

# Hearts-in-Harmony

2010. március 4-7. / March 4-7, 2010  
Budapest, Hungary

## Nemzetközi szeminárium és kórusműhely a látássérültek és a kóruséneklés kapcsolatáról

*International seminar and choir workshop on visually impaired singers and choir singing*



**A rendezvény védnöke: Szokolay Sándor Kossuth díjas zeneszerző**  
**Patron: Sándor Szokolay, Kossuth Prize honoured composer**

### Szervezők / Organisers:

Europa Cantat Közép-kelet-európai Központ  
Vakok Óvodája, Általános Iskolája, Speciális Szakiskolája, Egységes Gyógypedagógiai Módszertani Intézménye, Diákotthona és Gyermequotthona  
Magyar Kórusok, Zenekarok és Népzenei Együttesek Szövetsége (KÓTA)

*Europa Cantat Central Eastern European Centre  
Kindergarten, Elementary, Special Vocational and Boarding School for Visually Impaired Children in Hungary  
Association of Hungarian Choirs, Orchestras and Folk Ensembles (KÓTA)*



---

*Hearts in Harmony Budapest is part of "Uniting Youth in Song", a project coordinated by Länsmusiken in Örebro (Sweden) in cooperation with FENIARCO (Italy), SCIC (Catalonia, Spain), the KÓTA (Hungary), the festival EUROPA CANTAT Utrecht (the Netherlands) and Europa Cantat in Bonn (Germany). This project has been selected under the European Union programme "Culture 2007–2013".*

*This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.*



Education and Culture DG

Culture Programme

Az Európai Bizottság támogatást nyújtott ennek a projektnek a költségeihez. Ez a kiadvány a szerző nézeteit tükrözi, és az Európai Bizottság nem tehető felelőssé az abban foglaltak bármilyen felhasználásért.

## About the Hearts-in-Harmony event series

Hearts-in-Harmony is a series of concerts, festivals and events bringing handicapped and non-handicapped people together in common rehearsals and concerts as well as workshops. The first event, a concert bringing together singers with different handicaps and singers of the French national choir organization A Coeur Joie took place in May 2006 in Paris. This event resulted in the foundation of the



Association "Coeurs en Choeurs"

which now, together with Europa Cantat - European Federation of Young Choirs, gives its patronage to other similar events, such as an event for hearing-impaired and other children singing with sign-language in Trondheim, Norway, in summer 2008. Three further Hearts-in-Harmony events will take place in 2010 and 2011 in three different European countries in order to improve the integration of the handicapped.



The 2010 edition of Hearts-in-Harmony in Hungary focuses on blind and visually impaired children and youth. During the weekend there shall be on the programme rehearsals, concerts, demonstration lessons, workshops, video and live presentations as well as round table discussions on the pedagogy of working with visually impaired children and young people, with the participation of internationally renowned and experienced therapeutics and music pedagogues specialized to blindness and music. A children's and an adult choir from Hungary shall have rehearsals and workshops with blind choirs from other 4 countries in Europe, performing a joint closing concert.

## About Europa Cantat – European Federation of Young Choirs

The vision of Europa Cantat - European Federation of Young Choirs is to be the leading pan-European non-profit organisation dedicated to education and cultural exchange among singers of all ages, especially among children and young people in the field of vocal music.

Europa Cantat directly represents more than one million and reaches out to more than 20 million singers, conductors and composers in over 40 European countries including new and future members of the European Union.

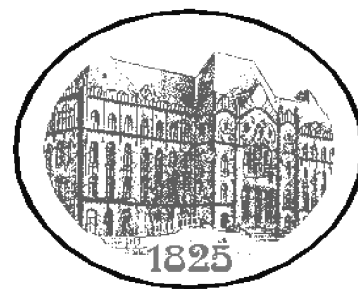


Europa Cantat exists to encourage and increase greater understanding and cooperation between Europeans and world citizens by bringing them together in the common activity of singing, promoting the exchange and development of cultural heritage and education. - It is our differences that unite, not divide us.

# The Organisers

## School for the Blind

H-1146 Budapest, Ajtósi Dürer sor 39.  
More info at: [www.vakisk.hu](http://www.vakisk.hu)  
More info at: [www.europacantat.org](http://www.europacantat.org)  
Contact: Ms Veronika Dérczy director,  
titkarsag@vakisk.hu



***Special thanks to MS Veronika Dérczy, director  
and Ms Mónika Tóth, teacher for their helpful assistance!***

The education of blind children dates back to 1825 when Pest Institute for the Blinds was founded. The constructions of National Educational Institute for the Blind started in 1901 whilst the Kindergarten was built in 1912.

