



Kalamata • Greece
October 14-18, 2015

1st Kalamata International Choir Competition & Festival

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION



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Organizer
INTERKULTUR

In cooperation with
The Municipality of Kalamata

Supported by
Mikis Theodorakis International Foundation

President INTERKULTUR
Günter Titsch (Germany)

Artistic Committee
Prof. Dr. Ralf Eisenbeiß (Germany), Director
Christian Ljunggren (Sweden)

INTERKULTUR Board
Günter Titsch (Germany)
Wang Qin (China)
Stefan Bohländer (Germany)
Prof. Dr. Ralf Eisenbeiß (Germany)

Cordial Invitation



Dear friends of choral music,

I would like to invite you to join our first international choir competition in Greece and travel with us to the romantic city of Kalamata, located at the South Peloponnese, in order to sing with your choir in the „land of the gods“.

This international competition does not only offer categories with different level of difficulties, casts and musical genres - moreover it provides an easygoing togetherness of different nations in the setting of an impressive city and region.

Small alleys, a historic city center and the Apostle Church dating back to the 12th century are distinctive elements of this town just as the sea, the mountains, the vine and the olives.

Kalamata proves in a vivid way that it can be vibrant, peaceful and idyllic at the same time.

Welcome to Kalamata!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Günter Titsch'.

Günter Titsch
President INTERKULTUR

EVENT SCHEDULE *Subject to Change*

Dates	WEDNESDAY Oct 14, 2015	THURSDAY Oct 15, 2015	FRIDAY Oct 16, 2015	SATURDAY Oct 17, 2015	SUNDAY Oct 18, 2015
Arrival / Departure	Arrival				Departure
Rehearsals	Rehearsals and Stage rehearsals				
Non-Competitive Evaluation	Evaluation Performances and Individual Coachings				
Friendship Concerts	Concerts and performances in Kalamata and surrounding area				
The Competitions		Afternoon	All day	All day	
Official Events	Evening: Opening Ceremony	Gala Concert	Gala Concert	Evening: Awards Ceremony and Closing Concert	
Tourism activities	Sightseeing & excursions (depending on the choir's event schedule)				

PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

INTERKULTUR events provide the opportunity to customize your event experience by mixing and matching competitive and non-competitive categories of participation. Choirs may choose from the following:

	1. Non-Competitive Participation	2. Competitive Participation
Competition categories*		X
Non-competitive Festival Participation** (Concert Performances only)	X	
Evaluation Performance*	X	X
Individual Coaching*	X	X

* Friendship Concert Performance included

** at least two friendship Concert Performance included

1. Non-competitive elements

Evaluation Performance

EP	Evaluation Performance for non-competing choirs	<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 advice for improvement • certificates of participation will be awarded, as well as evaluation ratings and recommendation letters for future INTERKULTUR competitions upon request
	Number of singers: unlimited Singing time: maximum 15 minutes Duration: 45 minutes Accompaniment: unlimited	

EP	Evaluation Performance for competing choirs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • presentation of competition program they day before competitions begin • performed before a panel of qualified international jurors who provide immediate positive artistic and pedagogical advice for improvement • the evaluation does not involve preliminary decisions regarding the competition result.
	Number of singers: according to category rules Singing time: according to category rules Duration: 45 minutes Accompaniment: according to category rules	

Individual Coaching

IC	Individual Coaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one piece of the choir's own choice • with an international choral expert for stimulating artistic ideas and interpretive guidance • for an effective rehearsal, choirs must prepare one piece in advance
	Number of singers: unlimited Singing time: 45 minutes rehearsal session Accompaniment: unlimited	

Friendship Concerts

FC	Participating choirs may register to perform together with other international choirs in Kalamata. Choirs must prepare approximately 20 minutes of their own music pre-approved by the INTERKULTUR artistic committee. The concert should be preferably a cappella or with own instruments. (Piano or E-Piano can be provided upon request.)
	Please be aware that several friendship concerts are planned open air. In the event that weather conditions do not allow this, some concerts may be cancelled due to the weather. The organizers will try to manage alternatives but choirs do not have any legal claim to this.
	Choirs can also take part in Friendship Concerts ONLY (Non-competitive Festival Participation).

