

## Chorus Viennensis

Artistic Director: Michael Schneider

Since 1952 the Chorus Viennensis – in addition to their mutual projects with the Vienna Boys' Choir – has been rehearsing the Male choral compositions of the different time periods. As a result, they gained great experience under their conductors Ferdinand Grossmann, Hans Gillesberger and many others. Currently Michael Schneider is conducting the Chorus Viennensis.

The vocalists have been demonstrating their versatility in many concerts and recordings. Their quality and efficiency is apparant. For example, they produced three Philips Classics CDs with a selection of male choir compositions by Franz Schubert ("Nachtgesang im Walde"). Another CD was recorded by the ORF (Austrian Broadcasting Corporation) with choral compositions by Anton Bruckner and Hugo Wolf ("Musik, du himmlisches Gebilde!"). Their Bach recordings with Nikolaus Harnoncourt, are most substantial because they established new standards in the interpretation of old music during the sixties and seventies of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Many of these recordings with the Vienna Concentus musicus were awarded international prizes as e.g. the "Grand Prix du Disque".

At the 5<sup>th</sup> International Franz Schubert Competition for Male Choirs in Vienna 1988, with participation of choirs from seven countries, the Chorus Viennensis was not only awarded the 1<sup>st</sup> prize but were especially acknowledged for their Schubert interpretation.

Currently, the choir consists of 50 singers with a wide range of age groups, singing in different assemblies (usually 12-36 singers). In addition to encourage male choir singing they want to offer their members the opportunity of being musically active by singing in a community that shares two things: their past experience as former singers of Vienna Boys' Choir and their love of music in general.

A part of the choir has been established under the name "Choralschola der Wiener Hofburgkapelle" (Schola of the Vienna Imperial Chapel) as a highly specialized ensemble, because of their extensive experience in Gregorian Chant and the international reputation they have obtained. Since 2002 this Schola has been performing more and more vocal scores of the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, which is the period when the Vienna Imperial Music Chapel was founded.

For more information visit [www.chorusviennensis.at](http://www.chorusviennensis.at)