At present the institute gives different services on different levels according to the student's ages and additional impairments.



### Kindergarten

Separate building offering spacious and friendly rooms to children aged between 3-8. In the preschool period teachers, therapists, trainers help the complex development focusing on the following areas: fine and gross motor skills; vision skills; tactile skills, cognitive skills; daily living skills.



### Elementary School

Students acquire the material taught at mainstream elementary schools with the help of special aids in small groups. The school has the following departments: blind students without any additional disabilities; blind students with learning difficulties; blind students with mental retardation; deafblind students.



### Dormitory

Being a residential school in the afternoon the main educational goals: developing independent living skills; orientation and mobility;  
The students can choose free time activities which are: music (piano, cello, guitar, choir,), sports (goalball, chess, swimming, cycling), computer, handcrafts.



### Special Vocational School

After the elementary school years students may continue their studies in the vocation school choosing different jobs in three departments according to their ability and skills.  
Jobs for visually impaired students: computer operator, carpet weaver, basket maker. Jobs for visually impaired students with learning difficulties: carpet and basket maker. Job for visually impaired students with mental retardation: carpet maker.

## Resource Centre

Since 1994 the institution has been supporting the education of blind children in mainstream kindergartens, schools all over the country. One of the most important tasks is to supply the students with more and more update special aids and Braille text book. Beside of these work the Centre offers different trainings to the mainstream teachers and the visual impaired students as well.

## **Association of Hungarian Choirs, Orchestras and Folk Ensembles (KÓTA)**

More info at: [www.kota.hu](http://www.kota.hu)

Contact: Ms Ágnes Vadász, Secretary General,  
[kota@kota.hu](mailto:kota@kota.hu)



KÓTA is an association performing cultural and educational duties. The association has a nationwide sphere of authority to grant professional qualifications and has the greatest choral and folk music database. It is also a professional counselling organisation of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

The objectives of KÓTA include the cultivation of Hungarian choral and folk music culture, the protection and transmission of our traditions, the raising of the level of musical culture and education, as well as the support of cultural spare time activities.

It provides professional help to amateur musical life in Hungary, safeguards their interests, coordinates programmes, exchanges information, organises professional further education, artistic education, teachers' further education, concerts, national and international festivals and competitions.

KÓTA also organises and performs the qualification of youth and adult choirs and folk ensembles. It arranges exchanges home and abroad in addition to promoting international musical relations. It publishes and distributes CDs, MCs, books, and videos.

## **Europa Cantat Central Eastern European Centre**

More info at: [www.europacantat.org](http://www.europacantat.org)

Contact: Mr Gábor Móczár, [ecceec@europacantat.org](mailto:ecceec@europacantat.org)

Even though Europa Cantat – the European Federation of Young Choirs had members in almost all European countries well beyond the boundaries of the European Union for many years, the Enlargement in 2004 meant a clear increase in interest from the new and future member countries of the EU as well as their neighbouring countries.



The Board of Europa Cantat therefore decided to set up regional centres in different parts of Europe in order to ensure a better contact with the growing membership and offer activities more easily accessible for interested conductors, singers, composers or managers from the region. The one for Central-Eastern Europe is working in Hungary, with which Europa Cantat has had a close relationship for many years, since this country hosted the first EUROPA CANTAT festival in Central-Eastern Europe (in 1988) and several other Europa Cantat events.

Since the start of its operation in 2005 the purpose of the Centre has been to facilitate the extension of choral activities in Central Europe and encourage and develop cross-cultural and multi-cultural projects between Eastern and Western European countries with a view to encouraging and increasing understanding and cooperation between Europeans through the vocal arts. The Centre has become an important lynch pin in the support, maintenance and development of choral activities throughout the region.

## The Participating Choirs

### *Hungary*

#### **The Children's Choir "Lark" of the School for the Blind**

In the past the school had a larger choir with mixed students. At present the school has a choir with 13 girl students called „Lark”.

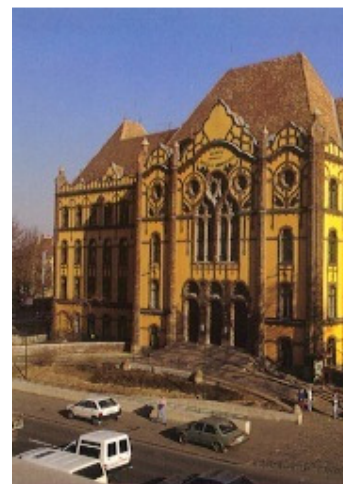
This girls' choir was founded 5 years ago after when the previous conductor was retired. The students have so many opportunities to choose free time activities but fortunately there were some really enthusiastic girls.

