

Kobe/Japan  
January 25-29, 2018



# SING 'N' PRAY KOBE

International Choir Competition & Festival 2018



[kobe.interkultur.com](http://kobe.interkultur.com)

# INTERKULTUR EVENTS 2018

















			REGISTRATION DATES		
			Early Bird	Regular	
	<b>JAN 25</b>	<b>Sing'n'Pray Kobe</b> January 25 - 29, 2018	Kobe, Japan	2017 JUN 19	2017 SEP 11
	<b>APR 4</b>	<b>Voices for Peace</b> April 4 - 8, 2018 - International Choir Festival	Assisi, Italy	2017 SEP 4	2017 NOV 13
	<b>MAY 2</b>	<b>14th International Choir Competition and Festival Bad Ischl</b> May 2 - 6, 2018	Bad Ischl, Austria	2017 SEP 25	2017 DEC 11
	<b>MAY 9</b>	<b>Helsingborgs Körfestival</b> May 9 - 13, 2018 - The Swedish International Choir Competition	Helsingborg, Sweden	2017 OCT 9	2017 DEC 11
	<b>MAY 30</b>	<b>4th Sing'n'Joy Vienna &amp; 31st International Franz Schubert Choir Competition</b> May 30 - June 3, 2018	Vienna, Austria	2017 OCT 30	2018 JAN 15
	<b>JUN 1</b>	<b>Sing Along Concert Paris</b> June 1 - 3, 2018	Paris, France		
	<b>JUN 6</b>	<b>8th International Robert Schumann Choir Competition</b> June 6 - 10, 2018	Zwickau, Germany	2017 NOV 6	2018 JAN 22
Summer Highlight					
	<b>JUL 4</b>	<b>10th World Choir Games</b> July 4 - 14, 2018	Tshwane, South Africa	2017 SEP 15	2017 DEC 1
					
	<b>SEP 12</b>	<b>2nd Corfu International Festival &amp; Choir Competition</b> September 12 - 16, 2018	Corfu, Greece	2018 FEB 12	2018 MAY 14
	<b>SEP 22</b>	<b>ISTRAMUSICA</b> September 22 - 26, 2018	Poreč, Croatia	2018 FEB 19	2018 APR 23
	<b>SEP 26</b>	<b>9th Isola del Sole</b> September 26 - 30, 2018	Grado, Italy	2018 FEB 26	2018 MAY 15
	<b>OCT 24</b>	<b>Canta al mar 2018</b> October 24 - 28, 2018 - Festival Coral Internacional	Calella, Spain	2018 MAR 19	2018 MAY 28
Wettbewerbsfreie Veranstaltungen					
	<b>ON STAGE - Non-Competitive Events in 8 Destinations.</b> Please check <a href="http://onstage.interkultur.com">onstage.interkultur.com</a> for more information on dates and venues.		Israel, Mallorca, Verona, Stockholm, Florence, Lisbon, Prague, Birmingham		

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# **Sing´n´Pray Kobe**

## **International Choir Competition & Festival 2018**

### **January 25-29, 2018**

**Kobe/Japan**

#### **Organizer**

INTERKULTUR

#### **in cooperation with**

Hyogo Choral Association

#### **Supported by**

Hyogo Prefecture Government

#### **President INTERKULTUR**

Günter Titsch

#### **Honorary Artistic Director**

Yoshio Saida (Japan), Chairman of Hyogo Choral Association

#### **Artistic Committee**

Prof. Dr. Ralf Eisenbeiß (Germany), Senior Artistic Director

Fred Sjöberg, General Artistic Director (Sweden)

Johan Rooze (Netherlands)

Assoc. Prof. Romāns Vanags (Latvia)

#### **Organizing Committee**

Masahiro Kishimoto (Japan), National Project Director

Thomas Schüle (Germany), International Project Manager

Jana Kalniņa (Latvia), International Project Manager

#### **INTERKULTUR Executive Committee**

Günter Titsch (Germany)

Qin Wang (China)

Stefan Bohländer (Germany)

Dr. Christoph Wirtz (Germany), Secretary General



## Participating countries



China



Russia



Indonesia



Republic of Korea



Japan



Thailand



Philippines



Poland

### World Ranking List

TOP choirs, results and  
updated statistics about our  
festivals on our website

