



Eurofusion

CHOIR





THE EUROVISION COMPETITION OF CHORAL MUSIC

PARTICIPATING BROADCASTERS

2017

Austria (ORF)

Belgium (RTBF)



Denmark (DR)



Estonia (ERR)



France (arte)



Germany
(WDR/SWR/arte)



Hungary (MTVA)



Latvia (LTV)



Norway (NRK)



Slovenia (RTV)



Wales (S4C)



**LIVE FROM
GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN
AUGUST 3, 2019**

2019*

Belgium (RTBF)



Denmark (DR)



France (FTV)



Germany (WDR)



Latvia (LTV)



Norway (NRK)



Slovenia (RTV)



Sweden (SVT)



Switzerland (RTS)

Wales (S4C)



Scotland (BBC ALBA)



**as of March 2019*

EUROVISION CHOIR & EUROPEAN CHOIR GAMES

The new Eurovision competition format is inspired by the Eurovision Song Contest and the World Choir Games – celebrating choral singing and bringing together the most popular singing competition in Europe and the largest international choir competition in the world.

The new TV talent competition format for amateur choirs, EUROVISION CHOIR, premiered on July 22 in Arena Riga, Latvia. The biannual show, organized by EBU and INTERKULTUR is an addition to the Eurovision Family of Events led by the well-known Eurovision Song Contest and is held within the leading international competitions Grand Prix of Nations & European Choir Games, organized by INTERKULTUR.

In this spirit the EBU and INTERKULTUR have established a fantastic partnership to underline the strength of human voice and singing together.

The philosophy of the European Choir Games is based on the Olympic ideal of “Participation is the highest honor”. Amateur choirs from all over are invited to take part, to compete in a peaceful competition, learn from each other and celebrate the joy of singing and the treasures of choral music. Since 2013 the European Choir Games happen every two years, since 2015 in conjunction with the Grand Prix of Nations, a prestigious choral competition for choirs from all over the world. Austria, Germany and Latvia were warm and welcoming hosts for this event already.

EUROVISION CHOIR showcases choral singing as the most natural way to make music together and show what is possible when combining little more than human voices. Top-class amateur choirs present their outstanding singing skills to a Europe-wide audience. Participating EBU member countries will send choirs to represent their nation and to compete for the title “Eurovision Choir of the Year” and broadcast the show live to their respective host countries.

A great chance to present your city, your culture and, of course, one of your country’s best choirs on a European TV stage!



FOLLOWING THE UNIQUE SUCCESS OF THE EUROVISION SONG CONTEST



Dear singers,

It is a great honor for me to present EUROVISION CHOIR – the fifth element of the European Broadcasting Union’s competition portfolio led by the Eurovision Song Contest. Choral singing is wonderful, health-giving and a friendship-forming form of music-making, making it a natural fit for the kind of public service television that Eurovision seeks to support and foster. Broadcasters around the world are commissioning new formats and programs around the subject, and it is Eurovision’s intention to establish EUROVISION CHOIR as a long-term, recurring TV competition that inspires audiences to sing together by showing what is possible when you combine human voices.

We are grateful for the fine cooperation we have enjoyed with organizer INTERKULTUR while working for the first two editions of the show in Riga (July 2017) and Gothenburg (August 2019) and I’m sure we will continue our great collaboration in future editions of the Grand Prix of Nations & European Choir Games in highly exciting cities throughout Europe.

Until we’ll meet in your own city for the show, enjoy EUROVISION CHOIR, take a deep breath – and let your hearts sing!

Jon Ola Sand

Executive Supervisor of the Eurovision Song Contest

ABOUT EUROPEAN BROADCASTING UNION (EBU)

The European Broadcasting Union (EBU) is the world's leading alliance of public service media (PSM). It has 117 member organizations in 56 countries and has an additional 34 Associates in Asia, Africa, Australasia and the Americas. The Members operate over 2,000 television, radio and online channels and services, and offer a wealth of content across other platforms. Together they reach an audience of more than one billion people around the world, broadcasting in more than 160 languages. The EBU operates Eurovision and Euroradio services.

