1ST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM FOR CHOIR CONDUCTING TEACHERS

20th & 21st October 2019
Conservatory Gabriel Fauré – Paris 5th

In partnership with the Conservatory Gabriel Fauré – Paris 5th and in conjunction with the 9th International competition for young conductors

IFAC is supported by the Ministry of Culture

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IFAC has organized symposiums for choir conducting teachers for many years. This edition turns international with contributions from great renowned pedagogues and the invitation of foreign choir conductors.

Language of work: English

Registration to the Symposium gives access to the different rounds of the 9th International competition for young conductors including the final.
PROGRAMME

Sunday 20th October

9:00  Reception

9:30 · 12:30  INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION : HOW TO IMPROVE THE EXCHANGES BETWEEN CHOIR CONDUCTING TEACHING CLASSES IN EUROPE

Leader: Georg Grün

Choir conducting teachers regret quite often the difficulties for their students to move in another country during the course of the year, on short periods, due to lack of process (except « Erasmus »).

Georg Grün wants to experiment a distance masterclass to allow his students to attend courses from another country or to foreign students to follow his courses. French students and Spanish students shall be invited to participate through remote participation to German courses.

Georg Grün will present a first report of this experiment and will open the debate on the possible developments. Participants shall then propose some methods for evolution on a European and international levels between choir conducting classes.

12:30 · 13:30  Lunch (meal tray)

14:00 · 16:30  ÉVALUATION

Leader: Philippe Le Fèvre

IFAC is working on students evaluation for many years. How do we evaluate the skills and abilities of a student? In connection with the competition, the participants of the symposium will work on this topic during and after the competition, sharing their evaluation of the semi-final and final competitors.

20:30  Final round of the 9th International competition for young conductors, church Saint Roch, Paris
PROGRAMME

Monday 21st October

9:00  Reception

9:30 - 12:30  THE SINGING SKILLS OF THE CONDUCTOR: HOW THE SINGING SKILLS
OF THE CONDUCTOR ARE IMPORTANT TO IMPROVE THE SOUND OF
THE CHOIR

Leader: Edward Caswell

Knowledge is Power: the choral conductor’s understanding of singing.

A basic knowledge of how to sing, how to get the best out of the human
voice, will make a huge difference to what a choral director is able to
achieve with his or her choir. It sounds obvious, but there will be choral
conductors who have never had a singing lesson. The basics of singing can
be easily taught, and once learnt, this handful of ideas can be easily passed
on and incorporated into choir training. Quite simply, members of the choir
are singing; and being able to sing better will make it a better choir: better at
high notes, better at long phrases, better at intonation, better at singing for-
tissimo and pianissimo and getting from one to the other; better at giving
the audience something special, memorable and moving.

12:30 - 14:00  Lunch (Italian restaurant, 12 places available)

14:00 - 17:00  THE DIFFERENCES AND THE COMMON ASPECTS OF ORCHESTRA AND
CHOIR CONDUCTING

Leader: Josep Vila i Casañas

Choral and orchestra conducting are two disciplines which have lots in
common despite the fact that, from a certain point, they require to be
trained in different ways. The first one deals with a unique instrument, the
human voice, while the second one deals with many. A literary text is always
determinant in choral literature interpretation while instrumental music
expresses by itself. Nevertheless, beyond these and many other differences,
they try to unify musical expressions while leading an ensemble and use our
body as an instrument to express the musical ideas. That’s why, in the end,
both conducting specializations should be considered as a unique
discipline. We propose going deeper in comparing choral and orchestra
conducting art, in order to enrich our labour as educators.
The leaders

EDWARD CASWELL

Choral conductor, singer and teacher, Edward Caswell is Trevor Pinnock's regular chorusmaster; he works regularly with Collegium Vocale Gent and prepares choruses for Bernard Haitink, Roger Norrington, Riccardo Chailly and Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla. In 2013 he founded Cromarty Youth Opera in the Scottish Highlands with its inaugural production of Noye's Fludde by Benjamin Britten.