[www.interkultur.com](http://www.interkultur.com)



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**GREETINGS**



## Günter Titsch

President INTERKULTUR

Dear Friends of Choral Music,  
In 2018, INTERKULTUR is celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of their foundation. Since 1988, we have organized 200 international choir events around the globe and enabled roughly 9,000 choirs from 103 countries to experience and share outstanding experiences, positive emotions and brilliant successes. In July this year, we will be able to celebrate yet another fantastic INTERKULTUR jubilee: the 10th World Choir Games - biggest and most successful choir competition of the world - in Tshwane, the capital of South Africa.

Moreover, we are delighted that the year 2018 will start with a new, rousing INTERKULTUR event taking place in Japan for the first time ever: the "Sing'n'Pray" in Kobe, one of the most fascinating cities of the country, organized in cooperation with the Hyogo Choral Association. And it is a particular pleasure for me that choirs and ensembles from 8 nations have registered for this event. So, welcome China, Indonesia, Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Korea,

Russia and Thailand to Japan.

We are looking forward to a marvelous program of events including concerts, workshops and the competition itself, all of them presented under the heading of "Music of Spirit and Faith". The "Pray from Kobe" peace concert, initiated already in 2012 in remembrance of the victims of the earthquake and the tsunami in the Fukushima area, is sure to be the emotional highlight of the entire event.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our co-organizing partners and friends in the host city of Kobe and to all the many hands busy to make "Sing'n'Pray Kobe" a true celebration of singing, praying and peace.

President INTERKULTUR  
Günter Titsch





## Shinzo ABE

Prime Minister of Japan



I sincerely congratulate you on the “PRAY FROM KOBE Concert: Leading to Tomorrow”. I am pleased that the PRAY FROM KOBE concert has been continuously held seven times since 2012. I have heard that approximately 530 singers from seven countries are here in Japan to participate in the SING 'N' PRAY KOBE International Competition. It is great to learn that such an event of prayers has been developing.

Last May the Hyogo Prefecture Choral Association formed a voluntary choir of 58 members and participated in the Miyagi Choral Festival, and this time a voluntary choir from Miyagi Choral Association are singing in Kobe. I am deeply impressed that

the two areas, Kobe and Tohoku, which were hit by great earthquakes, are sharing a new strong bond.

As a government, in order to respond to the expectations of the victims, we will work hard to promote efforts toward reconstruction and disaster prevention.

I sincerely hope that the prayers of many people gathered through chorus will encourage the victims and give the power to recover.

安倍晋三

Shinzo ABE,  
Prime Minister of Japan



## Toshizo IDO

Governor of Hyogo Prefecture

I sincerely rejoice that the “SING’N’PRAY KOBE” is held this year.

The “PRAY FROM KOBE” concert started in order to support the reconstruction in areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake, and the voice with the singers’ prayers and hopes has brought vitality and courage to the hearts of the people.

For the eighth concert this time, “SING’N’PRAY KOBE” is organized in conjunction with the “PRAY FROM KOBE,” and many foreign choirs are here from around Asia. It is wonderful that the circle of singing voices has been steadily spreading from Japan and into the world, and I am sending a heartfelt applause to the Hyogo Prefecture Choral Association.

Singing is a world common language. Singing together fosters your friendship and

it will make a great force for the realization of a safe and secure society. I hope that your strong and beautiful choral harmony will connect Kobe, Hyogo with the world, and will lead us all to tomorrow.

I hope for your success with the concert and wish everyone who is here today good health and happiness.

Toshizo IDO,  
Governor of Hyogo Prefecture



## Kizo HISAMOTO

Mayor of Kobe



I heartily congratulate you on the “SING’ N’ PRAY KOBE” concert.

The Hyogo Prefecture Choral Association was founded in 1963 as a part of All Japan Choral Association to promote choral music and to improve the technique. They hold several events such as the Chorus Festival in June, Choral Competition in August, and Hyogo Vocal Ensemble Competition in February. I am respectful of all the passionate activities.

