



EUROPA CANTAT XIX
Pécs 2015
24 July - 2 August

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EUROPA CANTAT XIX Pécs 2015

Hung(a)ry for Singing!

Pécs welcomes EUROPA CANTAT again!

This multi-ethnic and multicultural city in the Southern region of Hungary inhabited since the Roman times has been a melting pot of cultural heritage, innovation and musical traditions.

Choral art also has a distinguished position in its rich and colourful palette and made the name of the town highly appreciated all over Europe. Pécs has written musical history: it was chosen to host the *legendary 10th EUROPA CANTAT festival* in 1988, for the first time ever behind the Iron Curtain. After the successful Pécs Cantat – The Singing Cultural Capital of Europe festival in 2010, it's no wonder that in 2015 the EUROPA CANTAT festival will return to Pécs! The festival is ready to embrace thousands of singers, conductors, composers, musicians and music managers from all over the world, in a city totally reborn after the Pécs 2010 European Capital of Culture year. We are proud to have wonderful new cultural institutions such as the Kodály Centre concert and conference hall and the unique Zsolnay Cultural Quarter with a set of its inspiring cultural locations transformed from an old porcelain factory. These, along with the buildings of the University of Pécs and many churches of different religions all around the city, will be excellent venues for EUROPA CANTAT XIX in 2015.

Pécs on the Stage!

Pécs has played a remarkable role during the EUROPA CANTAT XVIII Torino 2012 Festival from 27th July to 5th August. Many members of the organizing committee of the next EC not only had the chance to look behind the scenes but also actively work for the success of the current EUROPA CANTAT, solving everyday issues of the festival as members of the YEMP – Young Event Management Program and as international volunteers in the Festival- and Music Offices.

The City of Pécs had its own booth at the Music EXPO, where a presentation and a reception also had been held. The pavilion offered glimpses of the milestones of Pécs's choral culture along with some delicious cuisine and the best of the local wines to taste.



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‘Pécs has 2015 years and reasons to sing’. The visitors of the booth had the opportunity to write a reason or a comment on a special message board in their own languages, explaining in keywords why would they come to Pécs in three years’ time. At the end of the week the board was covered with messages from all over the world.

All present guests and VIPs could experience Hungarian hospitality at the reception held by the Mayor of Pécs, dr. Zsolt Páva on 4th August. The Mayor along with dr. Péter Hoppál, MP and the Chairman of the Cultural Committee of Pécs visited the closing days of the festival in Torino and met also the Mayor of the City of Torino to exchange experience. The reception witnessed the performance of a modified version of Brahms’ Hungarian Dance No.5, sang by the Béla Bartók Male Choir conducted by Tamás Lakner.

Pécs gained even more attention by being one of the main treats at the Closing Ceremony of the EUROPA CANTAT 2012. A medley of traditional Hungarian music and dances was performed by members of the Béla Bartók Male Choir, the Mecsek Folk Dance Ensemble and the ‘A Köztársaság Bandája’ folk music band, followed by an Open Singing session also in Hungarian. The Mayor of Pécs, at the end of the Ceremony received the flag from his Italian colleague and invited everyone to Pécs, a city where everybody is Hung(a)ry for Singing!

For more information please visit: www.ecpecs2015.hu

