



2016 ASIA: CANTATE

International Choral Festival
27th – 30th November 2016
Hong Kong

Artistic Director: Nelson Kwei

Organizer:





Konzert proudly presents the 3rd **Asia Cantate**,
International Choral Competition, Hong Kong

This festival was first held in Phuket, Thailand in 2012. The event successfully attracted more than 700 participants from the regional countries. This time, in order to achieve even greater heights, this festival will be targeting more than 1000 participants. This festival aspires to bring together choirs from around the world and premier choir in the region to compete in a multi-level competition. Singers will experience the excitement of competition, the pleasure of performance, the joy of achievement and the charming culture of Asia.

ASIA CANTATE will also be featuring the '**Voices of Asia**' Prize. It will be awarded to the choir with the best performance of a piece of Asian choral music and they will be specially featured in future events & festivals.

Hong Kong (香港), Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China, is situated on China's south coast and, enclosed by the Pearl River Delta and South China Sea, it is known for its expansive skyline and deep natural harbour. The name "Hong Kong" is an approximate phonetic rendering of the pronunciation of the spoken Cantonese or Hakka name 香港, meaning "*Fragrant Harbour*". Hong Kong is frequently described as a place where "East meets West", reflecting the culture's mix of the territory's Chinese roots with influences from its time as a British colony.



FESTIVAL PROGRAMMES

Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony of **ASIA CANTATE 2016** will take place on the morning of **28th November 2016**. This opening event comprises of the assembly of all participating choirs and the performance by guest choirs specially chosen by the festival office.

Friendship Concert

Participating choirs will have the chance to join in the festivities and participate in the Friendship Concert held on **28th November** evening. Each performing choir will be able to present a 10 minute programme that showcases their country's music and culture.

Masterclass and Workshop

There will be masterclasses and workshops held on **28th or 29th November**, conducted by selected adjudicators for all participants. More information will be provided later.

Conductors' Forum

Choir conductors and representatives will have the opportunity to attend this forum chaired by the Artistic Director. The adjudicators will address and evaluate on the musical aspects of the competition, possible evaluation of competition results with each participating choir.

Grand Prize Concert

After the end of the competition and the presentation ceremony, the category winners will present their winning choral pieces to the other participants and visitors. The champion will then be awarded the **Festival Grand Prize of SGD \$5,000.00 cash along with the Champion's trophy** at the Closing Ceremony of Asia Cantate 2016.

Closing and Award Presentation Ceremony

The Closing Ceremony of **Asia Cantate 2016** will take place on the **29th November**. During this ceremony, the participating choirs will all receive a diploma, while the winners of the different categories will each receive an additional trophy. The most outstanding Children's Choir will receive the **Most Promising Choir Award**, while the most outstanding Senior Choir will receive the **Golden Voices Award**. The champion of the Grand Prize concert will also be awarded the **Festival Grand Prize** mentioned above. The **Outstanding Conductor Prize** and the prestigious special **Voices of Asia Award** will also be announced.

General Itinerary for the Festival

DAY 1 (27th November, Sun)	Afternoon Evening	Arrival and Registration Briefing for Conductors & Choirs Choir rehearsal
DAY 2 (28th November, Mon)	Morning Afternoon Evening	Opening Ceremony & Competition Competition / Masterclass (workshop) Friendship Concert
DAY 3 (29th November, Tue)	Morning Afternoon Evening	Competition / Masterclass (workshop) Announcement of Results Grand Prize Concert Closing Ceremony & Celebration
DAY 4 (30th November, Wed)	Morning	Departure of choirs

** The above programme is subjected to change*

CHORAL COMPETITION

Competition Categories

A, Mixed Choir (SATB)

- A1, Open Category (No Age Limit)
- A2, Senior Youth Category (For ages 19 and below)
- A3, Junior Youth Category (For ages 16 and below)

B, Equal Voices Choir (SA or TB)

- B1, Open Category SA Chorus (No Age Limit)
- B2, Open Category TB Chorus (No Age Limit)
- B3, Senior Youth Category (For ages 19 and below)
- B4, Junior Youth Category (For ages 16 and below)

Rules and Guidelines for Categories A & B:

1. One original choral composition/arrangement from choir's home country or its cultural region;
2. One original composition/arrangement **NOT** from choir's home country or its cultural region;
3. One freely chosen choral piece.
4. Minimum 1 song to be sung a capella.
5. The total singing time for 3 songs must not exceed
 - 15 minutes for Open Category (A1, B1 & B2)
 - 12 minutes for Youth category (A2, A3, B3 & B4).
6. There should be a minimum of 21 singers in the choir excluding conductor and/or accompanists.

