

„Serenata” Chamber Choir

Valencia, Spain

Conductor: **Ana Ferrer Fornes**



Category: amateur secular choirs

The choir was formed in 2016. Its repertoire covers pieces of various styles and own arrangements. The choir's conductor is **Ana Ferrer Fornes** – graduate of the High Music Schools in Barcelona and Valencia, guitarist, singer and composer.

PROGRAM

1. Sergei Rachmaninoff – Rejoice, o Virgin Mary
 2. Romuald Twardowski – Alleluia
 3. Nicolai Kedrov – Lord's prayer
 4. Irina Denisova – My soul
 5. Maxim Berezovsky – Rejoice In The Lord, Ye Righteous
 6. Alexandr Alabayev – Cherubic hymn
-

Saint Cyril and Methodius Choir by the Cathedral of Birth of Most Holy Mother of God

Košice, Slovakia

Conductor: **Lucia Lovašová**



Category: parish choirs

The choir was founded in 1984. Repertoire consists of Orthodox Church music including byzantine chants. The choir was the first in the country to perform in Slovakian Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom set to the music of Košice composer and pedagogue Peter Škvarenin. The choir has released 2 CDs. In the 1990s cooperated with Slovakian Television on the preparation of documents regarding the history and tradition of eastern liturgy in Slovakia. Although activity focuses mainly on participation in liturgies, the choir also cooperates with many institutions organizing various cultural events. The choir performed in Slo-

vakia (among others, during visits of Popes: John Paul II and Francis) and abroad (in Europe, including Vatican, and in Armenia and Georgia). On the occasion of the 25th anniversary, the choir was awarded the Prize of the City of Košice „for spreading the spiritual wealth of the Eastern rite in Slovakia and abroad”. Since 1996, the choir’s conductor has been **Lucia Lovašová** - graduate of the Conservatory in Košice, music education at the University in Bystrica, and the Catholic University in Ružomberok, a violin teacher, lecturer of the liturgical singing, laureate of the award of president of Košice and “Fra Angelico”.

PROGRAM

1. Unknown author – Lament not for me, o Mother
 2. M. Burmatin – The wise thief soloist: Filip Demek
 3. Irina Denisova - Lord, now lettest Thou
 4. Michael Azovsky – Praise the Name of the Lord soloist: Lea Demekova
 5. Nicolai Kedrov – Lord’s prayer
 6. Petar Dinev – Angel cried
 7. Petar Dinev - It is truly meet
-

City Choir of Shtip

Shtip, North Macedonia

Conductor: **Ivana Djurdjevic Jankov**



Category: amateur secular choirs

The choir was formed in 2009. It performs in Macedonia and abroad and is a laureate of international festivals. The choir has been honored with many awards for its activities, including a special letter from the Army of the Republic of Macedonia. The choir's conductor is **Ivana Djurdjevic Jankov** – graduate of choral conducting of Music Academy in Belgrade and Shtip, associa-

te professor at the Music Academy of Goce Delchev University in Shtip, laureate of national and international awards, cooperated with many choirs in Serbia and Macedonia. She is founder and artistic director of “Astibo-Fest” International Festival of Chamber Choirs in Shtip.

PROGRAM

1. Kiril Makedonski – Hymn to St. Clement of Ohrid
 2. Alexandr Arkhangelsky – To the Mother of God let's heartily recourse
 3. Stevan Mokranjac – To Thee we sing
 4. Olivera Vojna Neshich – Lord's prayer
 5. Vasilyi Lirin – Heavenly King
 6. Stojan Stojkov – Psalm 110
-

„Sabor” Choir

Surčin, Serbia

Conductor: **Ana Ivanović** and **Đorđe Gavrilović**



Category: parish choirs

The choir was formed in January this year after merger of two choirs from the churches of Saint Paraskeva and Saint George. As a representative choir it participates not only in parish services but also in the competitions and festivals. Repertoire covers mainly pieces of Serbian composers. The choir belongs to the Serbian Choir Association and takes part in projects and seminars under the auspices of this organization. Founders and conductors of the choir

are **Ana Ivanović** – graduate of Music Academy in East Sarajevo at the Department of Church Music and Singing, music editor of the Television of the Archbishopric of Belgrade and Karlovac, and **Đorđe Gavrilović** – electrical engineer, computer technician, organist, conductor of many choirs, national and international master classes participant.