2. Competitive Participation

2.1 Categories of Competition

A	Difficulty level I	<p>A1- Mixed Choirs; A2- Male Choirs; A3- Female Choirs</p> <p>Four pieces have to be performed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One piece from the choir's home country 2. One piece by a composer who does not come from the choir's home country 3. One piece by a composer born after 1950 4. One piece of the choir's choice
	<p>Number of singers: unlimited Singing time: The singing time should be at least 12 minutes and must not be longer than 20 minutes. Accompaniment: Maximum one piece</p>	

B	Difficulty level II	<p>B1- Mixed Choirs; B2- Male Choirs; B3- Female Choirs</p> <p>Three pieces of different character and preferably from different musical epochs have to be performed:</p>
	<p>Number of singers: unlimited Singing time: The singing time should be at least 8 minutes and must not be longer than 15 minutes. Accompaniment: Maximum 1 Piece</p>	

G	Children's Choirs Youth Choirs	<p>G1- Children's Choirs up to 16 years old SSAA G2- Youth Choirs of equal voices (Girls up to 19, Boys up to 25 years old) G3- Youth Choirs of mixed voices (up to 25 years old)</p> <p>Four pieces have to be performed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One piece from the choir's home country 2. One piece by a composer who does not come from the choir's home country 3. One piece by a living composer (at time of registration) 4. One freely chosen piece
	<p>Number of singers: unlimited Singing time: The singing time should be at least 8 minutes and must not be longer than 15 minutes. Accompaniment: maximum 2 pieces</p>	

S	Sacred Choral Music a cappella	<p>Three freely chosen pieces of a cappella sacred choral music of different character and different musical epochs have to be performed.</p>
	<p>Number of singers: unlimited Singing time: The singing time should be at least 8 minutes and must not be longer than 15 minutes. Accompaniment: not allowed</p>	

F	Folklore	<p>The ensembles perform a freely chosen folklore program typical for the choir's home country.</p> <p>Choreographic or scenic elements may be integrated into performances but the focus needs to be on the singing. The performance in traditional costumes typical of the country is recommended.</p> <p>In case sheet music is not available, a short description of the program must be provided for the jury (in English).</p>
	<p>Number of singers: unlimited Singing time: The singing time should be at least 8 minutes and must not be longer than 15 minutes. Accompaniment: Piano accompaniment and traditional folk instruments are allowed for all pieces. Any type of playback and microphones are not permitted.</p>	

2.2 Artistic Regulations

	A			B	G			S	F
	A1	A2	A3	B1-B3	G1	G2	G3		
Age Limit	16+			16+	max 16	Girls max 19 Boys max 25	max 25	No limit	
Minimum Number of Singers	No limit								
Maximum Number of Singers	No limit								
Number of Pieces	4			3	4			3	No limit
Minimum singing time should be	12 minutes			8 minutes	8 minutes				
Maximum Actual Singing Time	20 minutes			15 minutes	15 minutes				
Maximum Number of Pieces with Accompaniment	1			1	2			-	No limit
Use of Amplification	Not permitted								

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) In categories with age limits, a maximum of 20% of the members may exceed the age limit by 5 years. The organizers reserve the right to check the ages of the singers.
- c) The order of performances within a category is scheduled at random.
- d) **INDIVIDUAL CONCERTS AND PERFORMANCES:** During their stay the participating choirs are not allowed to give further concerts or performances without the organizer's approval in advance.

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 A, B, or G.
- c) In addition, mixed choirs can participate with their male or female voices in the same category (i.e. participation with the mixed choir in A1 and with the male voices in A2 or the female voices in A3. Choirs may additionally choose to participate in categories S und F independent of their participation in A, B, or G.
- d) Conductors are permitted to conduct only one choir per category, however conducting in different categories is allowed. A choir may also perform with several conductors.

MUSIC

- a) Only ORIGINAL ACCOMPANIMENTS are permitted, which means that any reductions in orchestration or transcriptions of other instruments that were not planned by the composer and do not have an accepted performance tradition are excluded from the competition.
- b) ACCOMPANIMENT means that at least one pitched instrument is used. In categories requiring a cappella selections, a maximum of three instruments without definite pitch may be used (percussion instruments).
- c) The use of ORIGINAL COMPOSITIONS means that a piece must be performed in accordance with the composer's original score. Compositions prior-to and through the Baroque era may be performed in variations of scoring that correspond with the original musical material. The arrangement of a composition is permitted if it has led to a new composition. The Artistic committee reserves the right to reject compositions.
- d) **CHANGES OF KEY:** The compulsory piece must be sung in the original key. For other selections; if the choir wishes to change the key, the jury must be informed in writing if a choir wishes to change the key from what is written in the printed score prior to the competition.
- e) After APPROVAL OF PROPOSED PROGRAM by the artistic directors, it will be returned for final review and confirmation by the respective choir. The choir must respond within 14 days of delivery with any changes to the program. If there is no response within 14 days, the program will be considered final; therefore neither titles nor performance order may be changed. Changes made without informing the organizer will result in a disqualification. Choirs are responsible for possible performing rights of their program.
- f) **ACTUAL SINGING TIME:** Actual singing time is the duration of the performance time only. It excludes entrance, exit, and applause.
- g) Choirs may NOT sing the same pieces in different categories. Separate repertoire pages should be filled out for each category of competition for registration

