

EUROPEAN CHAMBER CHORAL FESTIVAL OF ALBANIA 2009

ORGANIZED BY:



SYRI BLU

Shoqata Kulturore "Syri Blu"
Tel: 04 222 78 55 Mob: 0692059466
E-mail: syriblu2001@yahoo.com



Shoqata "Miqte e Muzikes", P.O.Box 8188
Fax: 04 2372198 / Tel: 068 40 37 866
E-mail: miqteemuzikes@hotmail.com

PARTNERS



MTKRS



EC Delegation in Albania



Municipality of Fier



Municipality of Korca



Municipality of Shkodra



Office of Regione Puglia in Tirana



Greek Embassy



Croatia Embassy



Ambasciata d'Italia
Istituto Italiano di Cultura
Italian Culture Institute



German Embassy



Netherlands Embassy



Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Kosovo

MEDIA PARTNER

TV Koha



PROGRAM 8-10 MAY 2009



EU COMMISSION



MTKRS

SUPPORTED BY
MINISTRY OF TOURISM, CULTURE, YOUTH & SPORTS
DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN ALBANIA

MANAGING STAFF

Suzana Turku Kashara
President of Festival

Besim Petrela
Executive Director
069 20 59 466

Pjeter Guralumi
Public Relations Coordinator
069 40 37 866

Milto Kutali
Stage Director
068 40 18 191

Enis Fita
General Secretary of the Festival
069 40 81 911

Fatlinda Subashi
International Relations
069 20 59 469

Admir Rexha
Secretary
068 40 31 520

Ermir Vokshi
Logistic Coordinator
069 20 89 468

Fahri Karameti
Assistant

Besnik Shamku
Transport
069 20 74 417

Valmir Xoxa
Assistant



Suzana Turku Kashara
President of the Festival
Deputy Minister of Tourism,
Culture, Youth and Sports
Tirana, April 2009

The 3rd edition of the European Festival of Chamber Choirs, which shall take place again in Albania from 8th-10th May 2009, reminds me of its previous editions, which revived and at the same time made possible the dreams, efforts and the good tradition of Tirana, Shkodra and Korca; it also reminds me of hundreds of singers from different European countries, who transmitted to the Albanian audience the music of their respective countries and on the other hand took back with them memories of the Albanian hospitality, beauty of the landscape, monuments and cultural heritage. This important cultural event places Albania amongst the countries, which promote and support the ancient tradition of the European choral ensembles.

The cities of Tirana, Shkodra, Korça and Fieri through the European Festival of Chamber Choirs, will have the opportunity to show that combining cultural activities with the promotion of cultural, historical and archeological heritage patrimony, turns out into a very active impulse for the cultural life as well as for the economical development of the territory.

The participating artists will have the opportunity to communicate with the Albanian public through the universal language of music and the closest instrument to

mankind, the voice. The choral music, considering its strong social aspect, transmits messages from all ages and enters in between the most contemporary aspects of communication beyond separation, integration beyond differentiations, and harmony between the different.

I am convinced that the organizing of events of such dimensions, makes me part of the "choir" along with all the organizers and institutional supporters of the Festival, to express our gratitude to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, Youth and Sports and the Minister Mr. Ardian Turku, The Delegation of European Commission and the Ambassador Mr. Lohan, diplomatic representative bodies accredited to the Republic of Albania, the Mayors of the Municipalities of the cities where the Festival will take place- partners of the Festival and all of them who believe that such events are already part of the latest history of Albania's cultural European integration.

I wish lots of success to the choirs participating in the European Festival and I guarantee you of the hospitality of Shkodra, Korca, Fier and Tirana citizens. I would also like to congratulate the organizers for this ultimate evidence of the integrating developments of the Albanian culture in the European culture mosaic.



ALBANIA

CHORAL "LYRA"

Choral "Lyra" was formed 82 years ago in Korca and continuing his activities now days. It is well known in Albania.

His repertory is authentic containing lyrical, patriotic, satiric and traditional songs.

The Lyra Choral contains a bibliography of 150 different songs unique of their genre.

It has a formation men and women as vocals, also a small orchestra and a few solos.

