



Setmana Cantant

Tarragona 16 al 24 de julio 2011

MUSICAL ASPECTS

This edition of the singing week, has been a success regarding the number of participants, as well as for its musical quality.

The guest choirs were:

- Coro de la Universidad de la República (**Montevideo-Uruguay**)
- Gents Madrigaalkoor (**Belgium**)
- Coeur de Chambre Mélanges (**Paris**)
- Vocalia Taldea (**Basque Country**)

It was decided to ask the directors of the guest choirs to take care of the workshops and so we offered four workshops with the following characteristics:

- Argentinian music (Ariel Alonso)
- Uruguayan music (Simaldoni Francisco)
- New colours for female choir (Basil Astúlez)
- Cantiones Sacrae in honorem Thomas Tallis (**Johann Duijck**)

The choirs registered as participating choirs were:

- Ensemble Vocal Allegro (**Strasbourg-France**)
- Ss. Cyril Methodios Choir of Thessaloniki (**Greece**)
- The Medical University of Gdansk Choir (**Poland**)
- Coral de Joves Musicant (**Barcelona**)
- Cor Jove L'Arc (**Barcelona**)
- Coral Divisi (**Valls-Tarragona**)

Other participants were individual singers mostly from Catalonia but also from Madrid, Belgium, Greece, France, Switzerland and Uruguay.

The total number of participants was: 334.

The work chosen as a common atelier, **Lobgesang by Mendelssohn**, had a favourable reception by both the singers and the audience at the final concert and the work with master **Edmon Colomer** was also highly valued.



This year's edition has included a children's workshop that has worked in the afternoons under the direction of Basilio Astúlez with the participation of **100 singers**.

These young singers come from the following children's choirs or music schools from Tarragona and surroundings, and have attended by direct invitation of the festival:

- Children's voices from the music school Pau Casals from El Vendrell
- Children's choir El Petit Estel from El Vendrell
- Music School Centre de Lectura from Reus
- Children's choir Cors Alegre from Valls
- Children's choir Els Rossinyols from Tarragona
- Children's choir Guillem Fortuny from Cambrils
- Local Music School of Torredembarra

The work of this children's workshop has not only been on musical aspects but also on body movement. The result of the work has been very positive for both singers and, especially, the directors.

The result of the work done in the workshops was offered to the general audience on Friday July 22.

The children's choir also participated in the closing concert of the festival, performing "**A Midsummer Night's Dream**" by Felix Mendelssohn, under the direction of Edmon Colomer.

Ignasi Tomàs was in charge of the staging and Mercè Pons of the narration.



CONCERTS

The large number of participating choirs and the quality thereof has enabled us to offer a special concert series during the Singing Week.

Note that for the opening concert The Associació Cor Ciutat de Tarragona commissioned the composer and pianist Albert Guinovart a Catalan folk suite. The composer himself was the pianist in the concert.

- **Saturday, 16th July**

22h. Palau de Congressos

OPENING CEREMONY

Catalan folk suite (musical arrangements for choir and piano by Albert Guinovart)

Cor Ciutat de Tarragona, Esbart Santa Tecla, Piano: Albert Guinovart

Conductor: Josep Prats

- **Sunday, 17th July**

19 h. CX Catalunya Caixa

ENSEMBLE VOCAL ALLEGRO (Strasbourg, France)

Master pieces of French choral music

Conductor: Werner Pfaff

22 h. Pati del Seminari

GENTS MADRIGAALKOOR (Ghent, Flanders- Belgium)

Sacred music and love songs

Conductor: Johann Duijck

- **Monday, 18th July**

17.30 h. Conservatori de Tarragona

Piano Concert: JOHANN DUIJCK (Flanders-Belgium)

Works by Beethoven, Duijck and Tinel

19:00 Sant Miquel del Pla

Youth choirs:

ARS REI CHORALIS (Barcelona) Conductor: Emilio de la Linde

MUSICANT (Barcelona) Conductor: Eulàlia Casso

22 h. Pati del Seminari

CHAMBER CHOIR MÉLANGES (Paris)

Works by Poulenc, F. Martin, Guastavino, Yupanqui...

Conductor: Ariel Alonso



- **Tuesday, 19th July**

17.30 Sant Miquel del Pla

DIVISI (Valls) Conductor: Imma Piñas

19:00 h Carmelites Descalces

THE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF GDANKS CHOIR (Gdanks- Poland)

Sacred and orthodox polyphony, spirituals and popular music.