SHEET MUSIC

- a) 5 scores of every piece must be submitted with the registration forms.
- b) Scores submitted must conform to internationally recognized sheet music standards (five lines of notes).
- c) Scores that do not bear the titles, names of composers etc. printed in the Roman alphabet must bear a transcription into the Roman alphabet (clear handwritten notes suffice).
- d) One score remains with the organizer after the competition. Remaining scores may be collected from the organizer after the awards ceremony. Uncollected scores will not be sent by mail.
- e) No scores have to be submitted for gala or friendship concerts.
- f) 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! All scores must be sent by mail as hardcopy. Scores sent as files (PDF or similar) will not be accepted.
- g) If your scores are published as score book, please submit only one book but preferably authorized copies.

MUSICA MUNDI® Evaluation System

- Choirs will be evaluated by international acknowledged choral experts in accordance with the general MUSICA MUNDI evaluation system (30 point system). The decision of the jury cannot be contested.
- The performance of each choir will be evaluated according to the following:
 - I) Technical Evaluation
 - a) *Intonation*
 - b) *Sound Quality*
 - II) Artistic Evaluation
 - c1) *Fidelity* to the score in general categories or
 - c2) *Interpretation Practice* in Jazz, Pop, Gospel or
 - c3) *Authenticity* in folklore categories
 - d) *Overall Artistic Impression*

	a	b	c	d
Piece 1	25		22	
Piece 2	27		26	
Piece 3	23		25	
Piece 4	26		24	
Criteria a & c = average of 1 - 4 Criteria b & d = points given for the overall performance	25.25	26	24.25	24
Total Score (average)	24.88			

Example of a score sheet of category F:

	a)	b)	c)	d)
Piece 1 - ...				
Single criteria	26	26	24	24
Total score	25			

- The jury decides first whether a choir may be qualified for a diploma or not. Choirs receiving no diploma will get a certificate of participation. Choirs that may qualify for a diploma will be given a score between 1 and 30 points.
- The final result is made up of the average of all given points or by the average of the intermediate results respectively.
- In categories for which the number of pieces is not determined, the jury will evaluate only the overall performance according to the above mentioned criteria.
- If a choir exceeds the maximum singing time, their final result will be reduced by jury decision.

Diplomas & Awards

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. Special Awards and Conductor's Award are also awarded.

Diploma	Level									
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X
Bronze 0.5 - 10.49	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 - 20.49	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 - 30.00	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



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3. TERMS & CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

3.1 Registration & Registration Deadline

The deadline for registration is **May 18, 2015**
Early Bird deadline is February 23, 2015

3.2 Registration Check list

The following documents must be provided together with the registration forms by deadline:

- REGISTRATION FORMS DULY FILLED IN
- REGISTRATION FEE (PLEASE ENCLOSE PROOF OF PAYMENT). The amount may also be paid with Visa or Mastercard (see registration forms).
- AUDIO RECORDING: Please send an .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 CHOIR: Please send the biography in English as an editable text document (e.g. Word)
- PHOTOGRAPH OF CHOIR: Make sure that it is suitable for reproduction (landscape format, as a file jpg or bmp, no PDF format, min. 300 dpi, as original min. 12 x 7,5 cm). The picture should not be older than two years.
- MUSIC SCORES OF COMPETITION REPERTOIRE: Scores sent as PDF or similar files will not be accepted. [Five (5) copies for competition, three (3) for Evaluation Performance & one (1) for Individual Coaching].

3.3 Costs

Registration Fee

To participate in the event the following registration fees have to be paid per choir/ensemble and category as follows:

	Non-competitive participation	Competitive participation
Per competition category*		200€
Non-competitive Festival Participation** (Concert Performances only)	200€	
Evaluation Performance*	200€	200€
Individual Coaching*	200€	200€

*Friendship Concert Performance included.