PROGRAM

1. Unknown author - Serbian kinonik
2. Josif Marinković – Lord's prayer
3. Stevan Stojanović Mokranjac – Holy God
4. Miodrag Govedarica – Body of Christ
5. Kornelije Stanković – Christ is risen

„Concordia” Choir

Warsaw, Belarus

Conductor: **Galina Kazimirovskaya**



Category: amateur secular choirs

The choir was founded in 2007 and its main goal is to promote Belarusian choral culture. The repertoire covers over 150 works from various eras and styles, including works by contemporary Belarusian composers (e.g. A. Litvinovsky, L. Simakovich, O. Podgaiskaya, G. Kazimirovskaya and others) The choir performed concerts in Belarus and abroad, and is a laureate of international competitions and festivals, collaborates with choirs from Sweden and Germany, hosts choirs from all over the world. In 2020, due to the political situation in Belarus and ban on the activity, the choir temporarily suspended its activity. Last year it was reactivated in Poland and continues its activity in Warsaw. The ar-

tistic director and conductor of the choir is **Galina Kazimirovskaya** - a graduate of choral conducting of the State Belarusian Academy of Music, singer, composer, teacher, director of the artistic center of the Belarusian Musicians' Union, organizer of national and international choral music festivals, author and participant of international projects, laureate of many awards. Since 2020, she has been the director and conductor of the “Volny Choir” („Free Choir”), which has become a symbol of the Belarusian revolution since August 2020, performing Belarusian patriotic songs, hymns, and also actively taking part in protests against the dictatorial regime.

PROGRAM

1. Stanisław Moniuszko - Lord's prayer
 2. Olga Minenkova - Now lettest Thou
 3. Irina Denisova - My soul
 4. Aliaksei Turankou - Today rejoice
 5. Mikola Kulikovich - Mercy of peace
 6. Hanna Havrylets - Most Holy Mother of God
 7. Mikola Ravensky - Almighty God
-

„Ars Nova” Choir

Bălți, Moldova

Conductor: **Anna Kushchenko**



Category: amateur secular choirs

The choir was formed in 2016. It consists of the students of all the faculties of the College. They participate in the cultural events in the country and abroad. The choir is a laureate of numerous national and international competitions. Its founder and conductor is **Anna Kushchenko**

– graduate of Academy of Music and Fine Arts, founder of Children Choral Studio “Academia Campanelli”.

PROGRAM

1. Nicolai Kedrov – Lord’s prayer
 2. Sergei Rachmaninoff – Rejoice, o Virgin Mary
 3. Vladimir Ciolac – Myrrh bearers at the tomb of the Christ
 4. Romuald Twardowski – Praise the Lord, o my soul
 5. Ion Prelipceanu – carol Cu uratul
-

“Voskresinnia” Chamber Choir

Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine

Conductor: **Volodymyr Rudnytskyi**



Category: professional choirs

The choir was established in 2009 and works at the „Knyahinin”

House of Culture in Ivano-Frankivsk. Its name means Resurrection.

The choir consists of graduates and students of music universities in Ukraine and Poland, soloists of the Ivano-Frankivsk Philharmonic and the Lviv National Opera and Ballet Theater. The choir accompanies Liturgies in the Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ. Its main objective is popularization and restoration of Ukrainian sacred music and other choral masterpieces. The choir has performed over 200 concerts in Ukraine and abroad, and is a laureate of national and international competitions (**including IFOCM 2012**). It has released 4 albums so far. In 2012, the choir accompanied the Divine