They sing light compositions from famous composers and some songs made by our students. We sing in unison and polyphony as well. The choir usually gives performance on the school events and the annual competition for visually impaired students.

Conductor: Mr Nóra Jakó  
Email: [norajako@gmail.com](mailto:norajako@gmail.com)

#### **Their music programme at Hearts-in-Harmony Budapest:**

Bárdos: Menyasszony, vőlegény (Bride and Bridegroom)  
Kodály: Zöld erdőben (In the green forest)  
Hényel A.: Dal a természetről (Song about the Nature, first performance)  
Italian song, arr. Nóra Jakó: Rózsabimbó (Rosebud)



*Nádor Hall in the School for the Blind*

# Hungary

## Lux Musicae Mixed Choir and Instrumental Ensemble

The Lux Musicae Mixed Choir and Instrumental Ensemble of the „SZÓL A SZÍV” Foundation is an amateur ensemble. It's been founded in October 2006 by its conductor Mr György Késmárki-Krisch who works also as the artistic director of the *Musica Antiqua Hungarica Ensemble* and the conductor of the *Budapest Bach Orchestra*. A blind choir has been working with the support of the National Association of Blinds and Visually Impaired since 1928. This Homeros Choir – conducted for many years by Mr Késmárki – ended up its operation in 1994.



The current choir was formed of the pupils of the School for the Blind, its singers sang previously in the Landini Mixed Choir. The demand of founding a kind of „Alma Mater” choir has come from the former singers (who are today multi children parents, masseurs, software developers, teachers, lawyers or even current pupils of the school) of the past 25 years. They welcome certainly also not visually impaired singers and also the former teachers join the choir in case they have some time available.

It's the speciality of the ensemble that some singers are also instrumentalists studying at conservatoires or at the Academy of Music and they perform regularly also instrumental pieces at their concerts. The repertoire of the Lux Musicae Ensemble consists of pieces from medieval ages till contemporary music.

Conductor: Mr György Késmárki-Krisch  
Email: [mahegyuttes@gmail.com](mailto:mahegyuttes@gmail.com)

### **Their music programme at Hearts-in-Harmony Budapest:**

Cl. Gervaise - Rossa E.: Tánccdal (Dance song)  
Soundtrack, arr. Ferenc Sapszon jr.: Titanic  
J. Sibelius - Késmárki - Lukin L.: Új örömhír (New gospel)  
F. Erkel – M. Vörösmarty M.: Szózat  
(Introduction, accompaniment and mixed choir arrangement by Gy. Késmárki)

## Poland



### The Children's Choir "Allegria" of the School for the Visually Impaired in Krakow

Our Music School is attached to the Institute for the Blind and Partially Sighted, but it is also attended by normally sighted children from Kraków. At present there are over 100 students at the ages between 6 and 18 who learn to play various musical instruments as well as perform in vocal and instrumental groups. Teachers and students have a lot of initiative, which results in diversity of artistic programmes. Our repertoire includes instrumental music played by children, children's songs, choral singing, and even the full theatrical version of the musical "Fiddler on the Roof". The school has also a vocal dance group, which performs both traditional Polish dances (polonez, krakowiak) and modern choreographic routines. In our school we also work with children with specific health problems. A direct contact with music supports their overall development.



Education in its current form started in our school in 1991 and was based on the tradition of music education for blind children in Kraków, dating back to 1948. Almost twenty-year activity of the school is a successful period of our students numerous achievements and countless concerts, also in other European countries. However, we have not had an opportunity to visit Hungary so far. Therefore, we will be very happy to come in 2010.



Our choir is actually a vocal-instrumental group consisting of students from the upper grades (12-18 year olds). Recently the group has focused on the musical "Fiddler on the Roof", with Kraków Opera singers' participation, which they have performed in different theatres and concert halls in Poland. Before that, the group acted as a genuine choir and successfully took part in many concerts and festivals of Polish choir groups.

Conductor: Izabela Szota  
More info at: [www.muzyczna.blind.krakow.pl](http://www.muzyczna.blind.krakow.pl)  
E-mail: [muzyczna@blind.krakow.pl](mailto:muzyczna@blind.krakow.pl)

Contact: Waldemar Król, [wakrol@wp.pl](mailto:wakrol@wp.pl)

#### Their music programme at Hearts-in-Harmony Budapest:

Mikołaj Gomółka: 2 Psalms: I will call you, Thy my Lord, Our Lord, God of us is reigned  
F. Giardini: Viva tutte le vezze  
Polish folk song: „W mojem ogrodecku” (In my little garden)  
Negrospiritual in Zulu language: „Siyahamba ekukanyen' kwenkos” (We are marching in the light of God)  
Swing canon: „Dum de dum”

Additional short program based on the Polish folk songs with small scene decoration and traditional costumes, arranged and prepared by Bożena Szopa

## **Bulgaria**

### **The Girls' Vocal Group "Teens" of the School for Visually Impaired Children "Louis Braille" in Sofia**



The Vocal Group „Teens” was founded in the School for Visually Impaired Children in Sofia. In the group the students are from 4<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> class. The artistic director is music teacher and composer Georgi Holianov.

