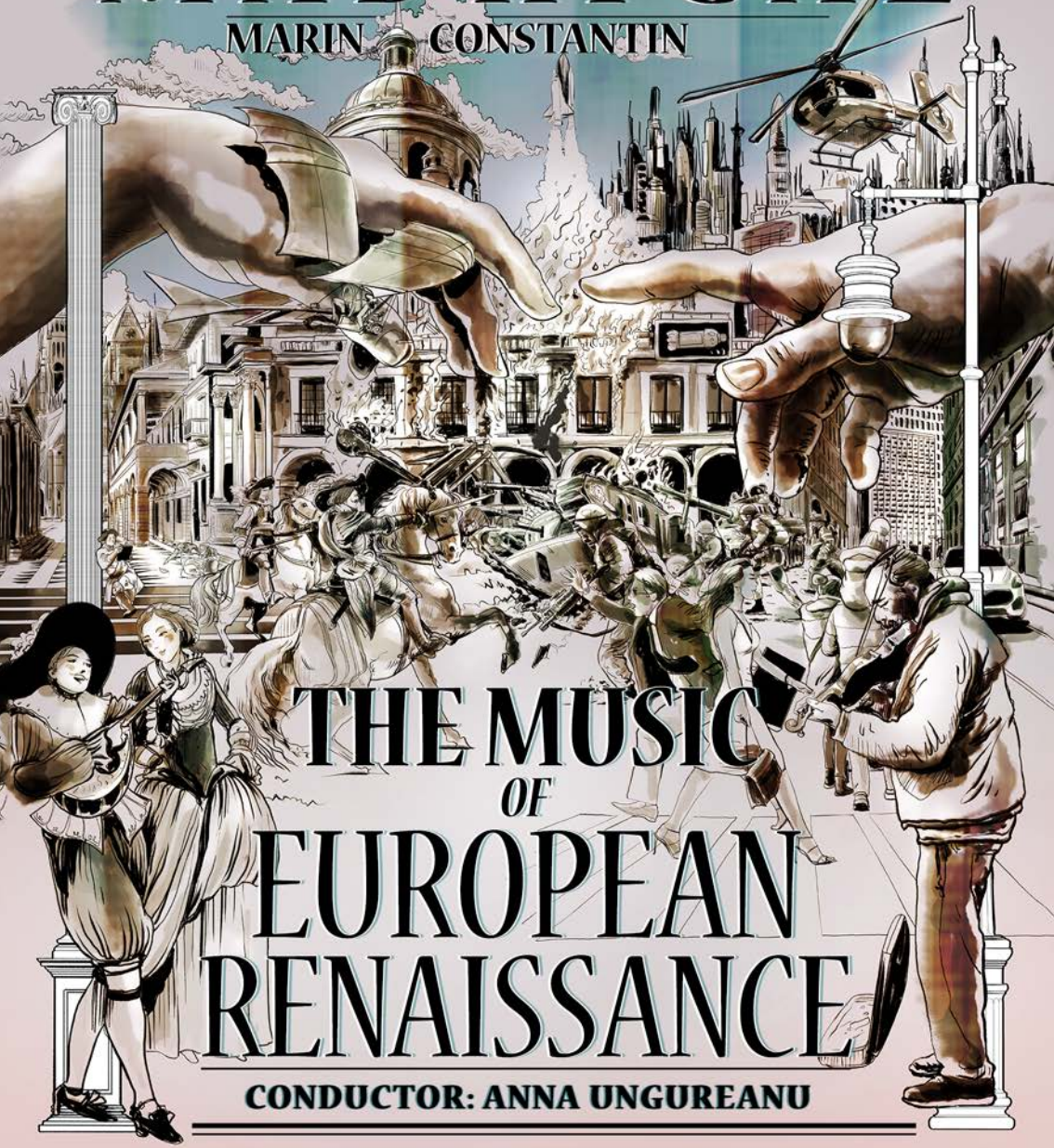
THE NATIONAL CHAMBER CHOIR

M·A·D·R·I·G·A·L

MARIN CONSTANTIN



THE MUSIC OF EUROPEAN RENAISSANCE

CONDUCTOR: ANNA UNGUREANU

2ND NOVEMBER, 2022 - KOLARAC ENDOWMENT CONCERT HALL, BELGRADE

MINISTRY OF CULTURE

MADRIGAL MARIN CONSTANTIN

CANTUS MUNDI

BUCHAREST AIRPORTS

MADRIGAL 60 - SINCE 1963, WE HAVE BEEN CHANGING ROMANIA THROUGH MUSIC!