C, Children's Choir (For ages 12 and below)

Rules and Guidelines for Category C:

1. One original choral composition/arrangement from choir's home country or its cultural region;
2. One original choral composition/arrangement NOT from choir's home country or its cultural region;
3. The total singing time for both songs must not exceed 8 minutes.
4. There should be a minimum of 20 singers in the choir excluding conductor and/or accompanists.

D, Chamber Choir (No age limit)

Rules and Guidelines for Category D:

1. One original choral composition/arrangement from choir's home country or its cultural region;
2. One original composition/arrangement NOT from choir's home country or its cultural region;
3. One freely chosen choral piece.
4. Minimum 1 song to be sung a capella.
5. The total singing time for 3 songs must not exceed 15 minutes.
6. There should be a minimum of 8 and maximum of 20 singers in the choir excluding conductor and/or accompanists.

E, Senior Choir (For ages 50 and above)

Rules and Guidelines for Category E:

1. Two freely chosen choral pieces
2. The total singing time for both songs must not exceed 8 minutes.

F, Folklore (No age limit)

Rules and Guidelines for Category F:

1. Two choral arrangements of folk songs from choir's home country or its cultural region should be sung. National costumes are welcomed.
2. The total singing time for both songs must not exceed 8 minutes.

General Rules and Regulations:

1. Choirs competing in Category C are **NOT** allowed to compete in Category B.
2. Choirs competing in categories with age limits must strictly adhere to them. In case of doubt, the organisers reserve the right to check the age of singers.
3. Competition pieces are **NOT** to be repeated.
4. All competition pieces are to be approved by the artistic committee.
5. Only live accompaniments are allowed. The use of any kind of playback or soundtrack is **strictly prohibited**.
6. Original compositions by composers born in the 20th century are to be performed in the original key except if the composer has given a written instruction concerning keys.
7. Choirs that wish to sing in the transposed keys for the earlier works are to inform the festival office in advance and indicate on the scores submitted.
8. Singing time during the competition is to be strictly observed. Choirs that exceed singing time will be penalised. For every 15 seconds exceeded, 5% of the total points will be deducted.
9. For every competition piece, choirs need to submit **5** original copies of the score to the organiser, of which **1** copy will be kept in the festival archive after the competition. Photocopied scores of published works will **NOT** be accepted.
10. Unauthorised audio/visual recording during competitions and concerts is strictly prohibited.
11. No acoustic checks are allowed prior to the competition.
12. Decisions of the adjudicators are final and cannot be contested.

Judging and Evaluation

Criteria for evaluation:

1. Musicality (Interpretation, expression, style)
2. Technical competency (Intonation, rhythm, diction, dynamics, tone)
3. Overall artistic impression

Important Note: If an actual performance exceeds the limit of allocated performance time as set for the category, 5% of the total score of the choir will be deducted for every 15 seconds exceeded.

Adjudication:

A panel of internationally renowned adjudicators of various nationalities will evaluate the competition. All decisions of the jury are final and cannot be contested.

Awards and Prizes

Prizes:

GRAND PRIZE: SGD \$5, 000.00

Awarding system:

According to the average of the total scores given by each jury member, choirs will be given the following diplomas:

GOLD Diploma	A grade	90 points and above
	B grade	85 points to 89.99 points
	C grade	80 points to 84.99 points
SILVER Diploma	A grade	75 points to 79.99 points
	B grade	70 points to 74.99 points
	C grade	65 points to 69.99 points
BRONZE Diploma	A grade	60 points to 64.99 points
	B grade	55 points to 59.99 points
	C grade	50 points to 54.99 points

DEADLINE OF APPLICATION: 31st July 2016

**EARLY REGISTRATION
SPECIAL!!!**

Choirs that submit their application forms and makes deposit payment by **31st May 2016** will enjoy 50% off registration fees for each competition category.

*Registration fee is waived for the **first choir** of each country that registers with **deposit paid**.*

Choirs and participants from the host country (Hong Kong) will enjoy special discount for festival fees. Please inquire for the arrangements separately with the organiser.