117 MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS IN 56 COUNTRIES

Albania	Georgia	Morocco
Algeria	Germany	Netherlands
Andorra	Greece	Norway
Armenia	Hungary	Poland
Austria	Iceland	Portugal
Azerbaijan	Ireland	Romania
Belarus	Israel	Russia
Belgium	Italy	San Marino
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Jordan	Serbia
Bulgaria	Latvia	Slovakia
Croatia	Lebanon	Slovenia
Cyprus	Libya	Spain
Czech Republic	Lithuania	Sweden
Denmark	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Egypt	Macedonia	Tunisia
Estonia	Malta	Turkey
Finland	Moldova	Ukraine
France	Monaco	United Kingdom
	Montenegro	Vatican

The logo of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), consisting of the letters 'EBU' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

EUROVISION CHOIR AND EUROPEAN CHOIR GAMES, EVERY SECOND YEAR IN ANOTHER CITY OF EUROPE



Dear friends,

We have seen a huge rise in popularity in choral singing over recent years, therefore I'm delighted about INTERKULTUR to partner with the EBU and bring the joy of singing together to a wide audience all over Europe!

Since 2013 the European Choir Games and also the Grand Prix of Nations provide a platform for international choir singers to sing together, to compete, to learn from each other and to make new, long lasting friendships during this inspiring week of choral celebration. Eurovision Choir completes this week in a perfect way bringing it on the television screens in many countries and sharing this unique experience with all its spectators.

The European Choir Games and EUROVISION CHOIR thus have a lasting impact on the development of the choral community in the hosting and broadcasting countries including a better international connectivity, inclusion, visibility and involvement of singers of all ages.

We're proud to be part of it and to make a special contribution to this exciting progress of choral music in Europe, which has started in Riga, Latvia in 2017 and will now continue in the Swedish city of Gothenburg on August 3.

Günter Titsch

President INTERKULTUR

ABOUT INTERKULTUR

Since 1988 INTERKULTUR, founded by Günter Titsch, is the world's leading organizer of international choir competitions and festivals. The event series has meanwhile become known throughout the world for its high artistic and organizational standards. INTERKULTUR is a concept for choirs all over the world and their excitement about its competitions and festivals is constantly growing.

Wherever they go, participants experience a peaceful, world-spanning festival of singing and intercultural choral music on a high artistic level. Friendship Concerts and joint singing events complete the great emotional impact of INTERKULTUR's international choral meetings.

Since more than 30 years singers and choirs from all over the world have been celebrating international choral music with INTERKULTUR in popular destinations all over the world.

214 EVENTS IN 29 COUNTRIES

Austria

Belgium

Czech Republic

Croatia

France

Germany

Greece

Hungary

Indonesia

Israel

Italy

Japan

Latvia

Malaysia

Malta

Netherlands

People's Republic of China

South Africa

Portugal

Philippines

Republic of Korea

Russia

Serbia

Spain

Sri Lanka

Sweden

Thailand

USA

Vietnam



HOSTS AND JURY OF THE EUROVISION CHOIR 2017

HOSTS



Eva Johansone

Latvia

Latvian culture journalist
and passionate singer



Eric Whitacre

USA

Grammy-winning American
composer, conductor and
speaker

JURY



Nicolas Fink

Switzerland

Choral director of the
Schleswig-Holstein Festival
Chorus and artistic director of
the Swiss Youth Choir



Elīna Garanča

Latvia

Latvian mezzo-soprano,
five time winner of
the ECHO Klassik Award as
well as "Vocalist of the Year"
at Musical America and
"Singer of the Year" at
MIDEM Classical



John Rutter

Great Britain

English composer, conductor
and editor, founder of the
Cambridge Singers and
president of the Association
of British Choral Directors

PARTICIPATING CHOIRS IN EUROVISION CHOIR 2017



1. Akademisk Kor Århus

Conductor: Ole Faurschou
Aarhus, Denmark
Founded: 1985

- a mixed-voices a cappella choir consisting of the University of Aarhus and the Royal Academy of Music
- repertoire comprises Danish and Nordic choral music, Renaissance and Romantic choral compositions
- performs regularly in Denmark and has toured the United States, China, Spain and Scandinavia
- collaborated with the Aarhus Symphony Orchestra