From 2001 to 2007 the group make a record of 5 albums with songs in style pop and rock, composed by the head of the group and now they prepare a new album, too.

The young singers of group “Teens” take part not only in school’s celebrations but they have prizes from different festivals and competitions. They give performances and concerts in different stages in their country and abroad.

Artistic director: Georgi Holianov  
More info at: [udnz.cc.bas.bg](http://udnz.cc.bas.bg)  
E-mail: [udnzsofia@yahoo.com](mailto:udnzsofia@yahoo.com)

Contact: Ivelina Sokolova,  
[ivelina\\_sokolova@abv.bg](mailto:ivelina_sokolova@abv.bg)



#### **Their music programme at Hearts-in-Harmony Budapest:**

It's rain again  
Summer is coming  
Dear Virgin Mary  
In the Full Swing of the Dance  
Fatherland  
A Girl With a Strong Will  
Dragana and the nightingale  
Folk suite from 3 folk songs

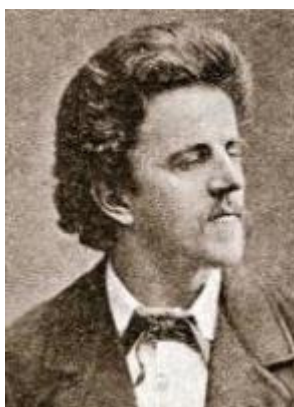


## **Austria**

### **Josef Labor Chor (Vienna)**

As a start of the choir's history in 1919 the Blind Male Choir (Saengerbund der Blinden) was founded. In 1922 the choir acquired also female voices.

Later in 1997 the choir became known as "Josef Labor Chor" and integrated blind, visually impaired and normal sighted singers to perform together under the auspices of a recognised status.



Josef Labor, the Czech pianist, organist, influential music teacher and composer of late Romantic music was born in 1842 during the era of Brahms, Mendelssohn and Schumann. Labor At the age of three, he was left blind due to contracting smallpox. He attended the Institute for the Blind in Vienna and the Conservatory of the Society of Friends of Music where he studied composition with Bruckner's teacher, Simon Sechter, and piano with Eduard Pickhert. He toured Europe as a pianist and, in the process, formed a lasting friendship with King Georg V of Hanover, who was also blind. Georg named him Royal Chamber Pianist in 1865. The following year, the two men settled in Vienna, where Labor began organ lessons and became a teacher, while continuing to compose and perform.

In 1904, Labor received the title Royal and Imperial Court Organist) and is today best known for his organ works. Labor took a serious interest in early music and wrote continuo elaborations for Heinrich Biber's sonatas.

Labor taught many notable musical personalities including Alma Schindler (who married Gustav Mahler and others), Paul Wittgenstein and Arnold Schoenberg. Alma Schindler studied with Labor for 6 years, beginning when she was 14, and her diaries contain numerous references to her esteemed teacher.

When Wittgenstein lost his right arm in World War I, Josef Labor was the first person he asked to write a piece for piano left hand. Wittgenstein later commissioned works for the left hand from other composers including Strauss, Maurice Ravel, Benjamin Britten, Sergei Prokofiev, and Franz Schmidt (the finale of Schmidt's A major Clarinet Quintet - the last of his Wittgenstein commissions - is a set of variations on a theme by Labor).

Conductor: Andreas Peterl  
More info at: [home.ccc.at/jlchor/](http://home.ccc.at/jlchor/)  
E-mail: [jlchor@ccc.at](mailto:jlchor@ccc.at)  
Contact: Hermann Ungerböck, Leopoldine Lenhard

#### **Their music programme at Hearts-in-Harmony Budapest:**

Michael Praetorius: Audite, silete  
Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy: Entflieh mit mir  
Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy: Die Primel  
Hans Leo Hassler: Nun fanget an  
Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy: Andenken  
Knut Nystedt: Song of Praise  
Folk song (arr. Franz Burkhardt): Ein Bäumlein stand im tiefen Tal  
Folk song (arr. Robert Schollum): Dirndal merk dir den Bam  
Josef Labor: Abendlied  
Johann Sebastian Bach: Psallite Deo nostro  
Paul Simon / Robert Sund: Bridge over troubled water  
Leo Mathisen / Erling Kullberg: To be or not to be  
Trad.: We shall overcome, Rock my soul

## **Slovenia**

### **Mavrica (Rainbow) Vocal Ensemble (Novo Mesto)**

Medobčinsko društvo slepih in slabovidnih Novo mesto (the complete name of their association) was established 61 years ago. The primary target is to help blind and visually impaired persons and integrate them to the society because of their special needs.