PROGRAM

1. Artemy Vedel - By the rivers of Babylon soloists: Volodymyr Dutchak, Oleksyi Stronskyi, Iryna Gargat, Nadiya Kernikevych, Nadiya Vivcharuk
 2. Dmytro Bortniansky, arrang. Andryi Gnatyshyn - Under Thy mercy soloist: Volodymyr Dutchak
 3. Yakiv Yatsynevych - Bless the Lord, o my soul
 4. Victoria Polova - Angel of God
 5. Lesya Dychko - It is truly meet
-

Liturgy served in St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican. In 2021, the choir took part in the recordings for the film „Unknown Bortniansky”, performing 5 previously unknown sacred concerts by the composer. The founder and conductor of the choir is **Volodymyr Rudnytskyi** - singer and conductor, a graduate of Lysenko's State Academy of Music in Lviv and the Institute of Arts of the Precarpathian National University in Ivano-Frankivsk, founder and director of the Ukrainian Easter festival of choral music „Cathedral bells” in Ivano-Frankivsk, jury member and laureate of national and international choral and conducting competitions, chairman of the regional Ukrainian National Music Union.

„Anaphora” Coptic Choir

Cairo, Egypt

Conductor: **Ramy Mounir Moawad and Khresto Beshara**



Category: parish choirs

The choir was established last year. Its mission is to bring closer to the world teachings of the Bible and heritage of Coptic Orthodox Church through music and singing. The choir contributes to the spiritual education of the young generation of believers. Founders and conductors of the choir are: **Ramy Mounir Moawad** –

PROGRAM

1. Coptic hymn - O King soloist: Ramy Mounir Moawad
2. Coptic hymn of the Great Friday - Golgotha
3. Coptic prayer – The waters of the sea split
4. Coptic prayer – He took what is ours
5. Coptic song of the Great Lent – Blessed are those who have mercy soloist: Mariaa Emad Maher Malek
6. Coptic hymn from Liturgy – Have mercy upon us soloist: Fr. El Komos Youhanna (Basilious Fouad Farh Yak)
7. Virgin Mary Medley soloists: Veronica Mina Ghaly Vacus Basenda and Mario Emad Anwar Saada
8. My Coptic Church soloists: Laura Victor Fawzy Botros and Beshoy Shokry Farag Bas

“Siraj” Choir

Palestine

Conductor: **Samer Bishara**



Category: professional choirs

The choir was established in 2004 under the initiative of “Siraj” Foundation. Siraj means oil lamp. Initially, the choir’s field of interest was finding musical talents of the younger generation contributing to the enrichment of the cultural life of society. The choir’s main focus is to maintain and promote the disappearing musical style called tarab. Tarab is a term full of meanings, both historical and regional. It refers to a deep emotional response from the listener that leads to a sense of connection between listener and performer. In this way, it evokes intense emotions,

a sense of timelessness. The choir presents the heritage of great Arab musicians in original and innovative way, as well as compositions of its conductor - **Samer Bishara**, a graduate of music universities in Jordan, Egypt and the USA, music lecturer at Edward Said National Conservatory in Palestine, he composes and collaborates with many famous artists.

PROGRAM

1. All generations
2. Samer Bishara – Teach me how to repentance soloist: Woroud Jobran
3. Where are you – soloists: Rami Ibrahim and Mario Karram
4. Rahbani Brothers – Umen
5. We are always grateful

Psaltic Choir „Saint Kyriaki the Great Martyr” of the Episcopal Cathedral

Huși, Romania

Conductor: **deacon Cosmin-Vlăduț Mironescu**



Category: parish choirs

The choir was established in 2018, with the blessing of His Holiness Ignatie, the bishop of Huși. The group consists of students from the Faculty of Theology in Iași, the George Enescu Conservatory, as well as altar servants. The choir participates in services in the whole country and its main objective is to continue the tradition of Byzantine sin-

ging. The choir's conductor is deacon **Cosmin-Vlăduț Mironescu** – graduate of Faculty of Orthodox Theology and the Conservatory of Music in Iași, professor of psaltic music at the Orthodox Theological Seminary Saint John Chrysostom in Huși, deacon and cantor of the Episcopal Cathedral of Huși, leader and member of other choirs.