2. Béla Bartók Male Choir

Conductor: Tamás Lakner
Pécs, Hungary
Founded: 1945

- has performed in some of the most prestigious concert halls, such as the Gewandhaus Leipzig (Germany), Musikvereinssaal (Vienna), Palau de la Música (Spain)
- won 42 prizes at international choir competitions in Europe and China
- recorded male choir compositions by Zoltán Kodály which was a world premiere
- their record with choral compositions by Ferenc Erkel was selected as one of the top ten choral recordings by ICMA



3. Carmen Manet

Conductor: Primož Kerštanj
Kranj, Slovenia
Founded: 2011

- female chamber choir made up of the best singers of the Gimnazija Kranj Girls Choir
- achieved outstanding results at international competitions, among others in Guangzhou, China 2012, Montreaux, Switzerland 2014, Tuhelj, Croatia 2016
- published first CD in 2013 with compositions for female choirs, written by composers originating from Northern Europe
- conductor regularly takes part in Europa Cantat young conductors' workshop

WINNER

EUROVISION CHOIR OF THE
YEAR 2017



PARTICIPATING CHOIRS IN EUROVISION CHOIR 2017

4. Côr Merched Sir Gâr

Conductor: Islwyn Evans
Wales, Great Britain
Founded: 2012

- female secondary school girls' choir
- wide range of repertoire in many languages, including Welsh
- performed in Music For Youth Proms at the Royal Albert Hall, London
- won the prestigious title "Côr Cymru 2017 – Choir of Wales" in April 2017, a televised competition open to children's, youth, female, male and mixed choirs



5. Girl's Choir Spīgo

Conductor: Līga Celma-Kursiete
Jelgava, Latvia
Founded: 1977

- composed of 50 girls aged 15-25
- won the Latvian School Youth Song Festival Grand Prix four times
- has participated in choir competitions in Spain, Austria, Finland, Italy, Poland, Czech Republic and Latvia
- winner of "Latvija Dzied!" (Latvia Sings!) 2017



6. Hard-Chor

Conductor: Alexander Koller
Linz, Austria
Founded: 2007

- interprets compositions for mixed voices by various composers and musical eras
- published their first CD with compositions by Balduin Sulzer in April 2013
- regularly performs in concerts and festivals in Austria and abroad: Grillparzerfestival 2016, International Anton Bruckner Choir Competition 2011, Chorfest 2014 im Neuen Musiktheater
- conductor leads the Linz Singing Academy since 2015



PARTICIPATING CHOIRS IN EUROVISION CHOIR 2017



7. Jazzchor Freiburg

Conductor: Bertrand Gröger
Freiburg, Germany
Founded: 1990

- has been on concert tours through Europe, China, Japan and South Korea
- repertoire includes vocal jazz from swing to fusion
- won gold medal in the 2nd World Choir Games in Busan, South Korea
- performs at festivals, e.g. the Rheingau Musik Festival, International Jazz Vocal Festival Russia and Montreux Jazz Festival
- performed with Bobby McFerrin, the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra and others



8. Les Pastoureaux

Conductor: Philippe Favette
Waterloo, Belgium
Founded: 1974

- boys' choir, often joined by adult singers and orchestra for their performances
- has given over 1000 concerts in Belgium, Europe, North and South America and Japan
- repertoire ranges from compositions with orchestra by Mozart, Haydn, Bach and Fauré to operas by Puccini, Bizet and Britten
- choir performed in the "Transition to Euro" celebration in 2001 and for the Royal Family

