

CHORUS VIENNENSIS

Artistic Director: Michael Schneider



Since 1952 the Chorus Viennensis has dedicated itself to demanding literature of all epochs and styles for male choir, with a special focus on a cappella singing. Its members are all former members of the Vienna Boys' Choir.

Sound courage – Concert routine – Willingness to perform

The male choir of former members of the Vienna Boys' Choir is characterised by a differentiated sound: strong dynamic contrasts, precise rhythm, word interpretation and text comprehensibility are its trademarks. Thanks to the solid education with the Vienna Boys' Choir, the choir presents itself vocally and technically at the highest level. Already in their childhood, the singers have learned to show stamina in rehearsals and in performance situations and to be stylistically convincing in different instrumentations and styles. This makes the vocal ensemble the first choice not only for male choir literature, but also a popular partner for mixed choir projects.

The Chorus Viennensis has a special relationship with Franz Schubert, probably the most famous alumnus of the former Imperial and Royal Court Boys' Choir. At the International Male Choir Competition named after the composer, the Chorus Viennensis won first prize in 1988 and was awarded the Schubert Interpretation Prize. The Austrian Ministry of Arts awarded the choir the Mozart Interpretation Prize in 1992.

Stylistic diversity – from the Middle Ages to the modern age

Versatility in the choice of repertoire is the ensemble's identity-forming motto. In concerts at home and abroad, the range is demonstrated time and again – from Motets to Madrigals and Art Songs to Barbershop, from Oratorios and Masses to great symphonies and film music.

In addition to well-known classics of choral literature, the singers like to present rarities that are rarely performed due to their degree of difficulty, such as male choral literature from Scandinavia. In addition, world premieres are regularly on the programme. Composers such as Heinz Kratochwil, Herwig Reiter, Wolfgang Sauseng or Julia Purgina have dedicated pieces to the choir. At present, the Chorus is concerned with romantic works and compositions of the 20th and 21st centuries.

The quality of the Chorus Viennensis is documented in numerous recordings. The famous recordings under Hans Gillesberger and Nikolaus Harnoncourt in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s set new standards in the interpretation of Bach's music.

The choir regularly performs in concert halls or churches and works with renowned orchestras and ensembles, including the BBC Philharmonic, the Orchestra Wiener Akademie or the Vienna Philharmonic.

Tradition and community

Currently, the extraordinary choir consists of 50 singers between 16 and 60 years of age. In addition to cultivating men's choral singing, one of the declared goals is to be musically active in a community that combines two aspects: the Vienna Boys' Choir past and the love of music.

More information at www.chorusviennensis.at

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