

# Old Believers' Ensemble

Riga, Jekabpils, Latvia

Conductor: **Fr. Vasiliy Volkov**



Category: **amateur choirs**

The ensemble consists of chorists from the Old Believers' churches in Riga and Jekabpils. The repertoire includes pieces of znamenny chant. The conductor is father **Vasiliy Volkov** - the official representative of the Bela Krynitsa Metro-

polis (Romania) and the Old Orthodox Church of Christ in the Baltic States and Poland, chairman of the Old Believers' communities in Riga and Jekabpils.

## PROGRAM

1. O Lord our God
2. Christmas glorification
3. Sea wave, Weep not for me Mother
4. Paschal Stichera
5. Ascended into heaven
6. Many years

# „David’s Harp” Coptic Choir

Norristown, Pennsylvania, USA

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Conductor: **Maria Awadalla**



Category: **amateur choirs**

The beginning of the mass emigration of Egyptian Copts to the USA is the middle of the 20th century. In the 1960s and early 1970s, Coptic Pope Cyril VI sent priests to serve the Copts who immigrated to the United States. There are now over 200 Coptic churches in the US and over half a million Coptic Americans. The choir was founded in 2014 and consists of Coptic youth belonging to the Church of St. George in Philadelphia. The choir is the author and performer of staged themed

concerts during Christmas and Holy Week. They recorded a CD with Coptic Easter hymns and produced several music videos. The choir’s conductor is **Maria Awadalla** – attendant of the Girard Academic Music program in Philadelphia, participant of city wide organizations such as Philadelphia All City Choir and Philadelphia All City Band.

## **PROGRAM**

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1. In the Beginning was the Word
  2. Nativity Medley
  3. Hosanna
  4. God, have mercy upon us
  5. Holy Week Medley, soloists: Yesehaq Burke, Meriam Youssef
  6. Christ is risen
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# “Melos Paisian” Byzantine Choir

Iași, Romania

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Conductor: **Dorin Ionescu**



Category: **amateur choirs**

**F**ounded in 2021 by the psalters Rev. Ionut Merticariu and Dorin Ionescu the choir consists of priests, employees, students, and graduates of Iași „George Enescu” National Conservatory, „Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University and Faculty of Orthodox Theology at the “Dumitru Stăniloae” University. The choir’s objective is continuation of singing Romanian Byzantine music from

the time of St. Paisius Velichkovsky enriched with compositions by the old masters of Byzantine music. The choir takes part in festivals and has released a CD. Conductor of the choir is **Dorin Ionescu** – history graduate, assistant conductor and soloist of the famous Romanian choir “Byzantium”.

## PROGRAM

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1. **Anton Pann** – Let everything that has breath praise the Lord soloist: Silviu Stratulat
  2. **Filotheos Jipa** – Verses from Psalm 148 and 149 and I stichera of Resurrection soloist: Cristian Grecu
  3. **Peter „the Sweet” Bereketis** – Lead me, o Lord, in Your righteousness
  4. **Anton Pann** – Alleluia soloist: Dorin Ionescu
  5. **Grigorios Protopsaltis** – Kratima
  6. **Krzysztof Penderecki** – Aszcze i wo grob
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# „Art Vox” Female Choir

Chisinau, Moldova

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Conductor: **Ștefan Macovei**



Category: **amateur choirs**

The choir was founded in 2020 at the Faculty of Choral Conducting and Singing at “Ștefan Neaga” Center of Excellence in Artistic Education. The repertoire consists of works from different epochs. The choir is a participant and laure-

ate of national and international festivals and competitions. The choir’s conductor is **Ștefan Macovei** – graduate of Academy of Music, Theatre and Fine Arts in Chisinau.

## PROGRAM

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1. **Vladimir Ciolac** – O, only begotten Son
  2. **Gavriil Musicescu** – Cherubic hymn
  3. **Alexandru Flechtenmacher** – Angel cried
  4. **Dragoș Alexandrescu** – Lord’s prayer
  5. **Dmitry Bortniansky** – Thee, O God, we praise
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# „Orthodox Singers” Ensemble

Tallin, Estonia

Conductor: **Valery Petrov**



Category: **professional choirs**

The ensemble was founded in 1989. Repertoire consists of Orthodox Church music of various epochs, including music by contemporary composers, as well as arrangements of folk religious songs. The ensemble specializes in rarely performed early Orthodox singing. They have released 10 CD albums. The Ensemble is a laureate of many international competitions, performs concerts in the country and abroad (Europe, USA, Middle East). The ensemble's founder and conductor is **Valery Petrov** – graduate of Estonian Music Academy, composer, promoter of Orthodox Church music in the country and abroad. Creator of “mixed-media” projects (that synthesize

musical and theatrical elements) as mystery play Andrew Passion to the music of Arvo Part, which artistically portrays the secret night-time liturgy of the early Christians in the Roman catacombs, and the musical drama for choir “Quo vadis”, where music of the 20th and 21st centuries is heard alongside early chants. Valery Petrov regularly holds master classes for conductors and singers in Estonia and in Sweden. He has also lectured at the Nottingham Trent University in Great Britain. He received the Order of the White Star of the Estonian Republic, and an award from the Estonian Cultural Foundation for outstanding achievements in the area of culture.

