



**4<sup>th</sup> Malta International Choir Competition**  
**– Festival of Sacred and Secular Music –**  
3 - 7 November 2011

Organiser  
**INTERKULTUR Foundation**

in cooperation with  
The Parliamentary Secretariat for Tourism, the Environment and Culture Malta  
and  
the Malta Tourism Authority

**Presidency**  
Günter Titsch

**Artistic Committee**  
Prof. Dr. Ralf Eisenbeiß (Germany)  
Rev. John Galea (Malta)  
Mr Gábor Hollerung (Hungary)  
Mr Christian Ljunggren (Sweden)  
Mro Christopher Muscat (Malta)

**National Organising Team**  
Ms Genevieve Abela  
Mro. James Scerri Worley  
Ms Alexia Maggi  
Mr Martin Morana

**International Organising Team**  
Piroska Horváth (Germany / Hungary)  
Rossana Toesco (Italy)

## The aims

- meeting of singers from different denominations, churches, religions and cultures
- a competition to enhance the quality of sacred and secular choral music performances
- common singing for peace
- the experience of taking part in common services in churches around Malta
- learning about the great variety and richness of choral music from different centuries, from different traditions and from different parts of the world

## I. Participation as a festival choir without competing

Choirs are invited to take part in the festival without competing. These choirs will be offered to sing in the main events, to take part in church services or friendship concerts. This offer is open for all participants (subject to organisational matters).

### I.1. Singing for Peace

The organisers will be especially happy if choirs will enrich the “Singing for Peace” in the St. John’s Co-Cathedral with their performances. Those performances will take place before and after the prayers of representatives of different denominations in their individual national language.



### I.2. Common performances with Malta Philharmonic Orchestra

For choirs with a choir symphonic or oratory repertoire there will be the unique chance to participate in two concerts with Malta Philharmonic Orchestra. The fact that the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra has offered this possibility is especially intended for oratory or church choirs that usually do not participate in choir competitions but are prepared for performances in an international context and want to experience a fascinating festival atmosphere. The following possibilities of involvement exist:

I.2.1. Common concert with participating choirs

The organisers offer the sensational concert “Choral Fireworks” after having great success with it during several World Choir Games. This crossover event is a set of famous oratory works and popular choral music the choirs and audience can listen to as well as participate in.



I.2.2. Choirs own performances together with Malta Philharmonic Orchestra

The Malta Philharmonic Orchestra invites to a further common concert. Choirs can perform with their own choirmaster (a maximum of 15 minutes) with orchestral accompaniment.

A rehearsal with the orchestra and a stage rehearsal will guarantee a smooth procedure.

Instrumentation 2,2,2,2 - 4,2,3,1 - hp - timp+1, strings

Further instruments and soloists are bookable against surcharge.

**Programme**

	<b>Thursday 3 Nov 11</b>	<b>Friday 4 Nov 11</b>	<b>Saturday 5 Nov 11</b>	<b>Sunday 6 Nov 11</b>	<b>Monday 7 Nov 11</b>
<b>During the day</b>	Registration Rehearsals	Registration Rehearsals Competitions  Friendship concerts in different places	Registration Rehearsals Competitions  Friendship concerts in different places	In the morning church services all around Malta	Departure
<b>Afternoon</b>	Parade through the old town of Valletta			Concert with the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra prize giving ceremony, concert of the winning choirs and final ceremony	
<b>Evening</b>	Opening Ceremony Malta greets the participants	Great ceremony in St. John's Co-Cathedral "Singing together for peace"	Grand concert with the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra and the participating choirs	Atmospheric farewell party with all participants	
<b>Further Activities</b>	Reception for all	Opportunities for touristic outings according to the individual competition programme			

***THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY TO PROLONG THE VISIT IN MALTA BEFORE OR AFTER THE FESTIVAL***

## II. Competition

Choirs are invited to participate in the competitions according to the rules specified below. The choirs will be evaluated by an international jury in accordance with the MUSICA MUNDI evaluation system and awarded golden, silver and bronze diplomas (for more details: see below).