For any enquiries on the festival package, please email to info@konzert.com.sg

CHOIR REGISTRATION FEES

Registration Fees (Inclusive of 1 st Competition Category)	–	SGD 400 per choir
Each Additional Category	–	SGD 250

FESTIVAL PACKAGE

Each participant will be required to take the **FESTIVAL PACKAGES** offered to choirs. Participating choirs can choose from a range of accommodations to suit their budget.

Festival fees are quoted **per participant**.

<u>Hotel and Room Type</u>	<u>Rates per participant</u>
Twin Sharing Room at Festival Venue Accommodation	SGD 788
Single Room at Festival Venue Accommodation	SGD 988
Twin Sharing Room at 3 * Hotel outside of festival venue	SGD 848
Twin Sharing Room at 4 * Hotel outside of festival venue	SGD 928

Festival package INCLUDES:

1. 3 nights' accommodation
2. Festival pass for access to all competitions, ceremonies, concerts and masterclasses
3. Festival T-shirt
4. Festival souvenir programme booklet (1 book for every 10 participants)
5. Meals at local restaurants
 - a. 27th November – Dinner
 - b. 28th November – Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner
 - c. 29th November – Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner
 - d. 30th November – Breakfast

A one-time complimentary return transfer from the Hotel to the Competition Hall will be provided on the 28th and 29th of November, for choirs not staying at the Festival Venue.

Please contact us for more information and pricing of Festival Packages.

Festival package EXCLUDES:

1. Air ticket and necessary taxes
2. Airport transfers
3. Travel Insurance
4. Registration fees for each competition category (Refer above)
5. Individual masterclasses where separate payments are required
6. Additional rental of practice rooms not allocated by the organiser

Choirs also have to chance to apply for an optional performance/tour in **Hong Kong Disneyland**. Please contact us for more information.

Pre- and post- festival tour packages

Pre-festival and post-festival tour packages can be arranged through the organisers if required. Please contact the organisers for more information. (Refer to the contacts below)

Payment Details

For payment by Telegram Transfer (TT) - payer should indicate “**Asia Cantate 2016 - Name of Choir**” on the remittance advice for easy reference and tracking. TT bank details are:

Beneficiary Account name : SIAM EXPRESS PTE LTD
Beneficiary Address : 4 Leng Kee Road, #02-01, Singapore 159088
Beneficiary Account No. : 920 - 345 - 208 - 6
Beneficiary bank : UNITED OVERSEAS BANK LTD
Bank Address : 230 Orchard Road #01-230
Faber House, Singapore 238854
SWIFT Code : UOVBSGSG

Payment date:

Registration fees should be paid upon submission of application form.

50% of the full payment of the festival package should be paid by latest **30th September 2016.**

Balance payments should be paid by **31st October 2016.**

Cancellation charges and refund:

Registration fees are non-refundable.

For festival package fees:

- If cancellation is made after 30th September 2016, **50%** of the total cost will apply.
- If cancellation is made after 31st October 2016, **75%** of the total cost will apply.
- If cancellation is made after 15th November 2016, there will be no refund.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Fully completed application form is to be submitted.
2. Always indicate the full name of the composers and/or arrangers of the pieces chosen.
3. A sound or video recording of the participating choir. The recording should not be older than two years. Choirs can upload the audio/video online and forward the link to us (Please indicate the date of recording)
4. A brief biography / profile of the choir (Softcopy)
5. A brief biography of the choral director (Softcopy)
6. A softcopy reproducible photo of the choir (in landscape format and at least 500KB file size)
7. Clear scanned softcopy of each competition piece to be submitted with the application form for competition programme approval
8. Five original copies of each competition piece to be submitted on the first day of the festival during choir registration
9. Original scores are especially required for published works

Label all recordings, photographs and other material with your choir's name. Incomplete or late applications will not be admitted. The festival office reserves the right to refuse applications for artistic or organisational reasons. The application fees will only be refunded if the choir has been rejected.

In order to facilitate the preparation and planning of the festival, we kindly request you to send us your fully completed application form as soon as possible. Failure to submit all required documents before festival due date, your choir will not be printed on the publication of the festival booklet.

CONTACT

For more information on registration, logistics, and artistic direction, kindly contact

Organiser : **Konzert Pte Ltd, Singapore**

Email to : asia_cantate@konzert.com.sg

Or

info@konzert.com.sg

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