wolfsthal, Austria. With these ensembles, he regularly performs on concert stages both in Slovakia and abroad. In addition to these roles, he is the artistic director of the vocal section of the group Big Names, with whom he has performed in Dubai, Turkey, England, and other European countries.



Competition programme

A4: Detské spevácke zbory do 16 rokov

A4: Children's choirs up to 16 years

1. John Leavitt - Festival Sanctus
2. Roberto Remondi - O sacrum convivium
3. Mária Jašurďová - Tancovala a neznala
4. Mária Jašurďová - Ej padá padá
5. Sefardská pieseň - Si verias a la rana



Choirchestra /CZ/

Conductor: Mr. Eduard Kostelník

The Choirchestra Mixed Choir was founded in 2010 by a group of friends with previous choral experience and their own vision. Choirchestra does not have a genre-specific repertoire; the ensemble performs art choral compositions by Czech and foreign composers from the Renaissance to the 21st century, as well as arrangements of folk songs and spirituals, and often also compositions belonging to popular music. Concerts are dramatically conceived with regard to the chosen topic. The choir also performs contemporary music (in 2021 the premiere of D. Šimek's Lux aeterna, in 2024 the Czech premiere of Ľ. Bernáth's Brevi oratione pro defunctis). In 2024, Choirchestra won the golden award at the Festival of Songs in Olomouc in the Mixed Choirs category and made it to the competition for the absolute winner. Since 2022 the choir has been led by Eduard Kostelník.

Eduard Kostelník comes from the historical town of Levoča. After graduating from organ and conducting at the Košice Conservatory, he went on to the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in choral conducting. In 2021 he started his studies in orchestra conducting at the Janáček Academy of Performing Arts in Brno. As part of his studies, he is actively involved in the

Chamber Opera of the JAMU, where he collaborated as an accompanist on the staging of the operas Dialogues of the Carmelites by F. Poulanc, The Two Widows by B. Smetana and Calvary by Markéta Brothánková. He also served as assistant conductor of the contemporary opera J.A.K from Labyrinth by Noema Savková, which premiered at the Janáček Brno Festival. At the beginning of 2023 he was assistant conductor at the National Theatre Brno for the opera Falstaff by G. Verdi and also collaborated with the Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra Olomouc (2023, 2024) and PKF - Prague Philharmonia (2023). Within the JAMU Chamber Opera he has staged the operas The Coronation of Poppea by Claudio Monteverdi and the one-act opera In the Well by Vilém Blodek.



Competition programme

D3: Zmiešané zbory dospelých

D3: Mixed adult choirs

1. Mikuláš Schneider-Trnavský - Otče náš
2. Arvo Pärt - Bogoroditse Djévo
3. Ola Gjeilo - Ubi Caritas
4. Ivan Hrušovský - Rytmus



Chór dziecięcy Ogólnokształcącej Szkoły Muzycznej im. Karola Lipińskiego /PL/

Conductor: Mrs. Renata Kołodyńska-Pyda



The Children's Choir of the K. Lipiński Music School in Lublin is part of the educational program at the school. The choir consists of children aged 10 to 14,

for whom singing is not only a joyful and enjoyable activity but also an important complement to their compulsory education. The choir's extensive repertoire spans a wide range of choral music from the 20th century, which has allowed them to engage in numerous concert performances and actively participate in competitions and festivals. The choir's recent achievements include: 2024: 59th International Festival of Choral Singing in Honor of Prof. Jerzy Szyrocki, Międzyzdroje - Gold Diploma; 2023: 8th International Festival of Choral Singing Cantantes Lubinensis - Gold Diploma

The choir is conducted by Renata Kołodyńska-Pyda, a teacher at the K. Lipiński Music School, who has been leading the choir since 2000. The choir's piano accompanist, who works closely with the ensemble, is Bartłomiej Tabor.

