





Dear friends of choral music,

ON STAGE events are miniature festivals designed to cele-brate the most beautiful hobby in the world: SINGING! The world's top destinations have been combined with exciting touring and singing opportunities as well as local coopera-tions and choral experts to provide an all-round experience for every choral singer.

This brochure lays out the main information and the unique idea behind the ON STAGE events!

The four-day events start with a Welcoming Concert on Thursday; continue with a City & Singing Tour and an after-noon Workshop on Friday, and conclude with a Final Con-cert on Saturday. Additional singing and traveling opportu-nities may be organized upon request and are strongly recommended for the very possibilities these events offer. Intimate, cozy and flexible, ON STAGE events are perfectly customizable to the choir's own plans and wishes.

We are thrilled to invite you on our stages and into our choral family! Make yourself at ease and let's tour on...

Günter Titsch

President INTERKULTUR

ON STAGE SEASON









THE ON STAGE WORKSHOP LEADERS



RON GANG

Besides his work as a conductor and choral trainer, Ron Gang is a singer, composer, arranger, producer and central figure in the modern Israeli a-cappella scene. From 1999 to 2010, Ron was COO of the music technology international company Music Genome, which dealt with music personalization using Artificial Intelligence.

At present, Ron Gang is the CEO of Mila, the largest vocal association in Israel. "MILA" unites app. 5000 members (sing-ers and conductors) and organizes many events and activi-ties throughout the year.



MATTEO VALBUSA

Mr. Valbusa has a long and diverse career as conductor, professor and music advisor, lecturer on opera and classical music, and as a member of the Artistic Committee of ASAC Veneto. In 2009 he was awarded the special prize for the best interpretation of Renaissance music at the International Competition for choral conductors in Ljubljana, Slovenia and in 2015 he graduated with highest honors in orchestral conducting at the Conservatory of Vicenza.

BENGT OLLÉN

Bengt Ollén is Sofia Vokalensemble's founder and constant conductor. Since 1995 he's led the vocal ensemble with great passion and a never-dying enthusiasm leading them to multiple awards in prestigious choral events worldwide. Bengt Ollén has studied under Gösta Ohlin and Gunnar Eriksson at the Academy of Music and Drama in Gothenburg. He works as a teacher of choir singing at the internationally known Stockholm Musikgymnasium and has achieved great success with his choirs in competitions around the world. Bengt is regularly engaged as a guest lecturer at choir festivals, workshops and concerts, both in Sweden and internationally.



in Stockholm

EDOARDO MATERASSI

Guitarist, composer, arranger and choir conductor, Edoardo Materassi is the author of many vocal and instrumental compositions frequently performed in Italy and abroad by world-known musicians. He performs an intense activity in Italy and abroad as a choir conductor and has won several national and international prizes and recorded many CDs.



in Almence

THE ON STAGE WORKSHOP LEADERS



MYGUEL SANTOS E CASTRO

Mr. Santos e Castro is one of the most enthusiastic, passion¬ate and charismatic conductors in Portugal. At only 17 he started teaching music in schools and later studied Choral Conducting at the Academia de Amadores de Musica. He has participated in various workshops and masterclasses both in Portugal and abroad and holds also a degree in Management and Public Administration. He is involved in various national and international media projects and is the founder of the Vox Laci Institution.



JAN MISEK

Mr. Misek's is the winner of multiple awards for outstanding conducting performance and his choirs have often been winners of gold medals in national and international compe-titions. As a guest conductor, Mr. Misek has cooperated with famous orchestras and opera stars such Mara Zampieri, Peter Dvorsky or Jose Carreras. He has been acknowledged by experts for his interpretation of 20th century music and for a historically authentic interpretation of baroque music.

SUZANA TURKU

Suzana Turku is one of the first and most renowned female conductors in Albania and a member of the World Choir Council! She holds the prestigious title "Artiste e Merituar" as well as a PhD in Ethnology and Folklore. She was the conductor of the choir of the National Theatre of Opera and Ballet for 17 years, during which time many important world masterpieces were brought on stage with great success. Mrs. Turku also served as Albania's vice Minister of Culture for eight years and is widely recognized for her contribution towards the development of the Albanian culture and the Integration of Albania in EU. She is currently a professor at the Academy of Arts.



n Albania

In cooperation with:

















SING & JOY

WELCOMING CONCERT AND GET TOGETHER

What better start to your days of singing than getting to know the voices and the stories behind the faces of your fellow choir singers? That's what the Welcoming Concert is all about - take a few minutes to tell everyone about your choir as only you know how and then show case your voices and repertoire. In the end, you will know a lot more about each other and comfortably go on and start off a chat or tell a joke! Make the evening yours by following up with a drink and some friendly singing and chatting!





TIP:

The welcoming concert is quite an informal event so, unless otherwise specified, there is no dress code and you may well come in casual wear. The presentation of the choir may be made by either the choir conductor or contact person and it may be a good idea to think of something special in advance. Enjoy the stories!