The choir has participated in different tours such as: in Oher (Macedonia) 1991, in Zalan (Rumania) 1998, in Karditza, Agos Orestiko (Greece) in the Balkan Choral Festival. The repertory of the choir also contains Byzantine music as well songs from Albanian and foreigner composers.

Jorgaq Nano (Merited Artist) The conductor of the chorus. Mr. Jorgaq Nano graduated in the Academy of Arts in 1968 with a major in Theoretic. Thanks to his passion and the will to conduct he began to work with vocal ensembles and became conductor of the Philharmonic orchestra of Korça and the chorus of the artistic high school "Tefta Tashko Koço".

He has participated in several national music events, where he was prized with the first prize. Since 1979 up to now days he is the conductor of "Lyra" Chorus. He has worked for a long time period as professor of the artistic high school " Tefta Tashko Koço ", where he taught chords, choral education and conduction. He was awarded with the medal Naim Frasheri of I,II ,III class. In 1991 he received the honorific title "Merited Artist"



PROGRAM

1. KENGA TE MBAN GJALLE
Soloist: Sotiraq Vangjeli
2. MALESORES
3. U VYSHKEN GJETHET E HARDHISE
A Cappella
4. VIRGJERESHES (Bizantine)
A Cappella
5. ZOTI I MADH (Bizantine)
A Cappella
6. KENGA E FTUJKES
Soloist Zhuljeta Sheremeni
7. PERENDESHE E BUKURISE
Soloists: Zhuljeta Sheremeni, Gjergji Suljoti
8. SYCKE E BUKUR
A Cappella
9. DHE LULET MBINE
10. KENGA E MULLIRIT
Soloists: Gjergji Terezi, Sotiraq Vangjeli





ALBANIA

"PRENKE JAKOVA"

Polyphonic choir "PRENKE JAKOVA" was founded in 1997 in Shkodra, continuing his activities under the responsibility of the cultural organization "Prenke Jakova". The choir is composed by professional musicians and it has the exclusivity to be the first polyphonic choir in the classical values which is strongly related to the values and the traditions of the Albanian art. The choir has taken his name in the memory of the great Albanian composer and artist Prenke Jakova which was distinguished as one of the founders of the National Albanian Genre of Opera. They have participated in different international tours such as: In collaboration with the Italian polyphonic choir of Molfo "Josquino Salepico" recording different Albanian and Italian music which was broadcasted by radio "Vatican". Tours in different cities of Italy such as Rome (1998-1999), Venice, Modena (2001), Borgo San Lorenzo, Florence (2002). They have also participated in the International Choral Festival in Tirana (2000). The "Prenke Jakova" choir has also participated in the 8th edition of the international competition of the choral music

"Orlando di Lasso" In Marche (2001) and won the bronze medal in the highest category. In February 2007 they performed for the first time ever the masterpiece "Petite Messe Solennelle" of Rossini in collaboration with the well known Italian pianist and Master Mr. Michelle Campanella and the Italian Institute of Culture in Instambul.

Participation in the second European Chamber Choral Festival in May 2007. Successful organization of the Christmas Concert and "The days of music" in the framework of the 10th anniversary of the Cultural association "Prenke Jakova". Received the honorific title "The Gratitude of the City" in Shkodra in December 2009. Participation in 2008 in the concert organized in the framework of the 50th anniversary of the first Albanian opera "Mrika", composed by Prenk Jakova (December, 6th 2008). Realization of the "Christmas concert 20080, succesfull tour in Italy: Lodi, Milamo, Varese, Mantova and Torino, (December 10th-20th 2009)



With the support of : Municipality of Shkodra

Gjon Shllaku, Conductor of the Polifonic Chorus "Prenkë Jakova" Was born in 1960 in Shkodra in a well known family for its music tradition. Successfully completed the artistic lyceum "Prenke Jakova" Shkodra in 1976, where he studied piano. In 1984 he graduated in the Academy of Fine Arts as a composer. His professor was the well known Albanian artist Česk Zadeja. At the end of his studies he successfully composed the ballet "Nuse Arbana". Carries out his professional activity as teacher of chords and the form analysis in the Artistic Lyceum Prenk Jakova. He was at the same time

director of the department of Theoretical subjects. He has composed several vocal and instrumental works such as: Overture for orchestra, Fantasy for violin and orchestra, operetta, music for children etc. Carries out musical activities mainly as concert maestro of well known Albanian soloists. He conducted the Chorus of the Cathedral of Shkodra as chapel maestro. He is currently conductor of the polyphonic Chorus "Prenke Jakova", which he founded himself in 1997. He is president of the cultural artistic association "Prenke Jakova", since its foundation.