Competition programme

A4: Detské spevácke zbery do 16 rokov

A4: Children's choirs up to 16 years

1. Darius Lim - The Water Dance of Lluvia
2. Susanna Lindmark - Song of Hope
3. Huddie W. Ledbetter (arr. Moira Smiley) - Bring Me Little Water, Silvy
4. Darius Lim - A Puppet's Dream

H2: Sakrálna hudba s inštrum. sprievodom

H2: Musica Sacra with instrum. accompaniment

1. Mark Paterson - O Lux Beatissima
2. Linda Spevacek - A Choral Flourish
3. Andrzej Koszewski - Zdrowaś Królewno Wyborna
4. Darius Lim - Call of the Angels



Con Fuoco /PL/

Conductor: Mrs. Diana Mrugała-Gromek

Con Fuoco is a mixed academic choir founded at AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków. Known for its vibrant energy and diverse repertoire, the choir performs classical, sacred, and contemporary choral music, often



combining traditional Polish works with international pieces. Con Fuoco actively participates in national and international competitions, achieving numerous awards and distinctions. The ensemble has proudly represented AGH University abroad, performing in countries such as Germany, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Macedonia, Ukraine, France, Lithuania, and Slovenia. The choir also plays an integral role in the university's cultural life, engaging in academic ceremonies, concerts, and artistic projects.

The choir is led by **Diana Mrugała-Gromek**, a distinguished choral conductor and musician with extensive experience in working with vocal ensembles. In 2007, she graduated with honors from the Academy of Music in Kraków, specializing in the Faculty of Composition, Interpretation, and Music Education. She also completed Postgraduate Studies in Cultural

Management at Jagiellonian University in Kraków. She specializes in choral conducting and vocal training. Under her leadership, Con Fuoco has achieved a high artistic standard, earning recognition for its musical precision, expressiveness, and dynamic interpretations. Diana Mrugała-Gromek passionately nurtures young talents, shaping their skills and inspiring a love for choral music. Thanks to her dedication, the choir enjoys success both in Poland and on the international stage.

Competition programme

D3: Zmiešané zbory dospelých
D3: Mixed adult choirs

1. Franco Prinsloo - Salve Regina
2. Blake Wilson - Caedmon's Hymn
3. Jakub Neske - Mironczarnia
4. Kirby Shaw - Celtic Dance

H1: Sakrálna hudba a cappella
H1: Musica Sacra a cappella

1. Michael John Trotta - Dies Irae
2. Darius Lim - Gloria! Alleluia!
3. Eriks Esenvalds - O Salutaris Hostia
4. Jake Runestad - Alleluia



Kassiopea /CZ/

Conductor: Mrs. Hana Vyroubalová

Kassiopea is a women's choir established in 2006 in Olomouc under the direction of Mgr. Hana Vyroubalová. The choir regularly performs at spring and Christmas concerts, as well as at many other cultural events in the Olomouc region. Over the years, Kassiopea has participated in national and international choral festivals, such as the 2013 festival in Ternopil, Ukraine, where it won 3rd place, and the Jihlava Choral Art Festival in 2014, where it received a silver award. In 2017, 2019, and 2023, the choir earned a gold award at the Festival of Songs Olomouc. In 2017, Kassiopea performed with the swing orchestra New Street Band in the musical *Kéž by tisíc klarinetů*, which won the Olomouc Region Culture Award for 2016.

Choirmaster **Mgr. Hana Vyroubalová** graduated from the Faculty of Education at Palacký University in Olomouc, majoring in primary teacher training and music education. She has been involved in music since the age of five when she began singing in the Olomouc choir *Campanella* under the direction of choirmaster Jiří Klimeš.

During her studies at the university, she decided to found her own choir, and in 1993, she began working with the organization *BoDo centrum z.s.*, under whose banner she established the choir *Music BoDo Olomouc*. Today, the organization consists of six choirs, catering to children from the age of three up to an adult female choir. In addition to her work with choirs, she enjoys singing with a band in her free time and performs in various musical groups.