### II.1 Categories

#### Category S: Sacred vocal polyphony a cappella

- S1** for mixed choirs SATB  
**S2** for male choirs TTBB  
**S3** for female choirs SSAA

These categories are intended for adult choirs. This category encompasses Christian sacred vocal polyphony and related musical traditions.

S	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. one piece by a composer born before 1566</li> <li>2. one piece by a composer born between 1796 and 1875</li> <li>3. one piece by a contemporary composer (alive at the time of application)</li> <li>4. one piece of the choir's own choice</li> </ol> <p>All pieces have to be performed a cappella</p>
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#### Category SO: Sacred music - open category

This category is designed for choirs which repertoire does not meet the requirements for categories S1-3. Liturgical hymns and other music used in religious services from any religion or church are welcome except for gospel and spiritual (see category P below).

SO	<p>pieces of the choir's own choice</p> <p>The number of pieces with accompaniment can be freely chosen</p>
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#### Categories G1-G3: Categories for Children's and Youth Choirs

- G1** for Children's Choirs S(S)A(A) singers (treble voices) not older than 16 years  
**G2** for Youth Choirs of Equal Voices female singers up to 19 years of age (SSAA)  
 male singers up to 25 years of age (TTBB)  
**G3** for Mixed Youth Choirs singers up to 25 years of age (SATB)

G	<p>4 pieces of the choir's own choice</p> <p>A maximum of two pieces with accompaniment are permitted</p>
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#### Category MP: Musica Profana

This category is open for all kinds of choirs. The pieces should represent different epochs and be of different character. Popular music and folk music as defined in categories F and P are excluded.

MP	<p>4 secular pieces of the choir's own choice</p> <p>A maximum of one piece with accompaniment is permitted</p>
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#### Category F: Folklore

The programme should reflect the folk music of the participant's country or a specific vocal tradition. Choirs specialized in a particular foreign singing tradition may present a programme in this style.

F	<p>pieces of the choir's own choice</p> <p>Instruments: folk instruments significant for the singing tradition are permitted as well as scenic elements and traditional costumes. However, the singing should be in the centre of the performance.</p>
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### Category P: Popular Choral Music

This category may include gospel, spiritual, pop, rock, modern and popular light entertainment music of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, the style and content of which do not fit into Folklore categories.

P	<p>pieces of the choir's own choice</p> <p>Instrumental accompaniment including electric or electronic instruments with their own amplification are permitted. The amplification of voices and instruments is permitted. Equipment suited to the respective venues will be made available on-site. Choreographies are permitted. Parts of the instrumental can be recording.</p>
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### II.2 Number of singers, duration of programme, accompaniment

	S 1-3	SO	G	MP	F	P
Number of pieces	4	free	4	4	free	free
Number of singers	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited
Pure singing time (maximum)	20	15	15	15	15	15
Pieces with accompaniment	-	free	max. 2 with accomp.	max. 1 with accomp.	free	free

## II.3 Prizes and awards

In accordance with the evaluations carried out by the juries, the following prizes, diplomas and certificates may be awarded:

### 1. Diplomas

Choirs will be awarded bronze, silver and golden diplomas, depending on their score. If a choir is not awarded a diploma, it will receive a certificate of participation instead.

### 2. Category Winner

The choir achieving a golden diploma with the highest number of points in a given category will be declared category winner.

### 3. Special Awards

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

### 4. Prizes for Conductors

The jury may award outstanding conductors prizes in the form of certificates.

## II.4 Artistic regulations

### 1. Participation:

All lay choirs of any kind are entitled to take part provided they observe the number of singers, the scoring and the age limits of the respective category. Except for the conductor, the choir members must be amateurs, e.g. they must not earn their livelihood by professional singing. A choir may perform with several conductors.