PROGRAM

1. Arvo Pärt - Da pacem Domine
2. Traditional - Gospel - Give Me Jesus
3. Traditional - Gospel - Amazing Grace
4. Traditional - Gospel - The battle of Jericho
5. Traditional - Gospel - The Old Gospel Ship





The society's chorus, music's friends "ROZAFJA EXPRESSION", is created by the initiative of the chorus master and composer, Zef Çoba in 1999. "Rozafa Expression" constitutes the civil and artistic commitment of its members. The members of the chorus are selected singers and are formed with the necessary musical culture and vocal techniques, studying in professional music schools. This society is continuously part of the artistic applications developed by the main institutions of Shkodra, in different countries of Albania and abroad, showing a practical consolidation, and the best integrated values of Albania after 1990. The repertory of this chorus contains traditional, elaborated songs and chosen acts from professional coral music and styles on different epochs. Çoba's serious work, won the respect of the public and of all

professional structures. The choir has organized and participated in many activities within and abroad, such as: in the International Festival in Tirana (2000), Andros (Greece - 2000), Cetinje (Montenegro - 2000), Karditsa (Greece 2000), Avola (Italy - 2000), Vibo Valente (Italy - 2001), Tetovo (Macedonia - 2007), Tuzi (Montenegro - 2007), Shkodra Jazz Festival (2007), Ripatransone (Italy - 2007), as well as concert tours different centers in Naples (2007). Concerts and various premieres in the city of Shkodra, Durres, Korca and very festive anniversary performances of concerts, concerts in the asylum, orphanage, etc.



PROGRAM

1. Zef Çoba - "Si bylbylat ne prandvere", Traditional
2. J.S. Bach - "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"
3. Jakob - Gallus - "Ecce, quomodo moritur justus"
4. Antonio Vivaldi - "Gloria in exelsis Deo"
5. Antonio Salieri - "Per tutti i secoli sia benedetto"
6. John Rutter - "The Lord bless you and keep you"
7. Traditional spiritual - "I'm gonna sing"

Piano: Eugen Kraja, Conductor: Zef Çoba





The female ensemble (Klapa) Fortuna was founded in Dubrovnik in 2002. The members are pupils, students and women who have brought their joy of singing to this ensemble.

As result, Croatia has been enriched by another representative ensemble.

Their repertoire, besides traditional Dalmatian klapa songs, consists of works by old authors and spirituals.

With their high artistic level and interesting repertoire the ensemble has been well received by the audience, as well as critics.

They have participated at different festivals and performed various concerts. Klapa Fortuna was also invited in Hungary and Austria to improve relations between Croatia and Croatian minority

who live in mentioned countries. They debuted at the Festival of Dalmatian klapas in Omiš. Their artistic director is Maja Marušić

Professor Maja Marušić (Director) was born in Dubrovnik, Croatia, and completed elementary and secondary musical education at the Luka Sorkočević music school in Dubrovnik. She studied violin with Professor Žarko Grego as well as music theory, and earned a high school diploma in 1985. In 1989 she graduated from Music Academy of Sarajevo with a degree in music theory in 1989.