In 2023, the National Choir of "Madrigal Chamber – Marin Constantin" will celebrate 60 years of uninterrupted existence, an important anniversary both for the ensemble and also nationally, as a symbol of eloquence and artistic constancy, but also of a cultural relevance.

Thus, the Madrigal Choir is preparing MADRIGAL 60, an extensive program dedicated to its anniversary, within which over 30 cultural projects will be carried out and through which a huge legacy will be celebrated: six decades of excellence in music, a wide cultural diplomacy strategy and the confidence in the changing of Romania through music and culture.

***"The splendor, the beauty of an important cultural tradition – such as Madrigal – is this perpetual ability to renew itself, to reinvent itself and to carry the tradition at the same time. You carry it, but you also create it the moment you perform."* – Ion Marin, the Honorary Director of the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin"**



The National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin"



The National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin" symbolises Romanian and universal musical life. Since its founding by the legendary musician and conductor Marin Constantin (1925–2011) in 1963, the Madrigal Choir performed over 4,600 acclaimed concerts worldwide, considered an authentic Romanian cultural brand. It is one of the world standards of chamber choral music, recognised by its unique concept, defined by its specific sonority, stereophonic location on stage and impressive costumes. The Choir's repertoire is focused on the European Renaissance, Gregorian and Byzantine scores, traditional carols, and the compositions of classical or contemporary Romanian and universal creation. In November 2016, the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin" was officially recognised as an Ambassador of Freedom, Hope and Peace, receiving the "Jean Nussbaum and Eleanor Roosevelt" Award at the United Nations Palace in Geneva, during the Global Summit of Religion, Peace and Security.

Currently, the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin" is a public institution of concerts of national importance within the Romanian Ministry of Culture.

The Madrigal Choir Cultural Ambassador

"Perfection! When I heard the Madrigal Choir singing, I had the most certain sensation of perfection!"
- Leopold Stokowsky

After its first international tour in 1965, at Halle in Germany, The Madrigal Choir has consistently performed on the great scenes of the world, in beautiful Concert Halls, museums or cathedrals, being welcomed by the audience with the same warmth and enthusiasm - *"The Madrigal Miracle!"* as Wilma Vernocchi from Milano's Scala Opera House called it.

Nevertheless, the musical events accomplished by The Madrigal Choir in the past years enriched the spiritual and cultural footprint of Romanian culture and music all over Europe.

2017, The Extraordinary Concert at the Israel Museum, in Jerusalem



2018, The public Inauguration Concert of the iconic *"Round Reading Room"* of the British Museum, in London



2018, The International tour in Portugal, at the International Music Festival Vila Nova de Gaia



2018, The official Opening Concert of the *Cultural Season Romania - France 2019*, at Dôme des Invalides, in Paris



2018, The International tour in France (Paris, Lyon, Bordeaux) and Switzerland (Geneva)





2019, The Vocal-symphonic Concert *"Doppelfenster: Beethoven und Pergolesi"* at the Laeiszhalle Concert Hall, in Hamburg



2022, the Chamber Concert *"Pierre Boulez XLII – Stravinsky"* at Pierre Boulez Saal, in Berlin



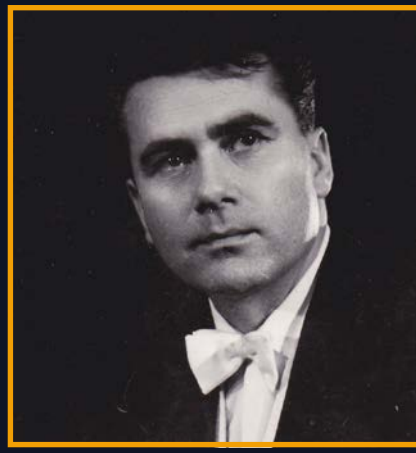
Furthermore, from 2021, the Madrigal Choir has started implementing an extensive program of international communication and cultural diplomacy, offering some of the states of the world their national anthems, performed at outstanding acoustic and visual standards. Thus, in a single year, the Madrigal Choir recorded over 20 national anthems. The extended project also includes the future release of a discographic album dedicated to all European national anthems.