In 2012, the association started a concert to support the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake, and last year they changed the name of the concert to “PRAY FROM KOBE: Leading to Tomorrow.” And this year, “SING’N’PRAY KOBE” is specially organized adding the prayers for the sufferings in the areas hit by natural disasters or the areas in disputes.

The city of Kobe has made various efforts to realize the fascinating “city of cultural revitalization” where people gather through arts and culture. Last year we celebrated the 150th anniversary of the port opening and held various events, some of which were the “Port City KOBE Art Festival” and the Kobe International Flute Festival held at sea or at the port. We will continue to promote arts and culture and revitalize the city.

I hope the Hyogo Choral Association will also continue to support us create an attractive city through choral exchanges. I hope today’s concert will be successful and pray for the prosperity of your association.

Kizo HISAMOTO,  
Mayor of Kobe



## Javier Busto

Composer

One year more I remember the suffering of the victims of the Kobe earthquake, the tsunami in Fukushima, the wars in the world, the uncontrollable terrorist attacks, with thousands of people dead or seriously injured. Also, here in Europe, people who die trying to leave Africa to arrive to Spain, Italy or Greece, drowned in the Mediterranean Sea.

This year I will return to Japan, specifically as a jury to the 1st. Tokyo International Choir Competition and in 2019 I will also return to the 12th Fukushima Vocal Ensemble Competition. This means that my communion with the Japanese people will be 20 years old. My first visit was in 1998 and since then my music tries to be a good help for the choirs of Japan.

The new SING'N'PRAY KOBE is the way to express my gratitude and affection to my friends that I have there and the memory of those who died in the terrible earthquake of the year 1995.

It's my pleasure that FURUSATO song serves as the main thread of the festival.

A big hug and my solidarity.

Javier Busto,  
Composer



## Yoshio Saida

President of Hyogo Prefecture Choral Association



This is the seventh year since we started the PRAY FROM KOBE concert in 2012. We have been holding the concert as a reconstruction support project for the people and areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake, and now this has become a charity concert to support the victims of natural disasters in various places and it is one of the main events of the Hyogo Prefecture Choral Association. It is our great pleasure that we, who experienced the Great Hanshin Earthquake and the subsequent reconstruction, are able to keep on singing and to send courage to the people in the stricken areas.

Especially this year, we are holding the international choral festival "SING 'N' PRAY KOBE" in collaboration with Interkultur,

the International Cultural Exchange Foundation, and from KOBE we are sending our prayers for world peace through singing together with the choirs from around the world, which, in return, gives us courage. I would like all of you to enjoy the singing voices and we would appreciate your continuous support for the people in need.

Yoshio Saida  
President  
Hyogo Prefecture Choral Association





**ABOUT INTERKULTUR**



## ... Connecting Bridges

The first INTERKULTUR International Choir Competition in Budapest, held in 1988, was the start of one of the largest and most successful series of cultural events in Europe. The INTERKULTUR Event Series has meanwhile become known throughout the world for its high artistic and organizational standards and as a concept for the choirs and choir enthusiasts worldwide. These events are organized by INTERKULTUR, a non-profit organization based in Germany.

INTERKULTUR's biggest success to date was to bring the antique Olympic idea to the choral community. The Choir Olympics 2000 in Linz, Austria was the beginning of a Choir Olympic movement, with subsequent events in Busan, Republic of Korea in 2002, and Bremen, Germany in 2004. This success continued under the name "World Choir Games" in Xiamen, China in 2006, Graz, Austria in 2008, Shaoxing, China in 2010, and Cincinnati, USA in 2012. In 2014, the World Choir Games were held in Riga, Latvia and marked the biggest event in the history of the Choir Olympic idea attracting 27,000 participants. In July 2016, choirs from 76 nations were guests in the Olympic city of Sochi in Russia for the 9<sup>th</sup> World Choir Games. The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of the World Choir Games in 2018 will happen on the African continent for the first time: in Tshwane, South Africa.