Competition programme

E2: Komorné zbory 9 - 24 spevákov

E2: Chamber choirs 9 - 24 singers

1. Eva Ugalde - Ave Maris Stella
2. Ivan Hrušovský - Rytmus
3. Zdeněk Lukáš - Kravarky
4. Jan Vičar - Gurale



Komorni zbor Orfej Ljutomer /SL/

Conductor: Mr. Vito Žerdin

With over 35 years of tradition and numerous awards, the **Orfej Chamber Choir** from Ljutomer is recognized as one of Slovenia's most prominent vocal ensembles. Founded in 1989, the choir initially thrived under the leadership of Romana Rek, later collaborating with acclaimed conductor Janez Bole and performing as Slovenski madrigalisti. Since 2010, the choir has occasionally worked with Andraž Hauptman, who became artistic director in 2017, succeeded by Vito Žerdin in 2023. Orfej has demonstrated excellence on competitive stages, winning three gold plaques at the Slovenian national competition since 2010 and receiving international acclaim. Recent achievements include 4th place and a



conductor's prize at the 2023 Fleischmann International Trophy in Ireland, a gold plaque and audience award at the 2022 Ave Verum competition in Austria and multiple honors at national events.

Vito Žerdin pursued his music education at the Academy of Music, University of Ljubljana, graduating in 2014 under Professor Marko Vatovec, focusing on music education and conducting. During his studies, he actively assisted the artistic directors of the Orfej Chamber Choir, gaining valuable experience in choral leadership.



He further refined his expertise through workshops with renowned conductors such as Sebastjan Vrhovnik, Petra Grassi, Gary Graden, and Stojan Kuret. In 2023, after years as an assistant conductor, he became the artistic director of the Orfej Chamber Choir. Beyond Orfej, Vito Žerdin teaches music at Ljutomer Primary School and also conducts and collaborates with various other vocal ensembles.

Competition programme

D3: Zmiešané zbory dospelých

D3: Mixed adult choirs

1. Claudio Monteverdi - Ecco mormorar l'onde
2. Krištof Strnad - Na nebu zvezde
3. Lojze Lebič - Luba vigred se rodi
4. Alojz Srebotnjak - Rezijanska

H1: Sakrálna hudba a cappella

H1: Musica Sacra a cappella

1. Martin Asander - Peace
2. Oskar Lindberg - Pingst
3. Agnet Sköld - There is no rose
4. Krištof Strnad - Flante Deo

Mješoviti pjevački zbor Nadbiskupske klasične gimnazije s pravom javnosti /HR/

Conductor: Mrs. Ankica Juričić

The Mixed Choir of Nadbiskupska Klasična Gimnazija was founded in the autumn of 1999, inspired by a decades-long tradition of boys singing in the lower seminary. Initially established as the NKG vocal ensemble, the choir gradually grew and became a boys' choir. In 2003, when the school began enrolling girls, the choir transformed into a mixed choir. Young choristers sing at liturgical services and actively participate in school projects, with the school's traditional Advent concert, „Advent na Šalati,“ being a standout event. The choir has performed across Croatia and participated in music festivals for students of Catholic grammar schools, as well as music creativity festivals for primary and secondary school students in



Zagreb. Notable collaborations include performances with the Orchestra of the Croatian Armed Forces. The boys' choir has won awards four times at the Croatian Youth Music Festivities in Varaždin, while the mixed choir has received several awards, including four silver plaques and one gold plaque. This school year, the choir celebrates its 25th anniversary under the direction of Ankica Juričić, who has led it since its beginning.

Ankica Juričić (born 1965 in Slavonski Brod, Croatia) graduated from the Academy of Music, University of Sarajevo, with a

degree in music theory and pedagogy. She then continued her studies for two years at the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory, majoring in choral conducting.

In Stuttgart, she took a choral conducting master course under Helmut Rilling. From 1991 to 1996, she was the choral conductor of the university choir „Palma,“ with whom she recorded a CD titled Hrvatska



liturgijska glazba 20. st (Croatian Liturgical Music of the 20th Century). This CD was nominated for the Croatian music award Porin in 1996. During this time, she closely collaborated with the Croatian Chamber Orchestra and conducted Missa solemnis in Es Major by Ivan pl. Zajc. Since 1998, she has been working at Nadbiskupska Klasična Gimnazija s pravom javnosti in Zagreb as a music teacher and school choir conductor. While conducting the school's boys' choir and mixed choir, she has won five silver plaques and one gold plaque at state choir competitions, including the Croatian Youth Music Festivities, held annually in Varaždin.