With 60 years of uninterrupted activity, the Madrigal Choir continues its journey of cultural diplomacy, being one of the longest-lived and most appreciated European choral ensembles.

MARIN CONSTANTIN

The founder of the Chamber Choir "Madrigal"



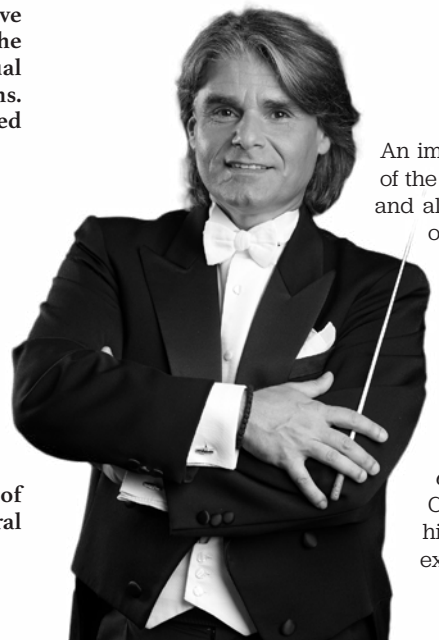
Asked in an interview how he would like the Madrigal Choir to look like at 100 years, the Maestro Marin Constantin replied: ***"I would like it to be as I still dream of it, but not to be less than those who will live then and will dream of it."*** Born on February 27, 1925, in Urleta, Romanian Prahova county, Marin Constantin graduated in 1949 from the Music Conservatory (Choral Conducting Department), as well as the Faculty of Pedagogy, Psychology and Philosophy of the University of Bucharest and became a Doctor of Musicology in 1985. In 1994 he was honored with the Doctor Honoris Causa distinction of the "Gh. Dima" Music Academy in Cluj-Napoca. Marin Constantin founded the Chamber Choir "Madrigal" on April 11, 1963, and was its conductor and manager until his retirement in 2002. He has performed with the Madrigal Choir almost 4,000 concerts in Romania and around the world and has released over 80 music albums. Marin Constantin has received a multitude of awards, decorations and distinctions, being also the only Romanian honored with the title of "Goodwill Ambassador" of UNESCO (1992). Marin Constantin passed away on January 1, 2011.

With many generations of musicians who had Marin Constantin as a mentor, the Maestro's legacy has an invaluable importance and remains alive through every artistic performance of the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin".

ION MARIN

Honorary Director of the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin"

Founder President of the Cantus Mundi National Program



An important personality of the international music scene, Ion Marin is one of the few conductors who have achieved worldwide fame in the symphonic and also in opera areas. At both national and European level, Ion Marin is officially recognized for the valuable services brought to the Romanian culture, art and also to the Romanian image in the world, as well as for the social dimension of his impact in society. From 2020, Ion Marin is also Prof. Univ. of the prestigious Mozarteum University in Salzburg, the coordinator of the choral conducting department "Claudio Abbado" and the artistic coordinator of its concert activity. In 2021, Ion Marin was decorated by the French Republic with the Order of Arts and Letters in the rank of Knight (Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres) for his ***"contribution and commitment to the service of culture"***. In the same year, Ion Marin received the role of Honorary Consul of Romania at Lugano, Switzerland, as an official recognition of his permanent involvement in strengthening diplomatic relations in his exceptional career of almost 40 years of artistic performance.

ANNA UNGUREANU

Principal conductor of the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal-Marin Constantin"

Specializing in conducting art under the close direction of renowned musicians Marin Constantin and Ion Marin, Anna Ungureanu has given concerts in many countries in Europe and Asia. With a PhD in music (2009), Anna Ungureau is the principal conductor of the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin" since 2014 and, also, holds the position of Artistic Director of the National Program Cantus Mundi, program initiated by the conductor Ion Marin. In addition to her impressive career as a choral conductor, she is also a trainer who inspires future generations of choir conductors in Romania, regularly giving courses within the Cantus Mundi National Program. The professional experience obtained near the founder of the Madrigal Choir, Maestro Marin Constantin, with whom she spent almost 9 years, recommends her as a disciple and continuator of the legendary musician.