She currently teaches music theory at the Luka Sorkočević School of Arts in Dubrovnik, and is a permanent, active member of the Dubrovnik Chamber Choir. She is the director of the

“Angels” elementary school choir and the Luka Sorkočević high school choir in Dubrovnik. She is the artistic director of the “Amorette” choir, the “Libertas” men’s a cappella group and the “Fortuna” women’s a

PROGRAM

1. NARODNA Obrada R. Kraljević - Jubavi, ufanje veliko
2. J. Veršić - Projdem kroz Pasike
3. D.Fio - Golubice bila
4. NARODNA Obrada, M. Bulić - Na me pogled svoj obrati
5. D.Fio - Ti gariful
6. Tekst I. Oreb, Glazba K. Magdić - Moj brodicu
7. Glazba Z. Runjić, Tekst K. Juras, Obradio D. Tambaca - Samo moru virujem
8. T. Bebić arr. Lj. Stipišić: - Kaletu moja draga
9. D. Fio - U polju se mala
10. Spontano klapsko pjevanje - Za ribara moja mama
11. NARODNA Obrada J. Caleta - Momen dragom, prva mu je leva
12. Zapis V. Bersa, Obradio Z. Keran - Cvjete moje
13. TRAD. Obrada J. Caleta - Zaspalo je siroče





GERMANY

VOICES IN TIME

The Munich-based Jazz and Rock choir VoicesInTime has, for several years, been counted among the leading European choirs of its genre. After winning the German choir competition in 2006, the choir has been busy following invitations to South Korea, Cuba and various national festivals. VoicesInTime uses multifaceted sounds and a relaxed groove to present a very broad spectrum of popular music in powerful and unique a-cappella arrangements. In addition to adaptations of standards from Nat King Cole, Ray Charles or Quincy Jones, amazing encounters with Rammstein, Händel, Shakespeare and Umberto Tozzi surprise the audience and characterise this choir's unique and distinctive profile. VoicesInTime feels

at home both in jazz clubs as well as at festivals and in concert halls. Stefan Kalmer founded the choir in 1996. After having graduated from the University of Music and Performing Arts Munich, he was teaching popular music and is conducting the jazz choir there. He has also given courses at the musical universities of Hannover, Regensburg and Würzburg and is a music teacher at a high school. He has been a member of the Munich via-nova-chor for more than a decade and performs as a jazz violinist in the Orange String Quartet.

President:
Martin Pohl,

Conductor:
Stefan Kalmer



PROGRAM

Engel - Rammstein, Arr.Oliver Gies

Hallelujah - Leonard Chen, Arr.Jens Johansen

Let Me Entertain You - Robbie Williams/Guy Chambers,
Arr.Oliver Gies

If It Could Be Cathy Segal - Garcia, Arr. Michele Weir

Blue - Joni Mitchell, Arr. Malene Rigtrup

Gianna - Salvatore Gaetano, Arr.Oliver Gies





GREECE

MIXED CHOIR OF THESSALONIKI

"Mixed Choir of Thessaloniki" was formed in 1987 under having Mary Konstantinidou it's conductor. It consist of 50 members 20-40 years of age, musicians or students of music and covers wide range of repertoire including works from Renaissance, Classical and Romantic period, works from Contemporary music, Oratorios , and Messes , Operas and Musicals, works of Byzantine music, and Greek composers. "Mixed Choir of Thessaloniki" has participated many times, to the " Dimitria Festival ", to the Athen's and Thessaloniki's Concert Hall , to the Greek National Opera and Herod Atticus Ancient Theater, to the "Greek Festival" of Athens and "International Music Days" of Thessaloniki, to the Ancient Theater of Efessos ,

cooperating with Greek and Foreign State Orchestras in Operas and Oratorios.

"Mixed Choir of Thessaloniki" has a lot of concerts in Spain, Rome, Vienna, Hungary, Prague, London, Walles, Finland and Turkey and was awarded with Gold , Silver and Bronze metals in International Competitions of Athens, Rome and Llanngollen. During 1997 the choir has participated to the "Cultural Capital of Europe" with many concerts of first performances of contemporary composers from Greece and abroad , T.V. and Radio productions and during 2000 has participated to the "Prague Cultural Capital of Europe" with works of Czech composers. Since 1993 "Mixed Choir of Thessaloniki" is cooperating with the Symphony Orchestra of Municipality of



EMBASSY OF GREECE

Thessaloniki and with the state Orchestras of Athens and Thessaloniki. During the years 2000-2008 the choir has participated in 18 opera productions in Megaron Music Hall of Thessaloniki

and Opera of Thessaloniki. The Choir is supported by the Ministry of Culture participating to the "Cultural Olympiad 2004".