### 2. Multiple participation:

A choir may choose to take part in only one category, but it is also possible to take part in two categories in the following combination of categories: Choirs taking part in one of the categories S1 – S3, SO or G may also take part in category MP or F. A choir not taking part in one of the categories S1 – S3, SO or G, may also combine two of the categories MP or F or P (MP&F or MP&P or F&P).

### 3. Music scores:

Five scores have to be handed in of every piece of choral music. One score remains with the organiser after the competition. In case sheet music is not available for category F, a short description written in English or German is allowed. Please note that choral pieces, if they have already been published, may only be sung using the original scores or authorized copies. The organisers ask you not to send in score books but copies (if possible, authorized) instead. These copies will be stamped "Only used by jury during competition" and destroyed after the competition.

All scores have to be existent as hardcopy forms. Scores sent as files (PDF or similar) will not be accepted. Scores that were not collected **by** the organiser after the competition will not be sent by mail.

**An appendix with further information will be sent to you together with the confirmation of receipt and can be downloaded under [www.interkultur.com](http://www.interkultur.com). These are a part of this announcement as well.**

## GENERAL CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

### 1. Registration

Deadline for registration is **May 31, 2011** (date of receipt).

#### The following documents must be provided together with the application forms:

- a) The fully completed registration forms (4 pages). When filling in these forms, please use **Latin letters**.
- b) The proof of bank transfer covering the application fee. The amount payable may also be paid with Visa- or Mastercard (see registration form).
- c) An authentic **audio recording** of the registered choir (internet links, sound files i.e. MP3, WAV, WMA or CD) with pieces of your choice, no more than two years old. (Please write the titles of the pieces and the date of the recording!)
- d) A **short biography** of the choir.
- e) A photo of the choir in a form suitable for reproduction (oblong, minimum 12 x 7,5 cm, preferably as computer file with minimum 300 dpi for computer files), no more than two years old.
- f) A choir must submit a **separate** page 3 of the application form for each **competition category** in which it intends to take part. We kindly ask you to make copies of this page.
- g) Five **music scores** of the selected competition pieces. **Scores sent as files (PDF or similar) will not be accepted.**

### 2. Costs

#### 2.1. Application fee

I. 1. For **participating in friendship concerts and church services in the framework of the festival**, the application fee amounts to 100 € per choir (ensemble).

I. 2 For **participating in concerts with the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra in the framework of the festival**, the application fee amounts to 400 € per choir (ensemble).

II. The application fee for the **participation in the competition** amounts to 200 € per choir (ensemble) and for each category chosen.

The application fee must be made payable in full to the INTERKULTUR Foundation and is due immediately on registration. Any banking costs that arise must be paid by the applicant. If a choir cancels its participation of its own accord, it will have no right to a refund.

The bank details for registration are as follows:

Account holder:	INTERKULTUR
Name of bank:	Sparkasse Wetzlar
Address:	Seibertstr. 10 D-35576 Wetzlar (Germany)
Bank code:	515 500 35
Account number:	53000592
SWIFT-Code (BIC)	HELADEF1WET
IBAN for EU countries:	DE35 5155 0035 0005 92
Purpose:	<b>M111 + Name of choir</b> (please state name in full)

#### 2.2. Event Package

For organisational reasons participation in the event is permitted only if the event package including accommodation bookings are made with the agencies authorized by the organiser of the INTERKULTUR event series. This is an exclusive condition and integral part of the conditions for participation.

#### MALTESE CHOIRS ONLY

Maltese choirs are requested to contact Rev. John Galea, Catholic Institute Floriana for further information

**Tel. 99892869, email: [catholicinstitute@maltadiocese.org](mailto:catholicinstitute@maltadiocese.org). One may also contact Mro. Christopher Muscat on email [christophermuscat@hotmail.com](mailto:christophermuscat@hotmail.com), mobile no: +356-99218540.**

#### 2.2.1. Services

The event package includes the following services: participation in the *Malta International Choir Competition and Festival*, a share in the non-subsidized organisational costs; multi-lingual service at the festival office and local guides; programme booklet (one copy per ten persons); participation in friendship concerts, if desired; acoustic rehearsals; additional rehearsal possibilities; participation in "Singing for Peace" in the St. John's Co-Cathedral; all entrance fees for the festival events, transportation to all necessary performing places within the festival (exception: touristic excursions etc.); accommodation in the requested category, reception including dinner after the opening ceremony and farewell party including dinner.