EMIL PANTELIMON

Manager of the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin"
Director of THE MUSIC OF THE EUROPEAN RENAISSANCE

One of the youngest and most successful managers in the Romanian creative industries, Emil Pantelimon has coordinated several educational and cultural programs over the past 19 years. He worked in the communication and performing arts teams in the offices of two Romanian culture ministers. With a bachelor's degree in Political Science and accreditation in Foreign Policy and Diplomacy, he creates results-oriented environments in every team he leads, brings entrepreneurship to every cultural project in which generations of passionate young people and artists are involved and inspired. Emil Pantelimon has been the manager of the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin" since 2015. His innovative vision constantly amplifies the impact of the Madrigal Choir's presence on the world stages and influences tens of thousands of children from all over the country, who join the Madrigal Choir on the same stage, through the Cantus Mundi National Program.

In 2020, Emil Pantelimon signed for the first time the direction of a performance of the Madrigal Choir, the project "Ave Maria" being one of the great audience successes. Since then, the director Emil Pantelimon has brought to the public five other impressive events of the Madrigal Choir: "On the Way to Christmas", "The Holy Week", "Shakespeare - Sound and Word", „The Anniversary Madrigal Gala" and the international "Music of the European Renaissance".





CEZAR VERLAN

Second conductor of the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin"

Cezar Verlan is a graduate of the West University of Timișoara, Faculty of Music and Theatre, specializing in Music Pedagogy and Interpretive Stylistics (Choir Conducting - class of Maestro Diodor Nicoară) and of the George Enescu Academy of Arts in Iasi, specializing in Orchestra Conducting (class of Maestro Dumitru Goia). He has taken courses to perfect his conducting skills with maestros David Crescenzi, Dumitru Goia, Petre Sbârcea, Ion Marin, Gergely Kaposi, Diodor Nicoară and Nicolae Gîscă. Since 2016, following a national pre-selection, he has been assistant conductor of the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin", and since 2019 he has been collaborating with the Comic Opera for Children in Bucharest.

LEILA POPOVICI

Director of the Cantus Mundi National Program



After a decade of experience coordinating IT professionals in the corporate environment, Leila Popovici continues to achieve and maintain efficiency in every new project she joins. Graduated in Economic Studies and Management, she holds a master's degree in Human Resource Management and Management Communication. Under its coordination, The Cantus Mundi National Program has gained new benchmarks, with its focus on results being one of the key factors for the program's success. Her main purpose is to give children in Romania the voice they need to overcome together all forms of discrimination, through music and cultural education.

SIMONA HAIDEU

Director of the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin"



With a PhD in Music at the National University of Music in Bucharest from 2009, Simona Haideu acquired a vast choral and interpretive background. In 1999, during her studies, she became a lyrical artist within the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin", and from 2017 she holds the position of Director of the Choir Direction of the Madrigal Choir. Since 2014 she has been working as a singing teacher and trainer of the Cantus Mundi National Program, a position in which she constantly coordinates workshops and trainings for choir conductors and choir managers, both in Bucharest and in the countryside.

ALIN POPA

Light Design



Alin Popa signed the creative concepts for several events, exhibitions and cultural initiatives. Fascinated by light design, he worked in theater, architectural lighting, concerts or exhibitions. From St. Joseph's Cathedral in Bucharest to Romania's stand at the Venice Biennale, it expresses itself artistically through its own projects, designed to help us see with free eyes the magic of things around us. He believes that art must be taken from the pedestal and brought to the children who live in each of us.

Since 2020 he is the co-founder of MECENA. ART, an immersive marketplace and exhibition space for art lovers


EXPO

THE MUSIC OF THE EUROPEAN RENAISSANCE

Conductor - ANNA UNGUREANU

THE NATIONAL CHAMBER CHOIR "MADRIGAL - MARIN CONSTANTIN"

SOPRAN:
Angelica Florina Baciu
Ana-Maria Elefterescu
Simona Gabriela Haideu
Roxana-Cristina Ilie
Luciana Alina Ioan
Silvia-Cristina Maxim
Georgiana Năstac-Gorgan
Georgiana Nicolau Ramona
Renata Dalma Petrică
Aurelia Popescu
Alexandra Spireanu
Valentina-Elena Verlan

ALTO:
Delia Irina Andronache
Roxana Maria Bănică
Gabriela Drăgoescu
Anastasia Irina Paiu
Cristina Petrică
Sorina Popescu
Florentina Pușcoi

