



EUROPA CANTAT
Pécs 2015 Nonprofit Kft.

Székhely / Legal seat: H-7621 Pécs, Széchenyi tér 1.
Levelezési cím / Postal address: H-7621 Pécs, Rákóczi út 11.
info@ecpecs2015.hu

EUROPA CANTAT XIX Pécs

The joy of common singing

Five thousand choir singers and many thousands of Pécs city residents sang together at the closing ceremony of one of the most important European cultural events, the EUROPA CANTAT choir festival, on 1st August in Pécs.

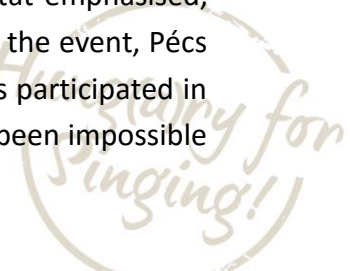
6000 guests came to the festival from all over the world, from more than 50 countries, and turned Pécs into the capital of the choral world for several days. Fans of choral music were able to enjoy more than 130 concerts, they could discover the secrets of the human voice in numerous music ateliers, and they could sing together with thousands of other visitors and inhabitants of Pécs at the Open Singings on Cathedral Square as well as in small common singing sessions in many concerts.

The EUROPA CANTAT festival is held every three years and it is not only a great assembly of the European choral world, it has been a symbol of the promotion of peace and tolerance since 1961. In 1988 the tenth EUROPA CANTAT brought the hope of a unified, free Europe to Pécs and 27 years later the 19th EUROPA CANTAT returned to Pécs to deliver the same message.

In Pécs and in the surrounding region everything revolved around singing during these days: concerts were held at 20 venues in the city and at 16 other venues in the region, from classical music through popular covers to contemporary experimental music, demonstrating the variety and colourfulness of the human voice. Besides the artistic experience EUROPA CANTAT also showed the power of singing in a community. Open Singing performances on Dóm Square served as a platform for thousands of choir singers, Pécs city residents and visitors coming together to share this experience.

The main message of EUROPA CANTAT is cooperation, as Gábor Móczár, director of the festival and also President of the European Choir Association - Europa Cantat emphasised, since together with volunteers coming from all over Europe to help organise the event, Pécs residents also became actively involved; every day and every night hundreds participated in the organisation of EUROPA CANTAT activities. Without them it would have been impossible to make this great event happen, said Gábor Móczár.

www.ecpecs2015.hu





EUROPA CANTAT
Pécs 2015 Nonprofit Kft.

Székhely / Legal seat: H-7621 Pécs, Széchenyi tér 1.
Levelezési cím / Postal address: H-7621 Pécs, Rákóczi út 11.
info@ecpecs2015.hu

At the closing ceremony the audience which crowded the Cathedral Square had the chance to listen to a selection of the excellent programmes of the different ateliers presenting the result of their common work over several days, and they could sing together for the last time at the final Open Singing. Finally they could witness the handover of the musical baton, when the event organisers and the Mayor of Pécs welcomed representatives of Tallinn, host city of the 2018 EUROPA CANTAT who showed a preview of the rich Estonian singing culture. As a musical symbol accompanying the handing over of the flag, the preview was followed by the premiere of two compositions representing both Hungarian and Estonian culture.

Since September 21 a memorial statue in front of the world famous Kodály Centre is reminding us of the great festival while propagating the joy of common singing. The participants of the festival are going to play an important part in its creation by putting the ceramics decorating the statue to their final places. The statue will gain its final form by December 16, the birthday of Zoltán Kodály.

www.ecpecs2015.hu