2017 saw the publication of Edward’s first book: It's always a Pussycat: a singer's approach to Choral Conducting. Having already worked with MDR Rundfunkchor and the GewandhausChor, Edward moved to Leipzig in 2017 where his appointment as Artistic Director of KonzertChor Leipzig was recently announced.

Future projects will take Edward back to Amsterdam and Paris and for the first time to Freiburg and Rome.

GEORG GRÜN

Georg Grün is considered to be one of the most sought-after international choral conductors and specialists for choral sound. He founded the KammerChor Saarbrücken in 1990 and has been its artistic director ever since then. He has won the most important international and national choir competitions.

From 2000 until 2013 he held a professorship for choral conducting at the University of Music and Performing Arts Mannheim. In 2012, Georg Grün changed to the University of Music Saar as a professor and became artistic director of the BachChor Saarbrücken. Since 2008 he has been a baritone member of Daarler Vocal Consort.

Georg Grün works as guest conductor and guest professor, juror and tutor at international masterclasses for choral conducting around the world. Since 2010 he has been a mentor at the forum for conductors of the German Music Council and since 2015, he has been Chairman at the jury of the International Chamber Choir Competition Marktoberdorf since 2015. He is increasingly concerned with improvisation (piano / organ) and performance and is also active as a composer and arranger.
As a musical director and as a choral director, Philippe Le Fèvre is eager to make classical music accessible to as large an audience as possible.

With Le Capriccio Français he has performed hundreds of times, in prestigious and famous festivals as well as in more humble places. He has performed with the most renowned soloists and with amateur choirs alike.

Alongside his work as a musical director, Philippe Le Fèvre favors pedagogy and transmission: he has therefore founded a Summer Music Academy for future young artists, he is a Professor at Cergy-Pontoise Regional Conservatory and Paris 9e Conservatory. He is also the Choral conductor of two amateur choirs including the french Parliament choir, and he regularly delivers lectures.

The same passion has led him to join the French Choral Art Institute in 2010, as an Artistic and Pedagogical Director for several years, and now as a member of its Board. He aims at creating new repertoires, developing choral directing programs, and establishing international connections.

Conductor, composer and pedagogue.

He conducts the Lieder Càmera Chamber Choir from Sabadell and collaborates often as guest conductor with the Francesc Valls Chamber Choir from Barcelona. He has served as the resident conductor of the Orfeó Català choral society (1998-2016), the Cor de Cambra of the Palau de la Música Catalana (2011-2016) and the Radiotelevisión Española Choir (2007- 2010). He has worked as a guest conductor with the Spanish National Choir, the World Youth Choir (2010 and 2019) and the Swedish Radio Choir among others.

He has written an extensive body of works for children's and youth choirs, for mixed a cappella choirs and for choir and orchestra.

Since 2005, he has taught choir conducting at the Catalonia Music Highschool.
REGISTRATION FORM

Thanks to send this form filled in to:
IFAC, 2 place Aristide Briand – 86000 Poitiers, France
Or by mail : contact.ifac@artchoral.org

LAST NAME and First Name : ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….
Address : ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
ZIP code / City : ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
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Registration Fees

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<td>Donation* - I want to support the actions lead by IFAC :</td>
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TOTAL

Payment: Your registration will only be confirmed with the payment of the registration fees.

- Online
- Bank transfer :

Meals: I reserve a meal for :

- Sunday lunch (meal tray)
- Monday lunch (Italian restaurant – only 12 places available)

Do you have any health concerns we need to be aware of?: …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

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

* Réduction d’impôt de 66% pour un particulier dans la limite de 20 % des revenus imposables et 60% pour une entreprise dans la limite de 5/1000 du CA
Toutes les informations demandées sont nécessaires pour traiter votre demande d’inscription. En application de l’article 27 de la loi 78-17 du 6 janvier 1978, vous pouvez accéder à ces informations et procéder éventuellement aux rectifications nécessaires. Sur simple demande écrite, vous pouvez vous opposer à ce que ces informations soient transmises.