Conductor: Jerzy Szarafinski

22 h. Pati del Seminari

CORO DE LA UNIVERSIDAD DE LA REPÚBLICA (Montevideo-Uruguay)

Classic and Latin-American polyphony

Conductor: Francisco Simaldoni

- **Wednesday, 20th July**

19.00 h Sant Llorenç (peasant's church)

SS. Cyril & Methodios choir of Thessaloniki (Thessalonika-Greece)

Girl's choir

European classic polyphony, Greek music.

Conductor: Maria Emma Meligopoulou

22.00 h Pati del Seminari

VOCALIA TALDEA (Leioa-Basque Country)

Women's choir

Sacred polyphony

Conductor: Basilio Astúlez

- **Friday, 22nd July**

21:00 h, Palau de Congressos

WORKSHOP CONCERTS

Children's workshop (conducted by Basilio Astúlez)

New colours for female choirs (conducted by Basilio Astúlez)

Cantiones Sacrae (conducted by Johan Duijck)

Latin American folk music (conducted by Ariel Alonso and Francisco Simaldoni)



- **Saturday, 23rd July**

22:00 h Camp de Mart

CLOSING CONCERT (F. Mendelssohn)

EIN SOMMERNACHTSTRAUM (orchestra, children's choir, soloists and narrator)

LOBGESANG (orchestra, soloists and mixed choir)

Singing Week choirs (450 singers)

M.Lluïsa Muntada and Maria Escobar, sopranos

Roger Padullés, tenor

Mercè Pons, narrator

Ignasi Tomàs, stage direction

Edmon Colomer, music direction

Other concerts around Tarragona

- **17th July**

Coro de la Universidad de la República

Conductor: Francisco Simaldoni

El Catllar

19:00 h

- **19th July**

Coeur de Chambre Mélanges

Conductor: Ariel Alonso

Altafulla

22:00 h

- **20th July**

Gents Madrigaalkoor

Conductor: Johann Duijck

Torredembarra

22.00 h

- **21st July**

Vocalia Taldea

Conductor: Basilio Astúlez

La Canonja

20:30



The concerts were a success among the audience, as follows:

PERFORMER	AUDIENCE
CCT + Esbart Sta. Tecla	500
Ensemble Vocal Allegro	320
Geents Madrigaalkoor	300
Johan Duicjk - piano	110
Ars + Musicant	110
Coeur de Chambre Mélanges	310
Divisi	80
Medical University of Gdansk	120
Coro de la Universidad de la República	320
Methodios Choir of Thessaloniki	50
Vocalia Taldea	350
Workshop concerts	600
Closing concert	1275

The total audience at the concerts in Tarragona was of 4.445 people.

The concerts outside the city were also a success.



SIGHTSEEING TOURS AND FREE TIME ACTIVITIES

In this edition, both the rehearsal of the workshops and the common atelier took place during the mornings.

The participants had therefore the possibility to take part in the sightseeing tours and other cultural activities offered during the afternoons; participants found these activities of great interest.

- **Reus, modernist town. The Modernism Route**
Number of participants: 30 people
- **Cister Route. Poblet**
Number of participants: 80 people in two turns.
- **Roman Tarraco**
This activity had a great success. For this reason several groups with local guides had to be organised. The number of participants was of 180 people.
- **Port Aventura**
Around 20 people took part in this activity.
- **Dinner on the beach**

As it is the tradition, on Thursday 21st, all participants were offered a dinner at the Arrabassada beach, with the typical Catalan dish “fideuà”, a typical Catalan cake, burned rum, all accompanied by traditional Catalan music, *havaneres*. It was a success, although the weather did not accompanied much, as it was windy and there were a few raindrops.

- **Ball de bastons, dance workshop**

This is the second time we offer this activity to participants because of its success. Between 8 and 10 people attended the workshop and gave a performance of the work done the day of the workshop concerts.



ASSESSMENT

We had a high assessment from the participants to the Singing Week, as it is shown in the survey at the end of the Week.

In the survey it was asked to evaluate the following items:

- Accommodation
- Meals
- Treatment by the organisation
- Workshops
- Common atelier
- Concerts
- Activities

The organising team also makes a high evaluation of the Singing Week but also records some aspects that can be improved and modified in view of future editions.

So ends this year with satisfaction for a job well done.