Conductor:
Mary Konstantinidou

PROGRAM

1. Viva la musica - P. Erod
2. Adieu sweat Amaryllis - J. Wilbye
3. Die Launige Forelles - F. Schoggl
Eiene Kleine Nacht Music - W.A. Mozart
Ungarian Rapsody - F. List
4. Island Songs - G. Konstantinidis
5. Albanian Song
6. La Danza - G. Rossini





ITALY

MEZZOTONO

Vocal quintet a cappella born in 2004. The feature of the band is that all the songs are in Italian or in local dialect (pugliese) and, above all, performed without any instrument. The arrangements, all original, give a big impact in the live show with a result full of energy and fun.

Starting from Buscaglione, Domenico Modugno, passing by Capossela and Renato Carosone the executions are lively and satisfying: "Il balletto barese", "In un vecchio palco della scala", "Vecchio Frack", "Buonasera signorina", "Tu vuoi fa l'Americano", "La città di Pulcinella". All the singers have a professional career made of records and important collaborations (Dionne Warwick, Neri per Caso, Franco Cerri, Bobby Dhuram) while the group experienced dozens of live shows



on tv and in theatres. Aboard, Taiwan A-Cappella Festival 2006 (with a tour and meetings in state university supported by our Apulia Region), Romania 2008 with a concert for the Italian Embassy, Vokal Total 2005 and 2008 in Graz (Austria) with a Gold Diploma. In 2008 they won "Solevoci Festival" in Varese as best group and best song for "Balletto Barese". The group is composed by Daniela Desideri (soprano), Francesca Leone (contralto), Fabio Lepore (tenor), Fabio Barnaba (tenor) and Marco Giuliani (bass).

With the support of :

Ambasciata d'Italia
Istituto Italiano di Cultura

Regione Puglia

PROGRAM

1. Il Balletto Barese
2. Tu vuoi fa l'Americano
3. In un vecchio palco della scala
4. La città di pulcinella
5. Buonasera Signorina





KOSOVO

OKTETI PLUS

OKTETI PLUS.

It was established in April 2005 with the initiative of some of his current members and immediately in June of the same year it was held the first concert that preceded concertos of activity of this highly diversified ensemble. The repertory containing works vocal music of almost all the periods of history of music, from early Renaissance to the contemporary music, which imposed also the Albanian composers who wrote pieces especially for them, composers such as Mengjiqi M., A. Peci, V. Beqiri and R. Dhomi, .. the focus of this Ensemble is undoubtedly the affirmation of vocal music of the national authors.

They participated in a lot of activities such as: REmusica Festival / Pristina, DAM fest Pristina, Tirana Liturgica, Argjiro / Gjirokaster, The Days of Albanian Music / Skopje , St. Peter's cathedral / Zagreb (Croatia), etc..

Conductor:
Ylber Asllanaj



With the support of :
Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Kosovo

PROGRAM

1. Patter Noster - I.Strawinsky
2. Lulzoi lulja - Sh. Deshpali
3. O bilbil - B. Mulliqi
4. Mori drandofilja e vogel - Shkodrane - M. Kacinari
5. Bash n'zaman te djalerise - H. Kasapolli
6. Dashnor tu bana - Sh. Deshpali
7. Saten Grun - F. Liszt
8. Deep River - Gospel
9. Te falemi o dhe - R. Dhomi
10. Before the Rainbow - M. Mengjiqi
11. Hej, more, more - V. Beqiri



Tiny Schoones
Wim Schoones
Jan Damen
(Hollanda)

Tiny Schoones
(conductor)
The Dutch
Nightingales were
founded in 1939 by
Rector Cantus P.
Fick. According to
his saying "the
singing builds
bridges along the
hearts of people all
over the world" he
started to travel with
this choir.

After P. Fick died in
1975, Tiny
Schoones took over
his place, for the
moment. It was
ment to be
temporarily, because
next to running his
own business and
being a alderman he
already conducted
several choirs and
was busy as a
dance instructor and
in several jobs as
volunteer in the
cultural en social
field. At the moment
this 'temporary time'
causes over more
than 34 years!
Next to leading
rehearsals and
conducting
concerts, he

manages the tours
for the choir.