TENOR:
Marian Petre Costache-Toma
Doru Cosmin Feraru
Georgian Ilie
Denis Constantin Maxim
Dragancho Najdoski
Emanuel Pecingină

BASS:
Bogdan Ștefan Andronache
Radu Bogdan Isăcescu
Adrian Năstac
Silviu Năstase
Tănase Iordanian Nichita
Dragoș Iulian Petrică
Silviu Mihai Rusu

THE NATIONAL CHAMBER CHOIR "MADRIGAL - MARIN CONSTANTIN" Conductor - Anna Ungureanu

PROGRAMME

PART ONE

Orlando di Lasso – „Matona mia cara"
Erasmus Widmann – „Wohlauf ihr Gäste"
Pierre Bonnet – „Francion vint l`autre jour"
Francesco Landini – „Ecco la primavera"
Percussion: Emanuel Pecingină and Georgian Ilie
Josquin des Prés – „El grillo"
Baltasare Donatti – „Gagliarda"
Giaches de Wert – „Un jour je m`en allais"
Juan del Encina – „Fata la parte"
Guillaume Costeley – „Mignonne, allons voir si la rose"
Thomas Morley - „Now is the Month of Maying"
Johann Hermann Schein – „Wenn Filli ihre Liebesstrahl"
Thomas Weelkes – „On the Plains"
Hans Leo Hassler – „Tanzen und springen"
Percussion: Emanuel Pecingină and Georgian Ilie

***

PART TWO

Ola Gjeilo – „Unicornis captivatur"
Bernardino Zanetti – „Pater noster"
Arvo Pärt – „Bogoróditse Djévo"
Paul Constantinescu – „De frum'seța fecioriei tale"
Soloist: Luciana Ioan
Knut Nystedt – „Laudate"
Vytautas Miškinis – „Cantate Domino"
Gyorgy Orban – „O, Mistress Mine"
Alexandru Pașcanu – „Sârba pe scaun"
Cornelia Tăutu – „Jocuri" (Romanian folklore inspiration)
Soloist: Denis Maxim
Percussion: Emanuel Pecingină
Stevan Mokranjac – „Iz moje domovine"
Soloist: Silviu Năstase

THE MUSIC OF THE EUROPEAN RENAISSANCE
THE NATIONAL CHAMBER CHOIR "MADRIGAL - MARIN CONSTANTIN"



Conductor – ANNA UNGUREANU
Director – EMIL PANTELIMON
Light Design – ALIN POPA
Video Mapping - DORIN POPOVICI

The event "THE MUSIC OF THE EUROPEAN RENAISSANCE" is dedicated to the Renaissance as a symbol, with a double signification. The concept of the Madrigal Choir performance aims to illustrate the era of cultural flourishing of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries and also to emphasize the idea of the revival of modern Europe, strong by diversity in all its expressions.

The conductor Anna Ungureanu and the director Emil Pantelimon structured the concert program in two parts. The first section of the event includes a journey through the Renaissance period music, with famous madrigals and motets, composed by Orlando di Lasso, Hans Leo Hassler, Giovanni Gastoldi, Josquin des Prés, Francis Pilkington, Johann Hermann Schein and other composers of the time. In the second part, the Madrigal Choir brings on stage the modern Europe in music, with scores composed by contemporary creators, such as Vytautas Miškinis, Knut Nystedt, Stevan Mokranjac or the Romanian composers Cornelia Tăutu, Alexandru Paşcanu or Grigore Cudalbu.

***

An age of cultural blossoming specific to the countries of Western Europe in the XIV to XVI centuries, the Renaissance also encompasses science, philosophy, literature and the arts, having as its general feature the humanism in reaction to the medieval religious spirit.

The music of Renaissance is a stylistic period well determined, representing both a culmination of the creation of the past and a foundation for the development of the music in following centuries. This epoch sums up all the conquests of polyphonic technique (the golden age of vocal polyphony), from six Compositional Schools of the European Renaissance: Italian, Franco - Flemish, Dutch, English, German and Spanish.

The Madrigal musical journey starts with the famous madrigal "Matona mia cara" written by Orlando di Lasso, that mirrors a delicate love story and continues with "Wohlauf ihr Gäste" by Erasmus Widmann, with a welcome greeting and an invitation to leave behind the tensions of the soul and to enjoy the reunion with

friends.