Competition programme

C2: Mládežnické zborny do 21 rokov (SATB)

C2: Youth choirs up to 21 yrs (SATB)

1. arr. Lucija Juričić - Obećana Djevica (Engleska tradicijska pjesma)
2. arr. Tomislav Uhlík - Tri kralja jahahu (Božićna tradicijska pjesma iz Istre)
3. Josip Kaplan, arr. Ankica Juričić - Lepo naše ravno polje
4. Emily Crocker - Gloria festiva
5. Karl Jenkins - Cantate Domino

Mladinski pevski zbor Mavrica /SL/

Conductor: Mrs. Alenka Brulc-Šiplič

Mladinski pevski zbor Mavrica comes from the land of storks, cymbals, and good people. The people of Prekmurje are cheerful, and song is a faithful companion on many occasions. Singing at the school has a long and rich tradition, with the choir participating in every school event and various community events. It also takes part in regional choir meetings,



consistently receiving high marks. Each year, the choir is selected to participate in regional competitions, earning three silver and three gold awards. In 2011, the choir was chosen as one of the 13 most talented junior choirs in Slovenia and performed at the major event Travelling Music in Ljubljana. Over the years, the choir has competed in several international competitions, including Svatky pisni (Olomouc), Vallis Aurea Cantat (Požega, Croatia), Slovakia Cantat (Bratislava), and Lege Artis (Tuzla, Bosnia), winning multiple silver and gold prizes.

Alenka Brulc-Šiplič completed her studies in music pedagogy at the Faculty of Education in Maribor in 1985. She worked for six years at Primary School Gornji Petrovci and, since 1991, has taught music and conducted the children's and junior choirs at Primary

School Tišina. Both choirs have been highly successful, consistently receiving excellent grades at the regional level and earning several silver and gold prizes in regional competitions. They have also participated in national competitions, where they earned two bronze and several silver prizes. From 1992 to 2012, she conducted the Mixed Choir Štefan Kovač from Murska Sobota, which competed in international competitions in countries such as Finland (Tampere), Greece (Rhodes), Czech Republic (Chlumec, Olomouc), Slovakia (Bratislava), Hungary (Budapest), Italy (Rome, Riva del Garda, Verona), and Austria (Graz, Linz), winning several silver and gold prizes. The choir also performed in Switzerland and the USA. Throughout these years, she has continually furthered her education by attending national and international choir seminars, including the European Choir Symposium for Choral Music in Ljubljana in 1995 and the World Choral Symposium in Rotterdam in 1999. She also participated in two World Choir Olympics, held in Linz and Graz.



Competition programme

J: Súčasná zborová hudba

J: Contemporary music

1. Nana Forte, arr. Andrej Rozman Roza - Lenoba
2. Tadeja Vulc, arr. Tatjana Dolenc Marinšek - Moja ura gre počasi
3. Ljudska, arr. Tadeja Vulc - Slišala sem ptičko pet
4. Mary Lynn Lightfoot - Dona nobis pacem

Sunnmøre Festivalkor /NO/

Conductor: Mrs. Sølvi Myklebust

Sunnmøre Festivalkor is a mixed amateur choir with members from various locations across the county of Møre and Romsdal in Western Norway. The choir was founded in 2004 with the goal of participating in festivals both in Europe and Norway. Since 2006, the choir has taken part in 18 choir festivals across Europe. The repertoire includes music and songs in Norwegian, Swedish, Latin, and English, among others.



The choir's conductor, **Sølvi Myklebust**, has been working with choirs for many years. Over the last 10 years, she has conducted four choirs and is also a singer in one.

Competition programme

R: Zbory seniorov

R: Choirs of seniors

1. Negro Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan - Hear My Prayer
2. arr. Erlend Fagertun - Brudemarsj frå Lødingen (Norwegian folk song)
3. Svein Møller, arr. Svein Møller - Surely Goodness and Mercy
4. Robert Lowry, Anne Hawks, arr. Garry W Matthews - I Need Thee Every Hour