In Slovenia there are 9 associations for blind and visually impaired associated in the Union of the Blinds located in Ljubljana.

In their association they organize several seminars for members and their families. They use help of different specialists, such as: tiflopedagogues, defectologists, oftalmologues, psychologist, psychotherapists, specialists for technical help – of course with the assistance of volunteers to accompany blind people.

The choir Mavrica was established in February 2004. There are 7 singers now: 3 blind, 1 visually impaired and 3 non-blind. Their age is from 28 to 75. They sing Slovenian national songs mostly.

Artistic director: Janez Kermc  
More info at: [www.drustvo-slepih-nm.si](http://www.drustvo-slepih-nm.si)  
E-mail: [mdssnm@zveza-slepih.si](mailto:mdssnm@zveza-slepih.si)  
Contact: Marjana Gazvoda

#### **Their music programme at Hearts-in-Harmony Budapest:**

Lipa  
Naj bo pomlad  
Mlinar  
Ženka mi v goste gre  
Pohojena travca  
Domaca hisa  
Pa tista bo moja  
Škrjancek poje  
Na planincah  
Štirje fantje spilajo  
Lastovki v slovo  
(folk songs)



## The Lecturers and Speakers

### **Katalin K. Udvari (Budapest, Hungary)**

Violoncello and solfège teacher

Principal of Psalmus Humanus Arts Education Association

More info at: [www.psalmusarts.hu](http://www.psalmusarts.hu)

Contact: [psalmushu@chello.hu](mailto:psalmushu@chello.hu)



Music should belong to everyone! But how can we make it so?"  
(Zoltán Kodály)

After several years of collaboration our Budapest-based non-governmental organisation was officially founded in spring 2002. The members of the Association are highly-qualified, practising educationalists, who through their work represent the broad spectrum of arts education.

The name of the organisation was chosen after the title of a poem by a Hungarian Nobel-Prize winner scientist, Albert Szent-Györgyi, called Psalmus Humanus.

In the spirit of Zoltán Kodály's ideas, and combining them with our national traditions and the most recent findings of research in natural sciences and sociology, we have worked out an integrated arts education programme, called Psalmus Humanus. The Psalmus Humanus programme has been developed based on the educational results over more than four decades of Hungarian primary schools with special singing and music classes, the findings of studies on the psychological effects by Professors Ilona Barkóczi and Csaba Pléh. The arts workshops in this programme provide all children an opportunity – regardless of their cultural or social environment, or their health – to participate actively in a pleasurable artistic activity.

The exemplary artistic methods chosen, which, though little known, have been working effectively for years, are efficient in aiding the development of children's healthy personalities, their emotional education, and prove the multi-faceted positive effect of arts education – both its aesthetic value and its social usefulness.

As well as research work into music education we believe it is important to consult with the professionals in Hungary, organise presentations and conferences, prepare and publish material of a scholarly standard and supplementary materials for teachers (books, CD-ROMs, video cassettes and DVD films), and to participate actively in international arts education forums through giving talks and presentations.

### **Anna Szénásy (Budapest, Hungary)**

Music therapist

Student of Dr. Klára Kokas, producer of the film "Zenéből fényeket" (Create lights from music) on the application of Dr. Kokas's methods by the musical education of blind children



## **Jenni Handschack (Leipzig, Germany)**

Conference manager  
German Central Library for the Blind

More info at: [www.dzb.de/en/index.html](http://www.dzb.de/en/index.html)  
Contact: [jenni.handschack@dzb.de](mailto:jenni.handschack@dzb.de)



Jenni Handschack has studied cultural sciences, psychology and English in Leipzig/Germany and Rome/Italy. After finishing university in 2008, she started working for the German Central Library for the Blind in Leipzig. Here, she managed the international conference project DAISY2009, which took place in September 2009. At the moment, she works for another project of her institution: preparing and conducting the world congress Braille21.