** at least two Friendship Concert Performance included

The registration fee must be made payable to INTERKULTUR in full upon registration by bank transfer or by credit card (Visa or MasterCard). Any banking costs that arise must be paid by the registrant.

Once off discount of 50% for the first category of participation and further Early Bird discounts will be granted on the event package - if completed registration documents and fee have been received by deadline.

In case a choir cancels its participation the registration fee will not be refunded.

The bank details to pay the registration fee are as follows:

Account Holder:	INTERKULTUR Management GmbH
Name of Bank:	Deutsche Bank
Bank Code:	513 700 24
Account Number:	0280420 00
SWIFT-Code (BIC):	DEUTDEDB513
IBAN for EU countries:	DE86 5137 0024 0028 0420 00
Purpose:	GR151 + name of choir (please state name in full)

Event Packages

For organizational reasons and to ensure ideal conditions, a participation in the event is possible only if the event package including accommodation bookings are made through the agencies authorized by INTERKULTUR.

This is an exclusive condition and integral part of the conditions for participation and there is no exception to this rule.

The event package includes following services among others:

- participation in the event as chosen from the different participation opportunities
- a share in the non-subsidized organization costs;
- support on site from our International team
- program book (one copy per ten persons);
- accommodation in the ordered category as available.

All included services and rates are described in the authorized travel agency offer enclosed to this participant information.

The purchase of an accommodation package is **four (4) nights** minimum.

Event packages will be provided in following categories: **First Class, Standard Class, and Economy Class**

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

Registration is binding for the choir, in regard to both participation in the festival and the travel services provided by the authorized agencies. Confirmation of the order (deposit invoice) through the authorized agencies constitutes a travel contract in the sense of § 651a BGB (German Civil Code). The General Conditions of Travel (*ARB Allgemeine Reisebedingungen, General Conditions of Travel*) of the authorized 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 due to the authorized agencies 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 expressly to the fact that participation in the event is only possible if the costs due have been received net and by deadline. Delay in payments may affect the benefits of your participation. Any costs incurred due to such action are to be borne by the group.

Travel Expenses

The journey to the event including the travel expenses is the sole responsibility of the choir members and additional persons. Sightseeing excursions aside from the event and airport transfers are not inclusive and must be booked separately.

3.4 Language of Correspondence

German and English are the sole languages that are reflected on official documents. This includes, but is not limited to, the Official Participant Information, travel documents such as schedule and vouchers as well as invoices. These are all legally binding. Verbal information is available in the following languages Chinese, French, Italian, Russian, Spanish and Hungarian.

Please make sure that your choir is accompanied by at least one Italian or English speaking person who can assist you with translation during the event.

3.5 Organizer

Organizer is INTERKULTUR Management, Platz der Einheit 1/ 60327 Frankfurt / Germany.

3.6 Liability

INTERKULTUR is responsible for the artistic and musical design and the execution of the events. Its liability comprises of all organizational matters of the event. Any liability with regard to organizer'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 authorized agencies accept liability as travel organizer 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 registration form, the signatory accepts the terms of the "Allgemeinen Reisebedingungen" ARB (*General Conditions of Travel*) and the organizer's liability for him / herself and for all persons registered.

3.7 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 INTERKULTUR by the choir / artists. All rights granted to INTERKULTUR hereunder may be exploited by INTERKULTUR 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 INTERKULTUR to a third party at INTERKULTUR'S discretion:

INTERKULTUR 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 INTERKULTUR'S own name broadcast fees accruing in connection with the public performance or broadcast of the Recordings). INTERKULTUR'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, INTERKULTUR 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.

INTERKULTUR 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 INTERKULTUR 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.

3.8 Changes

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

3.9 Imprint

Content: Christian Ljunggren, Stefan Bohländer
Layout: Jelena Dannhauer



Address of the organizer

For any questions concerning the organization and registration, contact the following address. Please send your registration documents, enquiries, phone calls, facsimile messages and written correspondence exclusively to this address:

INTERKULTUR
KALAMATA 2015
Ruhberg 1
35463 Fernwald
Germany
Phone: +49 (0) 6404-69749-25
Fax: +49 (0) 6404-69749-29
Email: mail@interkultur.com
Internet: www.interkultur.com

This Participant Information can also be obtained under www.interkultur.com or requested as a print copy from the organizer. In case of any doubt, the printed English version is authentic and legally binding.



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