The Chamber Choir /SK/

Conductor: Mrs. Monika Pócze

The Chamber Choir is an international vocal ensemble with a decade-long tradition. It was founded in 2015 by conductor Monika Pócze during her studies at the Academy of Performing Arts. Since then, it has evolved into a unique group that brings together voices from Slovakia, Ukraine, Italy, Spain, Czechia, Romania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Philippines, and Korea. The choir boasts



a diverse repertoire that includes popular, spiritual, sacral, classical, and folk music, regularly showcased at concerts throughout Slovakia and abroad. Past performances include the Alexander Duchnovič Theatre in Prešov, the FÚGA Cultural Centre in Košice, Dobrý trh in Bratislava, the City of Bratislava's Christmas programme, and an International Music Festival in Portugal. The choir currently consists of 17 women from various professional fields, ranging from teaching to molecular biology, supported on the piano by an experienced accompanist, Daria Kashperko (SK/UA).

Monika Pócze graduated with a bachelor's degree in Choral Conducting from the Faculty of Music and Dance at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava, as well as a bachelor's degree in Teacher Education for Pedagogy and Musical Arts - Singing, from the Faculty of Education at Comenius

University in Bratislava. She has participated in courses on choral conducting and vocal training in choirs in Prague (Czech Republic) and Havlíčkova Borová (Czech Republic), and in Master classes in orchestral conducting in Rome (Italy). She is also a former member of the Choir of the Lúčnica Artistic Ensemble. Monika Pócze currently works at the Renáta Madarászová Private School of Arts in Senec as a teacher of solo and choral singing and music theory. Her students achieve excellent results in competitions and go on to study at conservatoires.

Competition programme

K: Spirituál, Gospel, Pop, Jazz

K: Spiritual, Gospel, Pop, Jazz

1. Stevie Nicks, arr. Maryanne Muglia Smith - Landslide
2. Irving Berlin, arr. F. Dale Bengtson and Lloyd Larson - Blue Skies
3. Björn Ulvaeus, Benny Andersson, arr. Jerry Estes - Thank You for the Music
4. Benj Pasek, Justin Paul, arr. Roger Emerson - From Now On



Wattana Girls' Chorus /TH/

Conductor: Mr. Sathit Sukchongchaipruk

The Wattana Girls' Chorus has earned international recognition for their ability to perform as a choir. This legacy stems from the influence and teachings of Christian missionaries in hymn singing since 1874, when Thailand's first all-girls academy was founded at Wattana. The Wattana Girls' Chorus itself was founded in 1989. Over the years, the chorus has been part of several significant events.



Sathit Sukchongchaipruk is the vice president of the Thailand Choral Directors Association and one of the founding members of the Thailand Choral Association. He has served as an adjudicator in numerous

choral competitions both in Thailand and internationally. In 2014, he was awarded the Conductor's Prize at the XIII Moscow Sounds Festival. He has led his choirs to win many gold awards and numerous special jury prizes. Today, he is a recognized and respected figure in the local choral scene.

Competition programme

A4: Detské spevácke zbory do 16 rokov

A4: Children's choirs up to 16 years

1. Pimpanit Karoonyawanich - Ave Marie
2. Russel Robinson - Deep River
3. Ko Matsushita - Kishu no Tonosan

F1: Ľudová pieseň a cappella

F1: Folksong a cappella

1. Neilson Kwei - Surirum
2. Kaiwan Kulavadhanothai - Ramwong Medley
3. Attichai Tragoondet - Tai Phama Khuae



Zbor Ženske opće gimnazije Družbe sestara milosrdnica/HR/

Conductor: Ms. Ivanka, s. Elizabeta Peršić

The Sisters of Charity Girls High School Choir was founded in 1995. The choir nurtures a diverse range of music, with special attention to Croatian cultural and spiritual musical heritage. It has held concerts in several cities across Croatia. At the national competition in Varaždin, the choir won one gold plaque, four silver plaques, and two bronze plaques. In 2013, the school choir participated in the Croatian Radio Television show "Until the Last Choir." The choir has also performed abroad, in Germany and Slovenia. The conductor of the choir is Ivanka Peršić, Sister Elizabeta.