The French composer Pierre Bonnet is present with "Francion vint l`autre jour", also a love song. The exponent of "Ars Nova" cultural movement, the Italian Francesco Landini brings us an homage of the Spring and love with the "Ecco la primavera". Another love piece, written by Giaches de Wert, "Un jour je m`en allais", reveals a love story between a young woman and her love interest, Michaut, who gives her a beautiful singing bird, to show his feelings.

The Madrigal Choir presents also a dancing piece, "Gagliarda", by Baltasare Donatti, composer with a more progressive vision of compositional styles, compared to other Italian musical styles of the time. The dancing character of the piece, supported by a very clear pronunciation of the lyrics, creates an atmosphere full of joy and vitality: "Whoever wants to learn the dance "Gagliarda" must come to the skilled masters, who, from evening to morning, do not stop dancing and singing".



***

The second part of the event's programme illustrates the diversity and the multicultural strength of the present Europe, where the countries share the culture of peace and well-being for all theirs citizens.

The Europe of the XX and XXI centuries is reborn again also through the musical culture, without borders, highlighting new perspectives, but also new challenges, generated by modernity and the influence of the new technologies or the evolution of the music reception by the public. Now the contemporary composers bring us a different way of communication through music, more nuanced and personalised, through compositions that are intended directly for the listeners. They also capture the evolution of music over time and, of course, the inspiration of the great Renaissance masters.

The Madrigal Choir conducted by Anna Ungureanu performs some of the great European modern composers from Serbia, Estonia, Italia, Letonia, Lithuania, Norway and Romania.

We are invited to discover the music of Vytautas Miškinis and his "Cantate Domino", a score which captivates the listeners through its vitality and exuberance, while revealing to gentle and harmonious sonorities, and also the "Pater noster", by Bernardino Zanetti, an extensive piece, with nuances used with great subtlety, originally designed for mixed choir with 6 voices. The Estonian musician Arvo Pärt developed a minimalist compositional style, close to both medieval music and Eastern Orthodox music. Written in Slavonic, his composition "Bogoróditse Djévo" is a prayer dedicated to the Virgin Mary, a profound moment of glory. Addressing music from an harmonic perspective, the Romanian composer Alexandru Pașcanu reached an original combination of impressionist sounds, of the chromatic elements and modal melody, being inspired by the traditional Romanian folk music. "Sârba pe scaun" is a powerful composition, full of joy and energy.
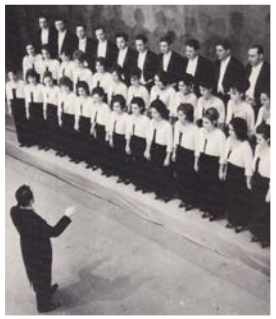


THE MADRIGAL CHOIR VISUAL IDENTITY

The Madrigal Choir is unique not only by its singular sonority, but also by the way in which it has always chosen to build its visual identity. Thus, The Madrigal Choir series of outfits are an important part of the ensemble's artistic performances at every stage event.

From the first set of its period costumes, designed in '70s by the scenographer Elisabeta Benedek and released by the studios of the National Opera in Bucharest, each Madrigal Choir's appearance continues to create a compelling visual narrative for the public.



'70s - The first period style costumes, designed by the scenographer Elisabeta Benedek



1964 - The first stage costumes released by the Bucharest Conservatory



Early '80s - Natural silk dresses and tailcoats, created by the designers from the National Theatre in Bucharest



'90s - The Madrigal Choir in a series of folk-influenced costumes



After 2000 - The third row of vintage cotton velvet costumes, made according to the previous models at the National Operetta and Musical Theatre in Bucharest.



2011 - The new medieval-influenced costumes, designed by the creator Doina Levintza



2013 - The Romanian-influenced costumes, designed by the creator Doina Levintza



2018 - The new costumes inspired by the interwar period in Romania, designed by the scenographer Elena Gheorghe



2018 - The set of costumes inspired by the Romanian Royalty history, designed by the scenographer Elena Gheorghe



2018 -The new folk-influenced series of costumes, designed by the scenographer Elena Gheorghe

THE CANTUS MUNDI NATIONAL PROGRAM

The Cantus Mundi National Program is the largest program of social integration through music for children and young people in Romania, initiated by the renowned conductor Ion Marin and carried out with the involvement of the members of the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal - Marin Constantin".