### 2.2.2. Length of stay / Accommodation

In order to guarantee the best possible conditions for participation in the competitions a minimum stay of at least four nights is required.

Event packages will be provided in the following categories:

**Economy Class:** 3\* hotel typical of the country, mostly in double rooms (limited number of three-bed-rooms)

**Standard Class:** 4\*-hotel, partly located at the waterfront, with single and double rooms

**First Class:** 4\*-5\*-Hotels, at the waterfront with single and double rooms

The respective option date indicated by the authorized agencies in the individual offer will be valid for the booking of accommodation and board. Should the choir register at a later time, we can only offer those categories, which are still available at the time of registration. **In case no accommodation category is indicated in the application form, the down payment invoice will be made on the basis of double rooms in the category Standard Class.**

Registration is binding for the choir with regard both to participation in the festival and to the travel services provided by the authorised agencies. Confirmation of the order (deposit invoice) through the authorised agencies constitutes a travel contract in the sense of § 651a BGB (German Civil Code). The General Conditions of Travel (ARB Allgemeine Reisebedingungen) of the authorised agencies 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 to be paid to the authorized agencies for the event package will be due on receipt of invoice on the date of payment stated in the invoice. The relevant bank details for these payments are stated separately. We would like to draw your attention expressly to the fact that participation in our event is only possible, if the costs due have been received without deduction by the authorized agencies before the group travels to the festival location. Otherwise the organisers are compelled to refuse the group's participation in the festival. Any costs incurred due to such action are to be borne by the group.

### 2.3. Travel expenses

The journey to Malta is to be organised by the participating choirs (their members and accompanying persons) themselves. Travel expenses are borne by the participating choirs.

### 3. Languages of correspondence

Only the German and English versions of relevant documents for the event such as announcements, invoices, travel documents etc. are legally binding. You can, however, obtain verbal information in the following languages: French, Italian, Russian, Spanish and Hungarian.

### 4. Liability of the organiser

INTERKULTUR Foundation, as a registered society, supports the competition in its function as official organiser and is responsible for the artistic and musical design and the execution of the events. Its liability comprises all organisational matters of the festival, the concerts and special events. Any liability with regard to organiser's liability is expressly excluded. Any liability of such kind would be that of the authorised agencies and/or the management of the respective congress or concert halls, accommodations and transport companies. The authorized agencies accept liability as travel organiser in the sense of § 651a German Travel Law and on the basis of the „Allgemeinen Reisebedingungen“ (ARB) mentioned above. With his/her signature on the application for registration at the *Malta International Choir Competition - Festival of Sacred and Secular Music* the signatory accepts the terms of the “Allgemeinen Reisebedingungen” (ARB) and the organisers' liability for him/herself and for all persons registered.

### 5. Address of the organiser

For the organisation of the festival and for your application, please contact only the address mentioned below (enquiries, phone calls, faxes and any other kind of correspondence):

INTERKULTUR  
Malta International Choir Competition  
Am Weingarten 3  
35415 Pohlheim (Frankfurt/Main)  
Germany  
phone: +49 (0) 6403-956525  
fax: +49 (0) 6403-956529  
e-mail: mail@interkultur.com  
internet: www.interkultur.com



This announcement can also be requested as a print copy from the organiser. On the Internet [www.interkultur.com](http://www.interkultur.com) it is available in the following languages: German, English, Italian and Russian. In case of any doubt the printed German version is authentic and legally binding.