The leader of the choir is **Sister M. Elizabeta Peršić**. Sister Elizabeta (Ivanka Peršić, born in Našice in 1965) graduated in organ performance from Zagreb in 1996 under the guidance of Professor Maria Penzar, and completed her degree in music theory in 2001. She has been leading the Women's General Choir of the gymnasium since its foundation in 1995. Under her leadership, the choir has achieved outstanding results at the state choir competition "Musical Festival of Croatian Youth" in Varaždin, earning one gold plaque, four silver plaques,

and two bronze plaques. She is also the conductor of the Sisters of Mercy Choir in Zagreb.



Competition programme

C1: Mládežnické zbory do 21 rokov (SA)
C1: Youth choirs up to 21 yrs (SA)

1. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, arr. Earlene Rentzi - Laudate Dominum
2. Alan Kljajić - Veličit
3. Jasenka Ostojić - Leptir
4. Slavko Zlatić - Biži, biži maglina
5. arr. Henry H. Leck - Freedom is Coming (Traditional South African)



KALENDÁR PODUJATÍ / MUSIC FESTIVAL CALENDAR

Zbory a orchestre 2025 - 2026 / Choirs and orchestras 2025 - 2026
Bratislava, Slovakia

BRATISLAVA SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL

Bratislava, Slovakia; 20th - 23rd March 2025

Bratislava, Slovakia; 19th - 22nd March 2026

SLOVAKIA CANTAT

International Festival of Choirs and Orchestras

Bratislava, Slovakia; 24th - 27th April 2025

Bratislava, Slovakia; 23rd - 26th April 2026

BRATISLAVA CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL

International Festival of Choirs and Orchestras

Bratislava. Slovakia; 12th - 15th June 2025

Bratislava. Slovakia; 11th - 14th June 2026

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL I

Competition Festival for Children & Youth Choirs, Orchestras and Bands

Bratislava. Slovakia; 1st - 4th July 2025

Bratislava, Slovakia; 30th June- 3rd July 2026

BRATISLAVA CANTAT I

International festival of choirs and orchestras

Bratislava. Slovakia; 21st - 24th July 2025

Bratislava, Slovakia; 20th - 23rd July 2026

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL II

Competition Festival for Children & Youth Choirs, Orchestras and Bands

Bratislava. Slovakia; 21st - 24th July 2025

Bratislava, Slovakia; 20th - 23rd July 2026

BRATISLAVA CANTAT II

International festival of choirs and orchestras

Bratislava. Slovakia; 9th - 12th October 2025

Bratislava, Slovakia; 8th - 11th October 2026

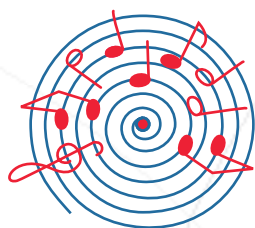
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Bratislava. Slovakia; 4th - 7th December 2025

Bratislava, Slovakia; 3rd - 6th December 2026



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SLOVAKIA CANTAT 2025

XVII. Medzinárodný zborový festival
17th International Choir Festival
24. - 27. 4. 2025, Bratislava, Slovakia

ŠTVRTOK / THURSDAY 24.4.2025

19:00 OTVÁRACÍ KONCERT FESTIVALU / OPENING CONCERT

Chór dieťačej Ogólnokształcącej Szkoły Muzycznej im. Karola Lipińskiego /PL/, Wattana Girls' Chorus /TH/, Mladinskí pevski zbor Mavrica /SL/, Academic Choir of the Veterinary Faculty Phrenicus /SL/, Zbor Ženske opće gimnazije Družbe sestara milosrdnica /HR/, Sunnmøre Festvålkor /NO/, Komorni zbor Orfej Ljutomer /SL/, Mješoviti pjevački zbor Nadbiskupske klasične gimnazije s pravom javnosti /HR/, Ars Voce /CZ/, Con Fuoco /PL/

Jezuitský kostol/ Jesuits Church, Františkánske námestie/ Franciscan square

PIATOK/FRIDAY 25.4.2025

SŤAŽ SPEVÁCKYCH ZBOROV / CHORAL COMPETITION

Zrkadlová sieň Primaciálneho paláca/ Mirror Hall of the Primate's Palace

Katégória A4: Detské spevácke zbory do 16 rokov
Category A4: Children's choirs up to 16 years

