

PRESS RELEASE

April 25, 2022

RIGA SINGS again!

Choirs from all over the world sing at the 2nd International Choir Competition RIGA SINGS

The singing nation of Latvia once again invites choirs from all over the world to its capital Riga for "RIGA SINGS - International Choir Competition & Imants Kokars Choral Award". After the successful premiere in 2019, the choral world will now gather again in the Baltic region from August 17-22, 2022. Talented singers, top-class international music experts and jurors are expected.

Latvia is a fantastic host for international choral events! The capital Riga has been the venue of various international INTERKULTUR choir competitions several times in the past years. After the great success of the World Choir Games 2014 as well as the Grand Prix of Nations Riga 2017 & 3rd European Choir Games, a regular international choir competition has been established here in the meantime: "**RIGA SINGS - International Choir Competition & Imants Kokars Choral Award**" took place for the first time in 2019 and invites choirs from all over the world to the Latvian capital again in 2022.

The captivating impressions of the previous events, the friendships that have developed there and the emotions that have left their mark on the participants increase the anticipation even more this year. The choir world is eagerly and anxiously looking forward to the Baltic metropolis, to finally be able to sing together again on the stages and in the streets of Riga.

The choirs will compete in various categories - new this year is the additional category "Pop & Jazz" - and will be judged by a renowned international jury. Among them are the Latvian conductor and winner of the Eric Ericson Prize 2021, **Krista Audere**, the representative of the Netherlands in the World Choir Council, **Hans van den Brand**, conductor and university lecturer for choral and ensemble conducting, as well as **Maarten Van Ingelgem** from Belgium, choral conductor and Artistic Director of the World Choir Games Flanders 2021.

The highlight of the event this year will again be the final competition of the category winners for the "**Imants Kokars Choral Award**". This award is a sounding monument to a great choir leader; a seal of peace, friendship and song, which will be carried into the world by the winning choir. The award is endowed with a prize money in the amount of 2.500,- EUR.

Interested choirs can still apply until May 25, 2022 and sing together with fellow singers from all over the world from August 17-22, 2022 on stages steeped in history in international friendship and in honor of the world-famous Latvian choirmaster and pedagogue Imants Kokars.

For detailed information please visit www.interkultur.com/riga2022.

RIGA SINGS - International Choir Competition & Imants Kokars Choral Award is an international choral event organized by INTERKULTUR in cooperation with the City of Riga.

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