Another milestone in the history of INTERKULTUR was to establish a Championship for choirs. The first World Choir Championships debuted in 2009 in the Province of Gyeongnam, Republic of Korea, followed by the World Choir Championships for Youth and Young Adults in July 2011 in Graz, Austria. Graz again was the host city for the premiere of the European Choir Games in July 2013. This European version of the World Choir Games was subsequently held in Magdeburg, Germany (2015) and in the Latvian capital Riga (2017), along with the "Grand Prix of Nations". In August 2019 choirs from all over the world will meet in Gothenburg (Sweden) for the 4th edition of the European Choir Games. The corresponding event for the Asian world, the Asia Pacific Choir Games were held in October 2017 for the fourth time as well: the hosting city was Colombo, Sri Lanka.

### **The Idea**

INTERKULTUR has become the symbol for a unique artistic idea, consisting of a new interpretation concerning the execution of choir festivals. In comparison to traditional meritorious choir competitions that only invite international elite choirs to take part; the INTERKULTUR competitions are open to all non-professional choirs. Choirs from all over the world, interested in gaining international festival and competition experience, can compete according to their level of artistic achievement. The Artistic Committee puts emphasis on the presence of the highest level of choral performers as well as on the presence of the greatest diversity of choirs in all





competitions. This new type of competition has been copied by numerous organizations in the past two decades. With the idea to organize the World Choir Games, formerly known as “Choir Olympics” biennially, INTERKULTUR has opened a door to new impulses and perspectives for the national and international choral movement.

### **The Quality Seal**

For more than 20 years, MUSICA MUNDI® has been the exclusive quality seal for all INTERKULTUR events worldwide. The evaluation system on which all INTERKULTUR competitions are based upon since the first event in Budapest in 1988 have been improved continuously. MUSICA MUNDI® ensures comparability among all events, a smooth organization and has set standards in the world of choral music.

### **The Competitions**

There are various categories for all types and levels of choirs in different degrees of difficulty, with or without compulsory pieces. The competitions offer good competitive conditions, valuable artistic contacts, various workshops and seminars, as well as practice opportunities with international performers. More than 200 experts and leading choirmasters from all over the world guarantee a high level of expertise in all INTERKULTUR events.

### **Evaluation System**

The jury awards Bronze, Silver, and Gold Diplomas on 10 levels at INTERKULTUR competitions along with Bronze, Silver and Gold Medals at the World Choir Games, the World Choir Championships and the Grand Prix of Nations, according to the MUSICA MUNDI® evaluation system. In each category, a winner or champion is determined and outstanding achievements are honored with Special Prizes. In some competitions there is a Grand Prize Competition of the Category Winners which determines the overall winner of the competition.

### **The Pedagogical Concept**

INTERKULTUR events are not only competitions and international choir festivals, but also provide professional competence. Choirs are able to receive feedback from various pedagogical offerings. In Evaluation Performances or Individual Coachings, choirs have the chance to work with international jury members and gain advice on their current level of achievement, receive proficient pedagogical and artistic information and obtain suggestions as to how to interpret the chosen piece. Choirs may also attend workshops and seminars along with participation in Friendship and Celebration Concerts which allow international choirs to interact with choirs of the host city during INTERKULTUR events.



### **Locations of Festivals and Competitions**

To date, INTERKULTUR events have taken place in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Croatia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Malaysia, Malta, People's Republic of China, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, USA and Vietnam. In the coming months INTERKULTUR will be present also in Japan, Great Britain and South Africa for the first time.

### **The Participants**

In total, roughly 9.000 choirs with about 394.000 active singers from 103 countries have taken part in the INTERKULTUR competitions to date. An interesting note is that more than half of the participants have been children and youth up to 27 years of age and 67% of the participating choirs are returning ensembles looking forward to new destinations and new choral challenges.

### **Means of Support**

In accordance with its statutes, INTERKULTUR supports the following activities:

- International music festivals and choir competitions whose goal is to bring together choirs from different regions of the world and encourage international collaboration through mutual respect, as well as to contribute to cultural exchange and understanding among nations
- Children and youth choirs even from financially challenged countries
- Non-professional choirs that focus on the growth of youth development
- Young, talented choirmasters, young musicians and singers through the support of scholarship awards
- Specific sponsorship opportunities

### **European Culture Award**

INTERKULTUR was awarded the 2006 and 2016 European Culture Award, by former German Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hans Dietrich Genscher and presented by KulturForum Europa, for its activities on behalf of understanding between peoples and furtherance of common European thinking in the field of culture.