09:00 Chór dieťačej Ogólnokształcącej Szkoły Muzycznej im. Karola Lipińskiego /PL/

09:20 Wattana Girls' Chorus /TH/

Katégória H2: Sakrálna hudba s inštrum. sprievodom
Category H2: Musica Sacra with instrum. accompaniment

09:40 Chór dieťačej Ogólnokształcącej Szkoły Muzycznej im. Karola Lipińskiego /PL/

Katégória F1: Ludová pieseň a cappella
Category F1: Folksong a cappella

10:00 Wattana Girls' Chorus /TH/

10:15 Academic Choir of the Veterinary Faculty Phrenicus /SL/

Katégória D3: Zmiešané zbory dospelých
Category D3: Mixed adult choirs

10:30 Komorni zbor Orfej Ljutomer /SL/

10:48 Con Fuoco /PL/

11:06 Academic Choir of the Veterinary Faculty Phrenicus /SL/

Katégória H1: Sakrálna hudba a cappella
Category H1: Musica Sacra a cappella

11:24 Komorni zbor Orfej Ljutomer /SL/

11:42 Con Fuoco /PL/

12:00 Academic Choir of the Veterinary Faculty Phrenicus /SL/

Katégória C1: Mládežnícke zbory do 21 rokov (SA)
Category C1: Youth choirs up to 21 yrs (SA)

15:00 Zbor Ženske opće gimnazije Družbe sestara milosrdnica /HR/

15:18 Ars voce /CZ/

Katégória C2: Mládežnícke zbory do 21 rokov (SATB)
Category C2: Youth choirs up to 21 yrs (SATB)

15:36 Mješoviti pjevački zbor Nadbiskupske klasične gimnazije s pravom javnosti /HR/

Katégória J: Súčasná zborová hudba
Category J: Contemporary music

15:54 Mladinskí pevski zbor Mavrica /SL/

Katégória R: Zbory seniorov
Category R: Choirs of seniors

16: 10 Sunnmøre Festvålkor /NO/

Katégória A4: Detské spevácke zbory do 16 rokov
Category A4: Children's choirs up to 16 years

16:30 Bratislavský detský zbor /SK/

Katégória K: Spirituál, Gospel, Pop, Jazz
Category K: Spiritual, Gospel, Pop, Jazz

18:00 The Chamber Choir /SK/

Katégória D3: Zmiešané zbory dospelých
Category D3: Mixed adult choirs

18:20 Choirchestra /CZ/

Katégória E2: Komorné zbory 9 - 24 spevákov
Category E2: Chamber choirs 9 - 24 singers

18:40 Kassiopea /CZ/

SOBOTA / SATURDAY 26.4.2025

FESTIVALOVÉ KONCERTY / FESTIVAL CONCERTS

13.00 Mladinskí pevski zbor Mavrica /SL/, Chór dieťačej Ogólnokształcącej Szkoły Muzycznej im. Karola Lipińskiego /PL/, Bratislavský detský zbor /SK/, Wattana Girls' Chorus /TH/

14:15 Zbor Ženske opće gimnazije Družbe sestara milosrdnica /HR/, Ars voce /CZ/, Mješoviti pjevački zbor Nadbiskupske klasične gimnazije s pravom javnosti /HR/, The Chamber Choir /SK/, Kassiopea /CZ/

16:00 Academic Choir of the Veterinary Faculty Phrenicus /SL/, Con Fuoco /PL/, Komorni zbor Orfej Ljutomer /SL/, Sunnmøre Festvålkor /NO/, Choirchestra /CZ/

Hudobná sieň Klarisky / Klarisky Music Hall, Farská 4

19:00 FESTIVALOVÝ KONCERT A VYHLÁSENIE VÝSLEDKOV SŤAŽE / FESTIVAL CONCERT A COMPETITION RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT

Jezuitský kostol/ Jesuits Church, Františkánske námestie/ Franciscan square

NEDEĽA / SUNDAY 27.4.2025

Odchod medzinárodných speváckych zborov/ Departure of international choirs

Zmena programu vyhradená | Programme is subject to change
Na všetky podujatia vstup voľný | Free entrance to all concerts

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Hlavné mesto SR Bratislava
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