

5th International Choir Festival of Sacred Music

The International Festival of Sacred Choral Music is being celebrated for the fifth time in Rottenburg am Neckar. The encounter of choirs from various countries amongst each other as well as with their hosts in Rottenburg and with concertgoers from near and far allows the participants a new perspective on foreign and different cultures and makes it possible to get to know people from distant cultural areas and their music firsthand.

Of the numerous choirs from all over the world which have applied for the 5th International Festival of Sacred Choral Music 2008 twelve renowned ensembles have been invited to introduce the uniqueness of their native musical-religious tradition in concerts and church services. The “Festival of Nations”, during which each choir will contribute a short musical or folkloristic act, emphasises the character of the event as a “Festival of Encounter”. The centres of this festival are Rottenburg Cathedral with its marketplace as well as the collegiate church St Moriz and the pilgrimage church Weggental, where the concerts of the participating choirs will take place. On Saturday night, an additional event will take place on the market square with the aim of giving the singers from all over the world and their hosts a musical treat.

The opening concert in the cathedral with its title “Sound and Colour” promises to be an experience for the ear and the eye. The famous artist Christel Bak-Stalter has designed a cycle of paintings especially for the performance of Franz Schubert’s “Mass in Eb Major” at this festival. The paintings, which form a unity with the music, will be explained to the audience on the same evening in an introduction. Moreover, there will be an accompanying exhibition with paintings by Christel Bak-Stalter from July 11 – 27 at the “Haus am Nepomuk”.

Another special feature will take place on Saturday in form of an Evensong in English language. In the Anglican Church this celebration of the evening prayer is sung several times a week. The BBC London will broadcast this Evensong.

With numerous hosts and local volunteers dedicating themselves to this event the 5th International Festival of Sacred Choral Music will contribute to international understanding, tolerance and therefore also to peace. The artistic direction lies in the hands of Domkapellmeister Prof. Frank Leenen, for the organisational direction Nicola Löffler and Guido Körner hold responsible.

The 5th International Festival of Sacred Choral Music is under the patronage of Bishop Dr. Gebhard Fürst and is supported by the Diocese Rottenburg-Stuttgart, the

Wilfried Ensinger Foundation Nufringen, the Kreissparkasse Tübingen, the City of Rottenburg am Neckar, various foundations and supporters from trade and industry.

Program

Wednesday, July 16, 2008

8 p.m.

Cathedral

Advance booking (incl. advance booking fees):

Central aisle:

Euro 16,- (red. Euro 13,-)

Side aisle, gallery:

Euro 13,- (red. Euro 10,-)

Box office prices:

Central aisle:

Euro 17,- (red. Euro 14,-)

Side aisle, gallery:

Euro 14,- (red. Euro 11,-)

Seats are not numbered.

Opening concert "Sound and Colour"

Franz Schubert: "Mass in Eb Major"

With an introduction to the cycle of paintings by Christel Bak-Stalter,
words by Dr. Thomas Broch.

Performers:

Andrea Brown, soprano

Isolde Assenheimer, alto

Marcus Ullmann and Andreas Weller, tenors

Thomas Scharr, bass

Rottenburger Domchor

L'arpa festante, Barockorchester München

Director: Domkapellmeister Frank Leenen

Food and drinks will be offered on the market square after the concert.

Thursday, July 17, 2008

8 p.m.

Cathedral

This event is open only to participating choirs, holders of subscription tickets and invited guests.

Opening of the festival and address of welcome to the participants by
Bishop Dr. Gebhard Fürst

Opening concert

Franz Schubert: Mass in Eb Major

Food and drinks will be offered on the market square after the concert.

Friday, July 18, 2008

10 a.m.

Cathedral

Concert 1

Concert Choir of Boys and Youth, Yekaterinburg, Russia

Les Anges d'Azur Singers, Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo

3 p.m.

Pilgrimage Church Weggental

Concert 2

Coral Discantus de Murcia, Murcia, Spain

Cadenza Kantori, Mumbai, India

7 p.m.

Collegiate Church St Moriz

Renner Ensemble Regensburg, Germany

Caius College Choir, Cambridge, England

9.30 p.m.

Market square

In bad weather: Festival hall Rottenburg

Admission free

Festival of Nations

Open air event

Guest choirs present songs, dances and folklore from their countries

Saturday, July 19, 2008

10 p.m.

Collegiate Church St Moriz

Concert 4

Girls' choir "Raniza", Minsk, Belarus

Palissander, Pretoria, South Africa

3 p.m.

Pilgrimage Church Weggental

Concert 5

Chamber Choir Leonhard Lechner, Bolzano, Italy

Senais Kalns, Riga, Latvia

7 p.m.

Cathedral

Concert 6

Kiev Glier Music College Female Choir,
Kiev, Ukraine

Chamber Choir Michaelstein, Germany

5.15 p.m.

Cathedral

Admission free

Evensong

With Auxiliary Bishop Dr. Johannes Kreidler (broadcast by BBC London)

Performers:

Caius College Choir, Cambridge, England

Cadenza Kantori, Mumbai, India

Palissander, Pretoria, South Africa

Mädchenkantorei des Rottenburger Domes (Rottenburg Cathedral Girl's Choir), Germany

9.30 p.m.

Market square

In bad weather: Festival hall Rottenburg

Admission free

Night of Choirs

Open air event

Sunday, July 20, 2008

During the morning

Guest choirs sing in church services of the surrounding parishes (Rottenburg and surroundings)

3.30 p.m.

Cathedral

Festival closure

Pontifical vesper at Rottenburg Cathedral with Bishop Dr. Gebhard Fürst

With participating choirs of the festival, choirs of the Domsingschule Rottenburg

Subsequently

Market square

Farewell by mayor Stephan Neher and the organisation team

With Stadtkapelle Rottenburg

- Subject to change –



Tickets and subscriptions

Advance booking for all events begins on May 9, 2008 and ends on July 15, 2008.

Advance booking office: WTG Rottenburg

Ticket reservations can be made until July 15, 2008.

Subscription tickets at the price of Euro 70,- (red. Euro 50,-) allow access to all events.

Admission for concerts 1–6

(Seats are not numbered)

Friday, Saturday – each at 10 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m.

Advance booking: Euro 12,- (red. Euro 9,-) incl. all fees

Box office: Euro 13,- (red. Euro 10,-)

Reduced admission will be granted to pupils, students, military servants, community servants on presentation of an identification.

Exhibition at the “Haus am Nepomuk”

Paintings by Christel Bak-Stalter

Admission free

July 11–27, 2008, daily from 3–6 p.m.

“Haus am Nepomuk”

at the middle Neckar bridge, 72108 Rottenburg

More information, ticket reservations and hotel enquiries

WTG Rottenburg

Marktplatz 24

phone 07472/916236, fax 07472/16233

e-mail: info@wtg-rottenburg.de

www.wtg-rottenburg.de

Festival office during the festival

July 17–20, 2008

Festival office

Parish hall St Martin (close to the cathedral)

Stadtlanggasse 6, 72108 Rottenburg am Neckar

Organiser

Domsingschule Rottenburg

Eberhardstraße 42,

72108 Rottenburg am Neckar

phone 07472/25062, fax 07472/26798

e-mail: ifgc@domsingschule-rottenburg.de

www.chorfestival-rottenburg.de

An event in cooperation with „Arbeitsgemeinschaft Internationale Chorwettbewerbe – MUSICA MUNDI“

Program – Dates – Information