



THE 20th INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MUSIC 2010
with Petr Eben's Prize
Prague, 26th November – 27th November, 2010

Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Friends of Choral Music,

We have the pleasure to inform you about the **20th International Festival of Advent and Christmas Music**, which has been traditionally organised for 20 years in the first Advent weekend in Prague. The organiser of this festival is organisational and festival agency **or-fea** Prague in co-operation with **Czech Choral Union**. The festival takes place under the auspices of the City of Prague. The festival is open for the following amateur choirs: male, female, mixed and children's choirs.

Choirs are supposed to prepare a **contest** programme of Advent and Christmas music according to their own choice either a capella or with instrumental accompaniment.

The festival will award Petr Eben's Prize.

The competition will be evaluated by an expert jury selected by the organisers and consisting of outstanding figures of Czech as well as foreign choral music, according to the following criteria:

- a) choice of compositions and programme structure
- b) technical level of interpretation
- c) general artistic impression

A special prize of the jury will be awarded for the best performance (arrangement, vocal qualities, conducting, etc.) The winners will get gift prizes. Petr Eben's prize will be awarded regardless of other results for the best performance of his composition.

As a part of the festival programme there will be common singing of all participating choirs at the historic Old Town Square, where Christmas and Advent songs and also a composition by Prof. Petr Eben, composed specially for this occasion, will be sung.

Participants will go through the following programme points:

- official meeting of delegates of choirs and guests with a representatives of the City of Prague at the Old Town Hall – Friday, November 26, 2010
- marionette opera, a performance of a black light theatre or river cruise – Friday, November 26, 2010 - **on demand**
- competition of participating choirs – Friday, Nov 26 and Saturday Nov 27, 2010
- open air public performances in Prague – Friday, Nov 26 and Saturday Nov 27, 2010
- common concert of all participating choirs on the Old Town Square, Saturday, Nov 27, 2010
- festive final evening with prize awarding, Grand Prix competition, Saturday, Nov 27, 2010

We would like to inform you that the festival is organised **in Prague from 26th November to 27th November 2010**. In case of your interest, please, contact the festival and organisational agency **or-fea** (address: **Tesnov 9, 110 00 Praha 1, Tel: 00 420 2 24 81 35 80, 24 81 44 58, Fax: 00 420 2 24 81 26 12, e-mail incoming@orfea.cz**), which is also responsible for booking of accommodation.

We are looking forward to seeing you in the ancient city of Prague and we hope you will take part in our festival

or-fea, Prague
Festival Agency
Ivana Sladkova



THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MUSIC
Prague, 26th November – 27th November, 2010
FESTIVAL PACKAGES

PACKAGE NO. 1

219,00 EUR for 1 person

(supplement for a single room: 19,00 EUR per room per night)

- 3x accommodation (Thursday 25th Nov – Sunday 28th Nov) with halfboard (*double rooms* with shower and WC in a *** **centrally located hotel**)
- programme fee
- Prague sightseeing tour without admission fees
- participation in the competition
- public concert performance of participating choirs
- common singing on the Old Town Square
- awarding ceremony, Grand Prix competition
- information material

PACKAGE NO. 2

154,00 EUR for 1 person

(supplement for a single room: 16,00 EUR per room per night)

- 3x accommodation (Thursday 25th Nov – Sunday 28th Nov) with halfboard (*double rooms* with shower and WC in a *****hotel**)
- programme fee
- guidance during the whole stay
- Prague sightseeing tour without admission fees
- participation in the competition
- public concert performance of participating choirs
- common singing at the Old Town Square
- awarding ceremony, Grand Prix competition
- information material

PACKAGE NO. 3

112,00 EUR for 1 person

(supplement for a single room: 11,00 EUR per room per night)

- 3x simple accommodation (Thursday 25th Nov – Sunday 28th Nov) with halfboard in an ****apartment hotel (2 - 3 bed rooms, 2 rooms with a shared shower + WC)**
- programme fee
- guidance during the whole stay
- Prague sightseeing tour without admission fees
- participation in competition
- public concert performance of participating choirs
- common singing at the Old Town Square
- awarding ceremony, Grand Prix competition
- information material

TICKETS FOR A FRIDAY PERFORMANCE OR A RIVER CRUISE

a) Black Light Theatre Image, price: 19 Euro per person

6 or 8 o'clock p.m., <http://www.imagetheatre.cz>

b) marionette opera, price: 19 Euro per person

5 or 8 o'clock p.m., <http://www.puppetart.com/pg2.htm>

c) river cruise (2 hours with buffer dinner without drinks), price: 19 Euro per person (extra), 11 Euro per person (within halfboard)

river cruise (1 hour – only cruise, without meal), price: 7 Euro per person

The tickets have to be booked latest two months in advance!!!

!!!THE PARTICIPATION IN THE FESTIVAL IS CONNECTED WITH ONE OF THE PACKAGES OFFERED!!!

The prices given above do not include transfer costs from your country and back and transportation costs in Prague!! On demand we will send you prices of further services, e.g. bus transfer costs, extra night, tickets to cultural performances, dinner in a restaurant etc.



THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MUSIC
with Petr Eben's Prize

APPLICATION FORM

Name of the choir (please write in block letters – this official name will appear in all printed materials):

Name of the group leader:

Contact address of the choir's leader:

Telephone (daytime): Fax: Email:

Total number of persons: singers: accompanying persons:

WE BOOK THE FOLLOWING PACKAGE:

- No. 1 (a*** centrally located hotel) for: persons
- No. 2 (a *** hotel) for: persons
- No. 3 (a simple apartment ** hotel) for: persons

Requested division of rooms:

Expected arrival (date, time) at the hotel:

Date of departure:

We will travel (by bus, air, train etc.):

We book further services:

We book tickets for Friday evening performance for: persons

* marionette opera
19 Euro per person

* river cruise
19 EUR/ 11 EUR/ 7 EUR

* black light theatre performance
19 Euro per person

Date: Signature:

Please, fill in this registration form together with a biography of your choir and send it back to us by **31st August 2010** to our address. We will send you compositions for the common singing by return.

*Please mark one of the options offered. Deadline for tickets booking for the performances is **30th September 2010**.



**THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MUSIC
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QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of the choir (please write in block letters – this official name will appear in all printed

materials):

***Category:** big choir (youth and adult from 25 singers)

a) mixed choir

b) homogeneous choir (male or female)

chamber choir (up to 24 singers)

homophonic children's choir /SA/ (up to 16 years incl.)

* please mark one of the options offered

Type of choir (children's, youth, female, male, mixed):.....

Year of the choir's foundation:.....

Participation in festivals and competitions:.....

.....

.....

Short characteristic of the choir:

.....

.....

.....

Repertoire of the choir (general):

.....

.....

Repertoire of the choir (specific for the contest):

composition no. 1:.....

composition no. 2:.....

composition no. 3:.....

composition no. 4:.....

composition no. 5:.....

Name of the Conductor:

Date: **Signature:**.....

Please, fill in this questionnaire and send it back to us together with your application form.



THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MUSIC with Petr Eben's Prize

REGULATIONS OF THE COMPETITION

I. ORGANISER, DATE

Organiser of the festival: Festival and Organisational Agency or-fea, Prague.

Date: 26th November – 27th November, 2010

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: 31ST AUGUST 2010

II. CATEGORIES

The competition is open for female, male, youth, mixed and children's choirs in the following categories:

- 1) **chamber choirs** (up to 24 singers)
- 2) **big choirs** (youth and adults from min. 25 singers)
 - a) mixed choir
 - b) homogeneous choirs (male or female)
- 3) **homophonic children's choirs** (up to 16 years; SA)

One choir can compete in max. 2 categories.

III. COMPETITION PROGRAMME

The **competition programme** is to be aimed at sacred music, mainly at Advent and Christmas music, and it is supposed to last:

a/ in the category of children's choirs **12 - 14 minutes**

b/ in other categories **14 – 16 minutes**

Instrumental accompaniment is allowed, a piano will be available.

THERE ARE MAX. 5 PIECES ALLOWED IN THE CONTEST REPERTOIRE. AT LEAST ONE COMPOSITION OF THE CONTEST REPERTOIRE MUST BE PERFORMED A CAPPELLA. THE CONTEST REPERTOIRE MUST INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE COMPOSITION COMPOSED AFTER THE YEAR 1950. EACH CHOIR IS SUPPOSED TO PROVIDE 3 COPIES OF THE REPERTOIRE SCORES FOR THE JURY MEMBERS.

Those choirs that will include a composition by Petr Eben in their repertoire will be appraised also in the Petr Eben's Prize competition. The composition needn't be religious, it can be e.g. a vocal-instrumental piece.

IV. ADJUDICATION SYSTEM

The competition performance will be evaluated by an expert jury selected by organisers from acknowledged figures of Czech as well as international choral music, according to the following criteria:

- a) technical level – voice culture and singing technique, intonation, rhythm
- b) criteria of interpretation – correct usage of musical means of expression (dynamics, time - tempo, agogic, colour), construction and phrase making, style of interpretation, dramaturgy of the contest repertoire, level of difficulty)

c) overall artistic impression – expressive influence on listeners, contact of the choir with the conductor, singing from memory

Every jury member will evaluate the contest performance of each choir by a marking system in the scale of 0 – 30 points. The final result achieved by a choir will be worked out on the basis of the average of total points given by each of the jurors.

Every choir will receive a written evaluation of their contest performance given by each juror together with the total number of points. No appeals against the decisions of the jury will be allowed.

On the basis of these criteria and received points participating choirs will be assigned in accordance with the international rules:

gold diploma	25 – 30 points
silver diploma	20 – 24,9 points
bronze diploma	15 – 19,9 points

Those choirs which won't reach at least 15 points for their competition performance will be awarded a certificate for participation in the festival only.

Apart from diplomas awarding a winner of each category and the absolute winner of the festival will be announced.

Special prizes of the jury can be awarded (e.g. for the best conductor's performance, for the best dramaturgy of the performance, for the best performance of the piece composed after the year 1950 etc.) The winners will get gift prizes.

Petr Eben's Prize will be awarded for the best performance of a composition by this author regardless of other results.

V. GRAND PRIX

The Grand Prix competition will be a highlight of the festival, to which winners of all contest categories will be nominated.

The Grand Prix competition programme must contain **2 compositions** by own choice with a max. length up to **7 minutes**, from which at least one piece was not sung in the competition category. Both compositions have to be **a cappella**. All choirs should expect a possible participation in the Grand Prix competition and thus prepare an appropriate programme.

The Grand Prix competition will be evaluated by a seven-member international jury in accordance with the criteria of the adjudication system (no. IV). The choir, which will achieve in a secret vote the highest number of votes, will be awarded the Grand Prix.

The Grand Prix competition will take place during the **final evening** of the festival on Saturday November 27, 2010.