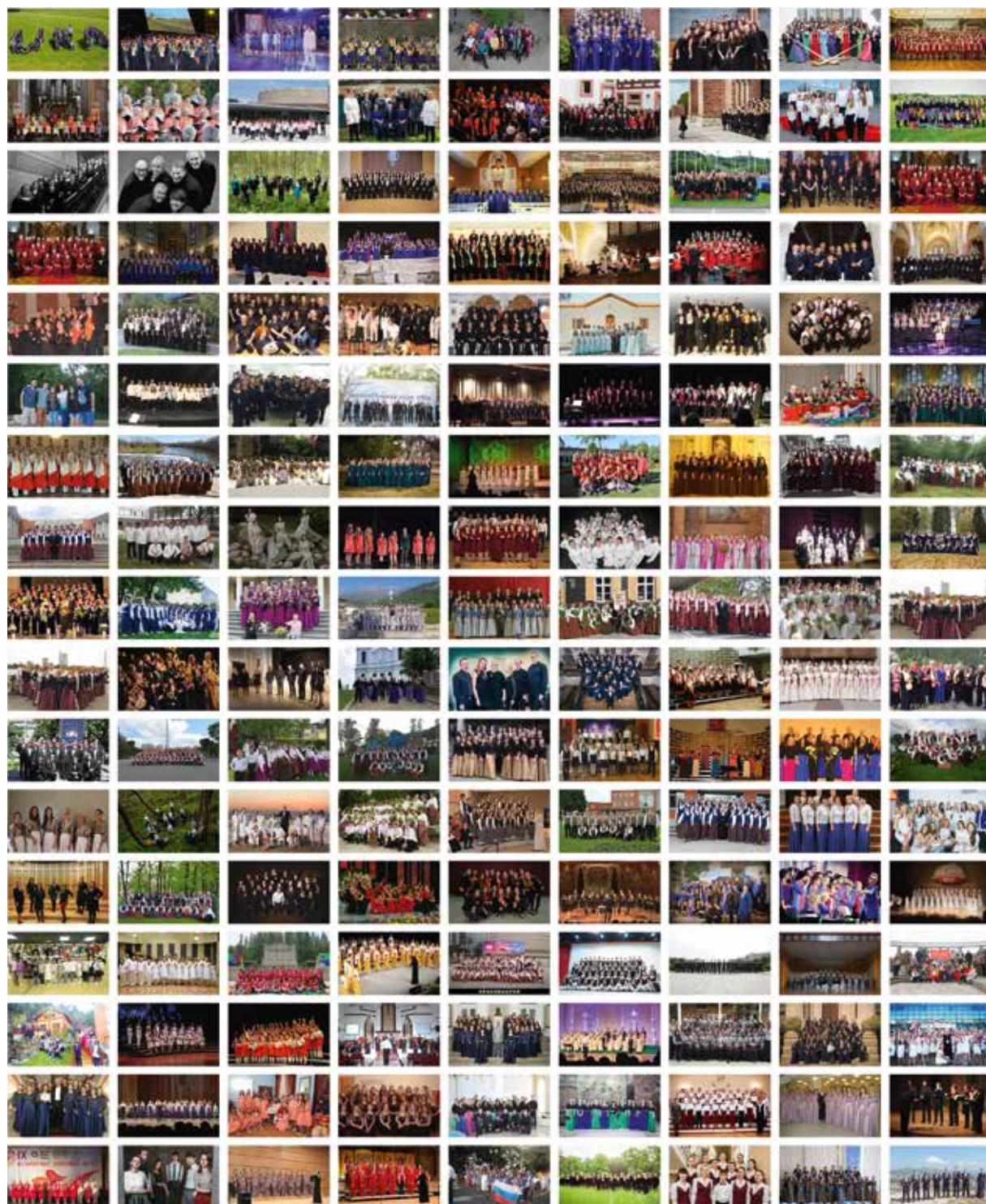


9. The Estonian Television Girl's Choir

Conductor: Aarne Saluveer
Tallinn, Estonia
Founded: 1990

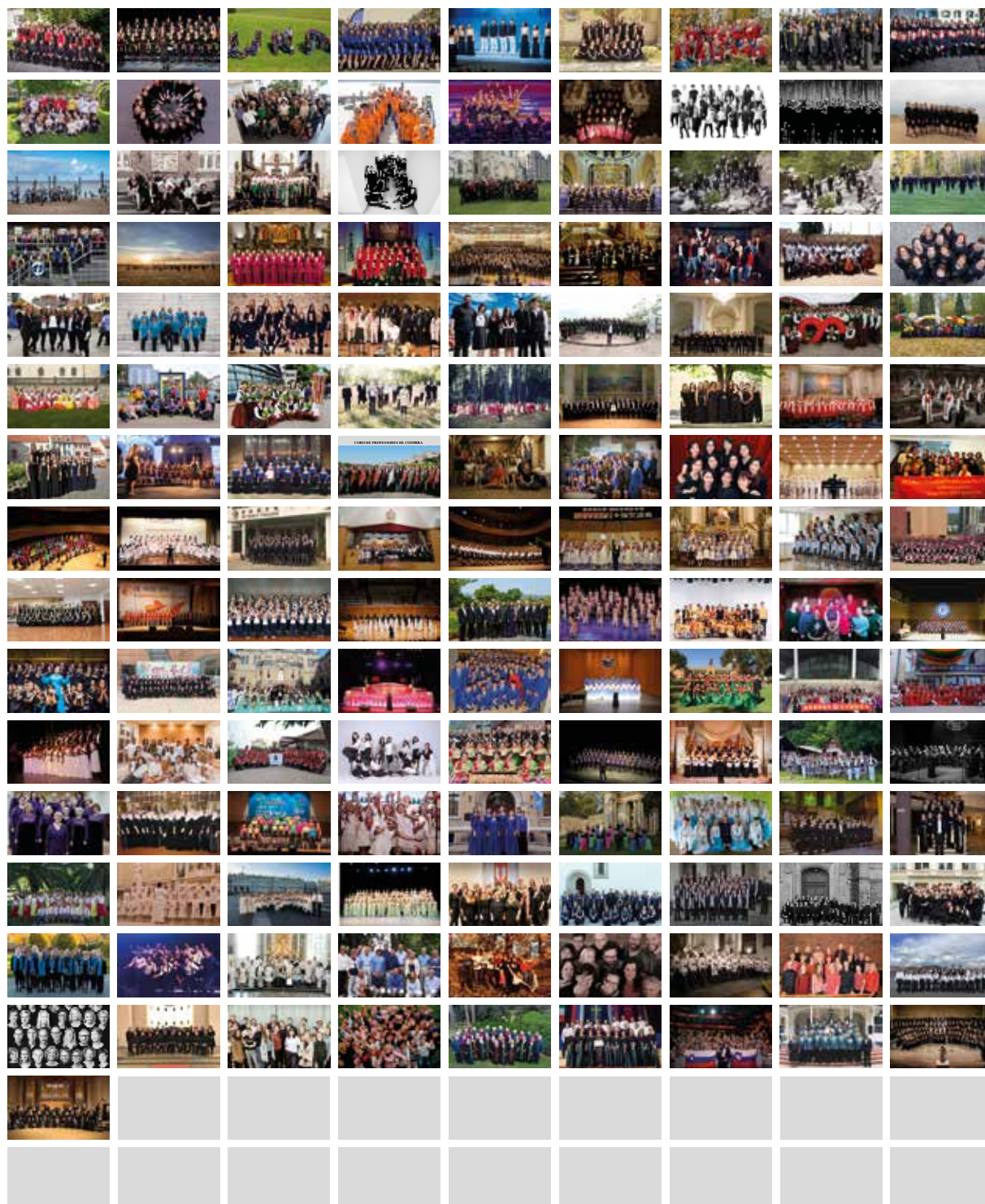
- youth choir has given concert tours as cultural ambassador of Estonia around the world and is a winner of several choir competitions
- repertoire ranges from spiritual and secular music of different ages to folk programs, modern pop and jazz music
- collaborated for Michael Jackson "HiStory Tour" as well as with Arvo Pärt, Imogen Heap, Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir and many others
- has sung world premieres at ACDA National Convention, IFCM World Symposium and the European Culture Capital 2011 concert

PARTICIPATING CHOIRS IN EUROPEAN CHOIR GAMES 2017



PARTICIPATING CHOIRS IN EUROPEAN CHOIR GAMES 2019

(AS OF APRIL 2019)



LOADING ...

PARTICIPATING CHOIRS

10 CHOIRS FROM 10 NATIONS WILL COMPETE IN THE
2ND EUROVISION CHOIR TV SHOW ON AUGUST 3, 2019



Belgium



Scotland



Denmark



Slovenia



Germany



Sweden



Latvia



Switzerland



Norway



Wales



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EUROPEAN BROADCASTING UNION

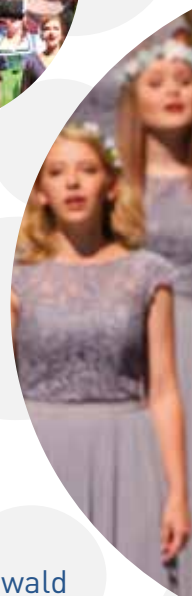
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