## **Matthias Leopold (Leipzig, Germany)**

Computer scientist  
German Central Library for the Blind

More info at: [www.dzb.de/en/index.html](http://www.dzb.de/en/index.html)  
Contact: [matthias.leopold@dzb.de](mailto:matthias.leopold@dzb.de)

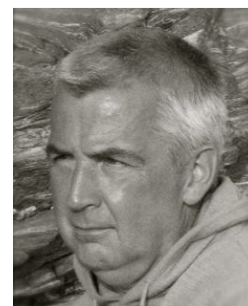


Matthias Leopold worked in projects DaCapo and DaCapo II at DZB Leipzig (on music notes) and he is currently working in Project Leibniz at DZB Leipzig on fact and specialist books.

## **Koenraad de Meulder (Antwerp, Flanders/Belgium)**

Director  
Koor en Stem, Flemish Federation for Vocal Music

More info at: [www.koorenstem.be](http://www.koorenstem.be)  
Contact: [koenraad.de.meulder@koorenstem.be](mailto:koenraad.de.meulder@koorenstem.be)



Koenraad De Meulder studied History at the University of Antwerp and University of Ghent. He has specialized in contemporary history, in particular the development of 19th- and 20th -century liberation movements. Afterwards, he attended several courses in cultural management, quality control and financial management.

He has been professionally involved in the choir world since 1992, first as general secretary of the choir organisation Algemeen Nederlands Zangverbond, afterwards as coordinator of the Flemish choir federation Koorfederatie Vlaanderen. Currently, he is managing director of Koor&Stem, the organisation for vocal music in Flanders.

Koenraad De Meulder is treasurer of the European choir organisation Arbeitsgemeinschaft Europäischer Chorverbände (AGEC) and has been closely involved in the merger between Europa Cantat (EC) and AGECE. Furthermore, he is an active member of several policy-making bodies of the Flemish Community and the amateur arts sector. Within the youth music organisation Jeunesses Musicales he coordinated the youth orchestra of Antwerp for several years.

Koenraad De Meulder received his musical education at the Halewijnstichting in Antwerp and was an active amateur choir singer for many years. Currently, he studies the transverse flute at the music academy of Antwerp.

## Miodrag Blizanac (Novi Sad, Vojvodina/Serbia)

Founder and music director  
"Ison" Choir - Novi Sad

More info at: [smp.edu.rs/index.php?lang=english](http://smp.edu.rs/index.php?lang=english)  
Contact: [misablizanac@gmail.com](mailto:misablizanac@gmail.com)

Miodrag Blizanac is the musician who is present from his early childhood at various forms of music culture in the city of Novi Sad, both choral and solo. Since his early childhood he has been growing up surrounded by music. He has his father, the priest, to thank for getting him the knowledge of church singing, both choral and solo.



Miodrag Blizanac has finished elementary school, the department of accordion. He was taught by professor Bata Bugarin and after that solo singing guided by professors Prizrenka Petkovic and Vera Kovac-Vitkai. Then, he graduated at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad. He works as a professor of history now.

Beside his contribution to choral music, he has participated in several major projects, one of which was awarded the Vuk Karadzic award for contribution to the preservation of church singing in Serbia. During the last 28 years he participated in various festivals in which the choirs were invited. For example: Musical Youth Choir of Novi Sad, the choir and the AKUD "Svetozar Markovic" and AKUD "Sonja Marinkovic", then The First Belgrade Singers' Society, choirs of St. Stefan of Decani and St. George from Novi Sad.

Miodrag Blizanac is one of the founders of The First Youth Choir in Novi Sad: St. Stefan of Decani (founded in 1986) and St. George (founded 1991). He has been participating in the establishment and restoration of many church choirs during the nineties. He has sung in Serbia and Europe as a soloist of spiritual and religious songs in The Religious Humanitarian Foster Homes for Children and Adolescents, with the headquarters in Belgrade as well as at many meetings and competitions of young Christians, "Taiz" (organized since 1994 in many European countries). He has been participating as a choir singer or soloist with the choirs of St. Stefan of Decani and St. George.

For the last decade he has been teaching history as a professor at the School for elementary and secondary education "Milan Petrovic" in Novi Sad, where he conceived the idea and then formed a mixed inclusive choir "Ison", the first and only inclusive choir in the region. He is a founder of Drama-workshop at the same school, theater "Good Vibration" with its participation at the amateur theater and drama contests has won some important awards and recognitions. The theater has been existing for ten years now.



## **Petar Matev (Sofia, Bulgaria)**

Conductor  
Blind Mixed Choir "Petko Staynov"

More info at: [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petko\\_Staynov](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petko_Staynov)  
Contact: [matev@spnet.net](mailto:matev@spnet.net)



Petar Matev graduated at the Bulgarian State Conservatoire (now National Academy of Music "Pantcho Vladigerov") in Sofia in 1987 with the speciality "choir conducting". He has worked with different small and big choirs as of children, male, mixed, folk. He has numerous records and four CDs. In 2002, he won a Silver Medal at the IX International Choir Competition "Orlando di Lasso" in Camerino, Italy.