Wim Schoones
(conductor)
As a young singer
his son Wim
Schoones started in
1968 in the choir the
Dutch Nightingales
and never left since
than. After his study
teacher's training
college he
continued to study
at the Conservatory
of Rotterdam. At the
Royal Conservatory
of The Hague he
specialised as
conductor of
children and youth
choirs. For many
years he assits his
father as a
conductor. He is
responsible for the
education of the
young Nightingales.
Next to his work for
the Nightingales he
has a job as music
teacher,
accompanies choirs
and togheter with
his three brothers
forms an a cappella
vocal group
Brunchtime 85.

Jan Damen
(piano/organ)
The Nightingales are
accompanied by

Jan Damen at the
piano and organ. He
studied at the Royal
Conservatory in The
Hague. For a long
time he was a music
teacher and part of
the management
team of the Teachers

Training College in
Breda. Already since
his youth Jan
Damen is being
busy as
accompanist of
several choirs and
soloists.

PROGRAM

1. Veni Domine - F. Mendelssohn
2. Gospodie - M.
3. Siyahamba - Traditional
4. Love changes everything - A. Lloyd Webber
5. O du schöner Rosengarten - Traditional
6. Razzle dazzle - J. Kander
7. Song for any time of the year - D. Large
8. Trouble - Coldplay
9. Any dream will do - A. Lloyd Webber
10. Dubula - Traditional
11. An der schönen blauen Donau - J. Strauss
12. Pål - Traditional
13. The rose - A. McBroom
14. Can you feel the love tonight - E. John
15. Three little fishies - S. Dowell
16. Steam heat - R. Adler / J. Ross



	FIRST DAY Friday 8 May 2009	SECOND DAY Saturday 9 May 2009	THIRD DAY Sunday 10 May 2009
<p>KORÇA</p> <p>Cathedral</p> <p>"Ringjallja e Krishtit"</p> <p>19.00 h</p>	<p>Albania Lyra</p> <hr/> <p>Kosova Okteti Plus</p> <hr/> <p>Greece Mixed Choir of Thesaloniki</p>	<p>Italy Mezzotono</p> <hr/> <p>Croatia Zenska Klapa "Fortuna"</p> <hr/> <p>Germany Voices in Time</p>	<p>TIRANA</p> <p>FINAL EVENT</p> <p>NATIONAL THEATER OF OPERA AND BALLET</p> <p>19.00 h</p>
<p>-----</p> <p>FIER</p> <p>"Bylis" Theatre</p> <p>19.00 h</p>	<p>FIRST DAY Friday 8 May 2009</p> <p>Albania Rozafa Expression</p> <hr/> <p>Netherlands Dutch Nightingales</p> <hr/> <p>Italy Mezzotono</p>	<p>SECOND DAY Saturday 9 May 2009</p> <p>Albania Prenk Jakova</p> <hr/> <p>Greece Mixed Choir of Thesaloniki</p> <hr/> <p>Albania Lyra</p>	<p>Albania Lyra</p> <p>Albania Prenk Jakova</p> <p>Albania Rozafa Expression</p> <p>Croatia Zenska Klapa "Fortuna"</p> <p>Germany Voices in Time</p> <p>Greece Mixed Choir of Thesaloniki</p>
<p>-----</p> <p>SHKODRA</p> <p>Church</p> <p>"Shën Françesku"</p> <p>19.00 h</p>	<p>FIRST DAY Friday 8 May 2009</p> <p>Germany Voices in Time</p> <hr/> <p>Croatia Zenska Klapa "Fortuna"</p> <hr/> <p>Albania Rozafa Expression</p>	<p>SECOND DAY Saturday 9 May 2009</p> <p>Netherlands Dutch Nightingales</p> <hr/> <p>Kosova Okteti Plus</p> <hr/> <p>Albania Prenk Jakova</p>	<p>Italy Mezzotono</p> <p>Kosova Okteti Plus</p> <p>Netherlands Dutch Nightingales</p>