## PROGRAM

1. **Let our mouths be filled** – early Rusyn polyphonic
2. **arrang. Valery Petrov** - Hulülö – Syrian Christmas song in Aramaic soloist: Maria Petrov
3. **arrang. Kornelije Stanković** – It is truly meet – Serbian chant
4. **Gladsome light** – znamenny chant
5. **Mykola Dyletsky** – Paschal Canon (pt. I and III)
6. **Arvo Part** – Canon of repentance
7. **Valery Petrov** – The Icon of Holy Mandylyon (from the cycle: Icons in music)



# “Holy Apostle Carpus” Representative Choir of the Stara Zagora Diocese

Stara Zagora, Bulgaria

Conductor: **Maria Denkova**



Category: **amateur choirs**

The choir was formed in 2019 on the initiative and the blessing of Stara Zagora Metropolitan Ciprian. The choir participates in church services and performs in Bulgaria and abroad. Repertoire consists of Bulgarian and foreign Orthodox Church music. The choir's conductor is

**Maria Denkova** – pedagogue, graduated in theology at universities in Plovdiv and Sofia.

## PROGRAM

1. **Dobri Hristov** – In Thy Kingdom soloist: Prolet Pencheva
2. **Pavel Chesnokov** – Under Thy mercy
3. **Mily Balakirev** – From above the Prophets
4. **Georgy Sviridov** – Beheld a strange Christmas
5. **Sergei Rachmaninoff** – Rejoice, o Virgin Theotokos
6. **Pavel Chesnokov** – The eternal council soloist: Stanislava Marcheva

# Byzantine Choir of Athens

Athens, Greece

Conductor: **Georgios Chatzichronoglou**



Category: **professional choirs**

The choir was established in 2001 by the distinguished church chanters and official chanters of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, employees of universities, and byzantine music lovers aiming to study and promote Greek music. The choir consists of distinguished chanters of Athens and students of byzantine music. They took part in many concerts, cultural events and festivals in Greece and abroad with great success. The choir's conductor is **Georgios Chatzichronoglou** - Lead

Chanter of the Cathedral Church of the Dormition of the Virgin in Athens, Archon Hymnodist of the Holy Great Church of Christ, composer, teacher of byzantine music in the Byzantine Music Foundation of the Holy Archdiocese of Athens, producer of music radio programs of the Greek Church Radio Station, author of byzantine music publications. He has been honored with distinctions by the Sacred Synod of the Church of Greece.

## PROGRAM

1. Christ is risen
2. **Georgios Chatzichronoglou** – fragments of Great Doxology
3. Fragments of the Akathist to the Theotokos – melorecitation Fr. Demetrios Bakopoulos, Fr. Panagiotis Katsikeros
4. Having seen the beauty of your virginity – hymn to the Theotokos  
soloist: Georgios Chatzichronoglou
5. **Konstantinos Prigos, arrang. Georgios Chatzichronoglou** – They stripped me of my garments
6. **Jacob Protopsaltis** - Thy hand which touched the head of the Master (Teophany hymn)
7. **Peter the Peloponnesian, arrang. Georgios Tsatsaronis** - Kratima

# Church Chamber Choir „Credo”

Lutsk, Ukraine

Conductor: **Kateryna Tokalo**



Category: **amateur choirs**

The choir was established in 2006 at the Orthodox Church of the Kholm Icon of Mother of God in Lutsk. The choir takes part in festivals and various artistic events. It is a laureate of national and international competitions and initiator of charity concerts. The choir's conductor is **Kateryna Tokalo** – graduate of

Volhynia University and Lviv Academy of Music, pedagogue, laureate of Mayor of Lutsk Art Prize.

## PROGRAM

1. **On the rivers of Babylon** – old Ukrainian monody
2. **Mykola Dyletskyi** – The Sweetest Virgin Mary soloists: Vasyl Suvorov, Olena Belogur
3. **Maksym Berezovskyi** – Blessed have I chosen
4. **Artemy Vedel** – You are my fortress, Lord soloists: Oksana Kulyk, Olena Belogur, Victoria Honcharuk, Nazariy Panasyuk, Andriy Cherenyuk
5. **Mykhailo Verbytskyi** – Angel cried soloists: Larysa Harchyk, Vladyslava Kovalchuk, Olena Hulyakova, Nazariy Panasyuk, Ihor Zeleniak, Vasyl Suvorov
6. **Myroslav Skoryk** – Melody solo: Kateryna Tokalo
7. **Hanna Havrylets** – Let the righteous rejoice



# Choir of the State Opera and Ballet Theatre

## “Astana Opera”

Astana, Kazakhstan

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Principal conductor: **Yerzhan Dautov**



Category: **professional choirs**

The choir was formed in 2004. Repertoire covers masterpieces of world classics, Orthodox Church music and pieces by Kazakh composers, including arrangements of folk and patriotic songs. The choir is a laureate of numerous competitions in the country and abroad (laureate of IFOCM 2006 and 2011). The choir’s conductor is Dauren Musin, while the principal

conductor is **Yerzhan Dautov** – graduate of Almaty Conservatory and National Academy of Music, Merit Worker of Kazakhstan, honored with the Kazakhstan Order of Kurmet.

### PROGRAM

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1. Mykola Leontovich - Shchedryk
  2. Mykola Verbytskyi – Angel cried
  3. Krzysztof Penderecki – Cherubic hymn
  4. Apostol Nikolaev Strumsky – The Great Doxology soloist: Sabyr Ardak
  5. Anatoliy Molodov – Many years
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