Petar Matev is a conductor of the Professional Choir of the Blind "Academician Petko Staynov" since 1997.

The Mixed Professional Choir of the Blind "Academician Petko Staynov" was founded in 1935 by a group of enthusiastic blind singers and since 1948 was made professional. He was named after Petko Staynov, one of the greatest Bulgarian composers. In this ensemble, unique in the world practice, work visually challenged men and women, for whom music is one of the most important things in life and the only way for supporting themselves and having a worthy place in society.

The choir's repertoire includes works by Bulgarian and foreign composers – Pre-classical, Classical, Romantic, Modern, and Orthodox music, re-arrangements of Bulgarian folk songs as well as vocal-symphonic works.

The love and the devotion of the blind singers towards music have been proved by the publication of gramophone records, audiocassettes, 2 CDs, records for the Bulgarian National Radio and TV, and by the hundreds of concerts in Bulgaria and abroad (Germany, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Armenia, Belarus, Hungary, Turkey and Greece). The choir has won awards at numerous competitions and festivals.



## **Julio Hurtado (Valencia, Spain)**

University professor, conductor  
University of Valencia

More info at: [www.uv.es](http://www.uv.es)

Contact: [julio.hurtado@uv.es](mailto:julio.hurtado@uv.es)



Julio Hurtado Llopis, graduate in Psychology and in History and Science of Music, teacher of musical education and special education, singing teacher and doctor in Pedagogy.

His professional career started in the Special Education School for Blind Children in Valencia, where Coral Allegro was born. Afterwards, he was employed in different public primary schools as a teacher for musical education.

Among others, he has conducted the Polyphonic Choir of the Musical Society of Alboraiá, the choir from the school "Les Carolines" and the Choir "Veus Juntes" from Quart de Poblet. Nowadays he is conductor of the Polyphony Coral from La Canyada, the Coral School from Torrent and the Choir from L'Eliana. He has been the conductor of the Coral Allegro ONCE Valencia from its foundation.

Member of the group "Musica a l'Escola" (Music at School) he was active in the normalization of Musical Education. He has given numerous courses on teacher training, in different institutions.

Nowadays he is assistant professor at the University of Valencia in the Department of Didactics of Plastic and Corporal Musical Expression, where he is involved in training teachers of music for the primary school, in the postgraduate studies for the secondary school, and the Masters Theater in Education and Cultural Management. He collaborates with the UCV in the Official Master of Musicotherapy.

## **Martí Ferrer i Bosch (Barcelona, Catalunya/Spain)**

Conductor  
President of Moviment Coral Català  
Mediterranean Office for Choral Singing

More info at: [www.mcc.cat](http://www.mcc.cat)

Contact: [mcc@mcc.cat](mailto:mcc@mcc.cat)



Martí Ferrer i Bosch conducts the choirs and orchestras of Conservatory of Tarragona and teaches chamber music and conducting in this center. He also is the conductor of O vos Ommnes (male octet) and Cluster Ensemble (instrumental chamber group for contemporary music).

He is former president of SCIC (Catalan Children's Choirs Federation) and former member of its musical commission. Nowadays he is president of Moviment Coral Català (Umbrella Catalan Choirs Organization with more than 700 choir including children, youth and adult choirs) and responsible of the Mediterranean Office for Choral Singing (Europa Canta Regional Center).

He conducted several children's, youth and adult choirs and he is frequently invited as conductor in choir meetings, workshops and participative concerts in Catalunya. He is required as assistant conductor in some recordings and as adviser for choral editions in publisher houses.

Martí Ferrer graduated from Conservatori Superior de Música de Barcelona as orchestra and choir conductor and as musical pedagogue in the Universitat de Girona. He obtained an European studentship to study in Namur (Institute Supérieur de Musique et Pedagogie).

# Programme

**Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**

**9.00-12.00**

## **Zoltán Kodály Hungarian Choir School**

Address: 1015 Budapest, Toldy Ferenc u. 28-30.



### **Demonstration lessons**

#### **on the integrated (blind) educational experience of the Choir School**

- 9.00-9.45: choir rehearsal (teacher: Edina Fischer)
- 9.55-10.35: solfeggio (teacher: Laura Antal)
- 10.45-11.15: piano (teacher: Zsuzsanna Kiss)
- 11.15-12.00: roundtable discussion (with the teachers and Ferenc Sapszon jr.)