July 3 – 7, 2019 · Wernigerode · Germany

# 11<sup>th</sup> International Johannes Brahms Choir Festival & Competition



Join us in Wernigerode for a unique choral experience. Singers from all over the world and excellent host ensembles will create a city full of music. The Johannes Brahms Choir Festival and Competition in Wernigerode is considered as Europe's most colorful choral event. Don't miss to add your voice and join us singing!

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## ABOUT KOBE





## About Kobe



Kobe is a vibrant port city and hub for people, information and goods from around the world. Kobe's location nestled between the mountains and sea gives the city beautiful natural diversity - skiing on the Rokko Mountains, relaxing in the Arima Onsen Hot Springs, or playing at the beach. Kobe has a laid-back and open atmosphere which can be enjoyed all throughout the year.

Kobe is a great choice not only as a tourist destination but also as a place to do business, with a wide range of industries and outstanding business environment.

What's more, Kobe's safety and friendliness and excellent infrastructure give the city everything needed for a comfortable lifestyle.

Located almost at the centre of the Japanese archipelago on the Seto Inland Sea, Kobe has developed along with the opening of the Port of Kobe in 1868. A Foreign Settlement that formed near the port became the doorway by which foreign cultures entered Japan. This settlement also played an important role in bringing a stylish and modern atmosphere to the entire city.

At the same time, various industries began taking shape at the Port of Kobe.

Ever since Japan was opened to the world, Kobe has been a cosmopolitan port city where people, goods, and information from around the globe are in constant motion. Now, Kobe has a population of 1.54 million including 42,000 foreign residents from as many as 132 different countries, and is well known throughout Japan as being an "international city".



In 1995, Kobe and the surrounding area were struck by the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, causing 4,751 deaths within the city and destroying or damaging much of the city's infrastructure. In the years since, with considerable help and support from people throughout Japan and the world, the citizens of Kobe have rebuilt the city into the hub it is today.









## ARTISTIC COMMITTEE AND JURY





Sweden

## Fred Sjöberg

Artistic Director of International Choir Competition and Festival "Sing`n`Pray Kobe"/ Jury member



Fred Sjöberg, born 1953, is an educated singer and choral conductor at the Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm and Orebro. Among others he has studied with Prof. Solwig Grippe, Prof. Eric Ericson and Prof. Helmuth Rilling. He has been the first conductor to conduct the three major international youth choirs as World Youth Choir (1991 and 2005), World Chamber Choir (1993) and European Youth Choir (1999).

When the Swedish organization for young choirs "UngiKor" started he was elected as their first president. In 2000 he was appointed as the "Conductor of the Year" in Sweden by SCDA (Swedish Choral Directors Association) appointed with the Johannes Norrby Medallion for outstanding and 2001 service and development to the Swedish Choral Life. From 1997 to 2004 he was the Music Director and conductor of the project "Notes for Millions".

From 2000 to 2004 he was also Music Director of the Swedish Choral Centre as well as Artistic Director for Lund International Choral Festival from 2005 to 2006. Since 2009 he

is Music Director of Swedish International Choral Centre in Orebro. Fred Sjöberg has been Vice President of Europa Cantat as well as President of the Music Commission of Europa Cantat and has also been Vice President of IFCM.

From 2015 Sjöberg is visiting professor at the Ionic University in Greece and General Artistic Director of INTERKULTUR.



Philippines

## John August Pamintuan

Jury member



John August Pamintuan is a renowned Philippine conductor, composer, singer, clinician, and adjudicator. Since 2007, John is recognized by the American Federation of Musicians as an artist of sustained international acclaim, and since 2012 was a member of the World Choir Games Council. As a conductor he has given workshops, performed in concerts, and won in competitions in Asia, Europe, and North America. As a singer, he has sung in solo recitals at the St. Petersburg Conservatory, and Moscow Glinka Hall. As a composer, John was awarded the composition prize in Tours (France), Tokyo (Japan) and has written commissioned works for the governments of Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, Japan, Lithuania, and the Philippines. He has composed around 450 pieces which have been performed by choirs from 30 countries.