After 11 years of activity, the Program brings together over 1,800 choirs. 60,000 children, along with their conductors, participate in promoting choral singing throughout the country, overcoming barriers related to ethnicity, social status and physical or mental abilities, thus building complex cultural grassroots communities, necessary to revitalise our society.

"The Madrigal Choir is one of the most beautiful success stories, and children need such stories. Children dream, but they must know what to dream, what to want..." **– Ion Marin, the Honorary Director of the National Chamber Choir "Madrigal-Marin Constantin" and the Founder President of the Cantus Mundi National Program.**



THE CANTUS MUNDI TEAM

Founder President: **Ion Marin**

Manager of the National Chamber Choir
"Madrigal-Marin Constantin": **Emil Pantelimon**

Director of the Cantus Mundi National Program: **Leila Popovici**

Artistic Director of the National Program Cantus Mundi: **Anna Ungureanu**

Programs and Project Coordinator: **Raluca Mototolea**

Communication Coordinator: **Oana Drăgulinescu**

International Cooperation Coordinator: **Irina Vasilescu**

Regional Technical Musical Department Coordinator: **Crinela Ema Țurcanu**

Chief accountant: **Elena Cursaru**

Trainers & Conductors:
Angelica Florina Baciu, Renata Dalma Balla, Simona Gabriela Haideu, Maria Cristina Crăița Ghilerdea, Silvia Cristina Maxim, Lăcrămioara-Ana Pauliuc, Emanuel Pecingină, Ana-Maria Rusu, Cezar Verlan

Percussion trainers:
Zoli Toth, Bogdan Pop

Projects' organizers:
Camelia Andrei, Elena Arghir, Rada Bucur, Mihai Cătescu, Ioan Cârciumaru, Eva Ciont, Ana-Paula Cozariu, Dragoș Andrei Cuniță, Flavius-Eugen Dumitrică, Felicia Ionelia Gogoașă, Adina Iacob, Carmen Macavei, Alexandru Mihail Manea, Maria Laura Miu, Mariana Ochenatu, Florina-Cătălina Oprea, Alin Palade, Mircea Pandele, Relu Florian Popa, Elena Mălina Preoteasa, Alina Ionela Prorocu, Adina Alexandra Radu, Bogdan Valentin Radu, Nicoleta Sterea, Petruța Stoian, Mariana Tăloi, Mihaela Toader, Mădălina Gabriela Tudor, Crina Turcanu, Virginia Elena Tutoveanu, Alis Ungureanu, Del Vasilache

THE NATIONAL COMPANY BUCHAREST AIRPORTS

Partner

Since 2010, when it was founded by merging the Henri Coandă and Băneasa airports, The National Company Bucharest Airports has become not only the main aviation pole of Romania, but even a landmark for the genuine cultural world. In the passenger Terminals of The National Company Bucharest Airports, classical art and culture are permanently connected to the modern pulse of society, moving the boundaries of cultural and artistic interest to this unconventional space, chosen to be an event stage or an art gallery. Over the time, in the airport were staged plays attended by hundreds of spectators, who enthusiastically cheered the performances; classical music concerts were organized by great artists who participated in the "George Enescu" International Festival, but also by the "Bucharest Symphony" and the "Big Band" of the Romanian Radio Broadcasting Society; tens of thousands of passengers applauded folk music concerts, held by great performers and orchestras from all over the country. Henri Coandă Airport has built connections between artists and spectator passengers, turning itself into a meeting point between tourist and artistic destinations, between different cultures and diverse nations, permanently hosting exhibitions of painting, sculpture, graphics and photography. In its 12 years of existence, The National Company Bucharest Airports periodically launched exclusive musical or visual incentives, which have not only connected Romania to the 120 destinations of Henri Coandă International Airport, but have managed to link each passenger to the authentic values of the art and universal culture.





MEDIA PARTNERS

AGERPRES Actualizează lumea.

AGENȚIA DE CARTE.RO

BOOK HUB

Itsy fm Bitsy

Radio România București fm [98,3 FM]

rfi ROMÂNIA France médias monde

Radio România Cultural

Radio România Muzical

Radio România Agenția de presă RADOR

PSYCHOLOGIES

spotmedia.ro

zile și nopți DE VIAȚĂ URBANĂ