SING & EXPLORE

SINGING TOUR

Time to explore the city and quench your curiosity about the people, history and culture. Don't forget to bring your voice with you! You'll be stopping in some of the city's best spots to sing some of your best songs. It's another great time for socialization and... pictures and videos! Yes, those very useful recordings of your moments which you'll always cherish and remember with love. Sing your best and make some great memories!





Choose comfortable clothes and shoes and take a bottle of water or a snack since the tour typically lasts for 2-3 hours. Don't forget that your tour guide is also your best source of information about the city - public transport, shortcuts, experiences not to miss, convenient bars, restaurants, shopping malls etc. - so feel free to make questions. Think of the most m suitable songs in your repertoire to be sung in the open air and sing your heart on! Most importantly, and we can't emphasize this enough - mix and mingle! Enjoy your new encounters!

SING & LEARN

WORKSHOP

Learning is a major focus of the ON STAGE events, so get ready to have a taste of the local choral culture by learning more about the history and traditions and by singing a few pieces in the local language – all under the guidance of the leading choral personalities of the hosting city. Learn side by side with other choir singers and enjoy all the surprises, challenges and pleasures that come with it!





TIP:

Take care of your vocal cords by having a good lunch and being well hydrated, because for about two hours and a half all attention will be on them. The workshop program and scores will be emailed to you in advance and we strongly encourage some preliminary preparation so as to ensure the best results from this workshop. Take the most out of learning!

SING & CELEBRATE

FINAL CONCERT

Put on your singing costumes and your best smile and step on stage - it's time for your big performance! All choirs will sing their favorite pieces and, in the end, everyone will get together for the grand finale - all singers go on stage for a Sing Along with a selection of the works prepared in workshop. It will be the celebration of all the great times you had together in these few days, so sing, dance, smile and enjoy every minute of it. Don't forget that if you want a personalized certificate, you can have it simply by visiting www.mycertificate.interkultur.com!

Go ahead and keep your memories with you.





TIP:

Please bear in mind that your suggested repertoire will need be in line with the requirements of the special venues we offer in the ON STAGE hosting cities. The artistic coordinator of the event will advise you on the performance possibilities and repertoire requirements in advance. Also, unless otherwise specified, all our selected venues offer changing rooms, so you may choose to get changed right before the concert, our volunteers will guide you. In case of any special requests in terms of instruments, microphones etc., kindly inform us in advance. Good luck with your final performance!

SING & MORE

SUNDAY MASS

An optional additional activity which may be organized upon request, Sunday masses offer another great performing opportunity for all the choirs.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

Additional concerts and tours are available upon request and at additional costs. Each event offers different options, so make sure you ask our team for the most suitable options for your choir.





TIP:

Sunday masses are a great window to the local community and the smoothest way into their minds and hearts, so don't miss your chance to sing in one. Our artistic coordinator will advise you on any special requirements regarding your repertoire and other details.

ON STAGE SAMPLE SCHEDULE

DAY 1 DAY 2 **City & Singing Tour** MORNING Arrival **AFTERNOON** individual programs can be organized. Workshop **Welcoming Concert**

DAY 3	DAY 4
	Additional Activities upon request
Rehearsals Stage rehearsals for the evening concert, joint rehearsal of all participants for the pieces of the workshop and time to sing.	Departure
Final Concert Individual performances of 15-20 minutes for each choir and a joint performance of all choirs with the pieces of the workshop conducted by the workshop leader.	



VOCA CHOIR, MALTA

"The lovely memories of so many beautiful and musically talented persons will stay in my heart forever. We are all so eager to continue taking our music abroad in the future, so you will surely see us again in your events."

VOCAL ENSEMBLE NOVA, SWEDEN

"On Stage was a fantastic event! Well organized, well situated hotel with excellent service and superb food."

TESTIM

UKMERGĖS KULTŪROS CENTRO MOTERŲ VOKALINIS ANSAMBLIS, LITHUANIA

"Our time in On Stage was very special to all of us.

We loved the people, the music,
the churches and the atmosphere in general.

Thank you for making our time there so wonderful
and organizing everything so smoothly..."

KOLOT BAT Y

"...Your professi your kindness wer help to bring tl our choirs participati



RAFA CHOIR, GREAT BRITAIN

"It was so interesting meeting other choirs from different countries, I think I can safely say that we all enjoyed it and the effect of all the choirs singing together was amazing."

SOFIA CHAMBER CHOIR, SWEDEN

"Thanks for a great festival! We enjoyed every minute of it!"

HENRIETTA TABONE, MEMBER OF VOCA CHOIR, MALTA

"The event On Stage 2017 was a fantastic event and we all loved participating with the other choirs. Well done to the organizers and look forward to many more."

<u>ONIALS</u>

KENKÄVAAHTO-KUORO, FINLAND

"...Once more, thank you for the festival!

The happy memories of
light and sounds of On Stage
bring us still strength now that

Novemberis here."

IMPRINT:

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AM, ISRAEL

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on in this festival..."