PROGRAM

1. Deacon Corneliu Coman - Canon of Saint Gregory Palamas
2. Iacov Protopsaltul – Parental reins
3. Rareș Câmpeanu – Sticheron to Saint Kyriaki the Great Martyr
4. Ștefanache Popescu – Prayer to the Mother of God soloist: deacon Cosmin-Vlăduț Mironescu
5. Rareș Câmpeanu – Troparion of Saint Kyriaki the Great Martyr

„Gloria” Choir

Chisinau, Moldova

Conductor: **Valeria Diaconu**



Category: professional choirs

The choir was formed in 1945. It has participated in many national and international contests winning numerous awards. The choir collaborated with Symphonic Orchestra of Teleradio Moldova Company what resulted in radio and tv recordings. The choir belongs to the Ștefan Neaga Centre of Excellence in Arts. Conductors of the choir are **Oleg Constantinov**, whom with the choir won the first prize at the **IFOCM in 2003**, and **Valeria**

Diaconu – graduate of choral conducting, Professor and Head of the Choral Conducting Department at the Ștefan Neaga College of Music, jury member of choral competitions, participant of international conferences and seminars for choirs and choral conductors, honored with medals by Metropolitan of Chișinău and All Moldova.

PROGRAM

1. Gheorghe Dima – Heavenly King
 2. Vasile Condrea – Medieval melody
 3. Gavriil Musicescu - Concert Nr 1
 4. Romuald Twardowski - Alleluia
 5. Mykola Lysenko – O Great God, Eternal
-

Yerevan State Chamber Choir

Yerevan, Armenia

Conductor: **Kristina Voskanyan**



Category: professional choirs

The choir was founded in 1996 by the Meritorious Art Worker of Armenia Harutyun Topikyan. In 2009 the choir was recognized as a state collective. They performed a number of concerts including premieres in Armenia and abroad in cooperation with world famous musicians and orchestras, e.g. Italian La

Scala. The choir has released 16 CDs. Its artistic director and conductor since 2021 is **Kristina Voskanyan** – graduate of the R. Melikyan Music College in Yerevan, conductor in the Yerevan’s Conservatory, works with the choir of the opera studio, author of adaptations of many classical works for the choir.

PROGRAM

1. Mesrop Mashtots – I kneel before Thee
 2. Komitas Vardapet – Body of Christ
 3. Komitas Vardapet – Christ in our midst
 4. Komitas Vardapet – Holy Holy
 5. Komitas Vardapet – Our Father
 6. Komitas Vardapet – Amen, Holy Father
 7. Komitas Vardapet – O mystery deep
 8. David Haladjian – Lord, if you open my lips
 9. Vahram Sargsyan – O great mystery
-

“Znamennia” Choir of the Cathedrals of Intercession of the Theotokos and Resurrection

Rivne, Ukraine

Conductor: Natalya and Volodymyr Ivanyk



Category: parish choirs

The choir is a laureate of numerous competitions in Ukraine and abroad (including **IFOCM 2017**) and a performer of original concerts and projects. The choir was awarded, among others Patriarchal diploma „For merits for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church” and the diploma of the Ministry of Culture and Art of Ukraine „For significant contribution to the creation of spiritual values and high professionalism”. The choir has released several albums so far and takes part in numerous radio and television programs. The conductors are **Natalya Ivanyk** - gradu-

ate of choral conducting, associate professor at the department of choral conducting at the State University in Rivne, composer, Honored Artist of Ukraine, laureate of many awards, participant of national and international seminars and projects, and archdeacon **Volodymyr Ivanyk** - graduate of choral conducting at the Music Academy in Ternopil and the Institute of Culture in Rivne. Natalya and Volodymyr Ivanyk were honored with many church and secular medals.

PROGRAM

1. Arrang. Natalya Ivanyk – Under Thy shelter, znamenny chant
2. Artemy Vedel – Blessed is the man
3. Kyrylo Stetsenko – Praise the Name of the Lord
4. Natalya Ivanyk – Bless the Lord, o my soul soloist: Iryna Pasichnyk
5. Romuald Twardowski – God, in Thy Name
6. Lesya Dychko – It is truly meet