The Zoltán Kodály Hungarian Choir School was founded in 1988 as a 12-year-educative school. The concept of this unique school in the Hungarian education system is based on Kodaly's pedagogic ideas together with the traditions of European cathedral choir schools. Pupils of this school learn the general school subjects and have music lessons at the same time. There are individual (voice training, musical instrument) and group (solfeggio, improvisation, chamber music, history of music, choir) lessons. We have five choirs: Gaudete and Laudate children's choirs, Exsultate Boys' Mixed Choir, Jubilate Girls' Choir, and the Cantate Mixed Choir of graduated students. The choirs regularly go on Hungarian and international concert tours and sing in liturgical services.



The choirs' repertoire includes parts of oratorios and masterpieces of choir works from Gregorian to contemporary pieces. Jubilate and Cantate choirs has been awarded several prizes of national and international choir competitions.

The founder of the school and the chorus director of Jubilate and Cantate Choirs is Ferenc Sapszon jr., who has been awarded Liszt Prize and Hungarian Heritage Prize.





## 14.00-17.00

### School for the Blind

Address: 1146 Budapest, Ajtósi Dürer sor 39.

### Presentations, lectures and films on the music pedagogy aspect with handicapped/blind singers / Part 1

#### Katalin K. Udvari

Principal of Psalmus Humanus Arts Education Association  
*Music should belong to everyone! But how can we make it so?" (Zoltán Kodály)*  
*Video presentation on the association's integrated arts education programme*

#### Jenni Handschack

Conference manager of the German Central Library for the Blind (DZB)  
*Presentation on the experiences at the DAISY2009 [www.daisy2009.de] international digital IT conference and report on the organisation of the forthcoming BRAILLE21 [www.braille21.net] conference*

#### Mathias Leopold

Computer scientist of the German Central Library for the Blind (DZB)  
*Presentation on the development of the "Da Capo" music score translation software into Braille*

#### Anna Szénásy

Music therapist  
*„Create lights from music" – Video presentation on the application of Dr. Klára Kokas's methods by the musical education of blind children*

## 19.00

### Fasor Reformed Church

Address: Budapest VII., Vásorligeti fasor 7.

### Concert by professional Hungarian visually impaired musicians

*Programme:*

J. S. Bach: Fantasy in G-major	Gábor Vida, organ
B. Marcello: Sonata in d-minor I-II.	Judit Kovács, blockflöte and Irén Dudics cembalo
W. A. Mozart: Laudate Dominum	Maria Flamich soprano solo, Tamás Rónaszéki, violin and Szilvia Boross, piano
W. Gluck: Orfeo – Dance of happy ghosts	Eszter Geszti, flute and Irén Dudics, cembalo
F. Schubert: Militaer-Marsch	Tamás Lakatos and Csaba Magyar, piano
Advent song from Bukovina and a Mary-song from Borsodszentmárton	Zsuzsa Bartolf, vocal solo
Bagpipe songs from Nógrád	István Ferenczi, bagpipe
Hungarian folk songs	Folk Song Circle (art. dir. Aranka Halmi) and István Ferenczi, hurdy gurdy
Kodály Z.: Transylvanian sorrow	
Bartók B.: Small suite IV-V.	Márton Csányi, piano
Szokolay S.: Small suite	László Hegyesi, violoncello and Irén Dudics, piano
Cl. Debussy: Small suite III-IV.	Edina Berta and Tamás Németh, piano

**Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**

**9.00-12.00**

**School for the Blind**

Address: 1146 Budapest, Ajtósi Dürer sor 39.

**Presentations, lectures and films on the music pedagogy aspect with  
handicapped/blind singers / Part 2**

**Koenraad de Meulder**

Director of Koor en Stem

*Presentation of the „Heartwarming“ project*

**Miodrag Blizanac**

Music of the „ISON“ Choir

*The music workshop of the „ISON“ Choir of the Handicapped*

**Petar Matev**

Conductor of the „Petko Staynov“ Blind Choir

*Challenges of a professional blind choir*

**Julio Hurtado**

Conductor of the “Allegro” Blind Choir of ONCE

*“Singing, Growing, Sharing: The 28 years development of the “Allegro” Choir*

**Martí Ferrer**

President of Moviment Coral Catalá

*The planned programme of the next Hearts-in-Harmony event in Catalunya*

**18.00**

**Deák Square Lutheran Church**

Address: 1052 Budapest, Deák tér 4.

**Closing concert by the participant visually impaired choirs**

Introduction and welcoming words by our patron Mr Sándor Szokolay, composer

*Opening piece by Lídia Szluka, soprano and Ágnes Arató, piano*

**Common program performed at the end of the concert:**

Praetorius: Viva la musica

Gebhardi: Gloria

Conducted by György Késmárki-Krisch

Szokolay: Alleluia

Conducted by teh composer, Sándor Szokolay