In the last couple of years, John has been invited in the jury of international choir competitions in Vietnam, Cincinnati, Rimini and Cattolica Italy, Singapore, Malaysia,

Hongkong, Taiwan, Thailand, Indonesia, Riga Latvia, and the cities of Takarazuka, Kobe, and Karuizawa in Japan. He is also a member of the panel of adjudicators for composition contests in Croatia (2011, 2012, 2014), International Federation for Choral Music (2013), and International Choral Composition Competition Japan (2015, 2016, 2018).

Towards creating cross cultural ties and strengthening friendship and cooperation, John August Pamintuan has also organized many musical exchanges among conductors and choirs of Asian countries.



Japan

## Ko Matsushita

Jury member



Ko Matsushita graduated at the top of his class from the Kunitachi College of Music, Department of Composition, and went on to study chorus conducting under the late prof. Reményi János, and prof. Erdei Péter in Budapest and Kecskemét (Kodály institute), Hungary.

He is currently the conductor and artistic director of 14 choirs, which are often invited to perform in Japan, Europe, America, Canada, and Asia. They have also achieved excellent showings in the choral circuit and won awards in international competitions.

A prolific composer and arranger, Matsushita's works are performed around the world. His compositions vary widely, ranging from works based on traditional Japanese music, Masses, motets, to etudes for choirs.

Besides conducting and composing, Matsushita is also an active workshop clinician and lecturer both within and outside Japan. Most recently, his choir "The Metropolitan Chorus of Tokyo" was invited to the National Conference of the American Choral Directors Association in Salt Lake City, USA in 2015.

In 2005, he became the first Asian to receive the "Robert Edler Prize for Choral Music" in recognition of his outstanding achievements worldwide in conducting, composing, performance, and education within the field of choral music.

He is currently the Artistic director of the Tokyo Choral Alliance KOYUKAI and Karuizawa International Choral Festival, a board member of the Tokyo Choral Association, as well as a member of the Japan Choral Directors Association, the International Kodaly Society, and a representative of the Workshop of the Choral Expression. Furthermore he is a member of Japan Composers & Arrangers Association.



# 7th INTERNATIONAL ANTON BRUCKNER CHOIR COMPETITION AND FESTIVAL

June 19 – 23, 2019  
Linz, Austria

 [LINZ.INTERKULTUR.COM](http://LINZ.INTERKULTUR.COM)



  
AN INTERKULTUR EVENT







## GENERAL SCHEDULE





## General Schedule

### Thursday, January 25, 2018

Opening Reception for conductors (invitees only)  
18:00 h

### Friday, January 26, 2018

UMIE Shopping Mall  
11:00 h

Friendship Concert

Bunka Hall/Rehearsal Room  
14:30 h

Workshop with John August Pamintuan (Philippines)

Bunka Hall/Rehearsal Room  
16:30 h

Workshop with Ko Matsushita (Japan)

UMIE Shopping Mall  
18:00 h

Friendship Concert

Bunka Hall/Rehearsal Room  
19:30 h

Workshop with Fred Sjöberg (Sweden)

### Saturday, January 27, 2018

Bunka Hall/Main Hall  
11:00 h

Competition in Category M – Music of Spirit and Faith, Part 1





Bunka Hall/Main Hall

15:30 h

Competition in Category M – Music of Spirit and Faith, Part 2

Bunka Hall/Main Hall

20:15 h

Competition in Category M – Music of Spirit and Faith, Part 3

Sunday, January 28, 2018

Bunka Hall/Main Hall

12:30 h

"Pray from Kobe Concert" & Ceremony

Bunka Hall/Main Hall

16:15 h

Awards & Closing Ceremony





## Workshops



### **Ko Matsushita**

Workshop of Ko Matsushita will contain educating about the basic structure of Japanese pentatonic systems - they are really clear and simple.

The the participants of the workshop will listen to some Japanese folk music, especially children's songs based on Japanese pentatonic structure.

To understand about Japanese traditional music, participants will sing together some traditional Japanese songs.



### **John Pamintuan**

The movable-do system, devised in England by Sarah Glover and later enhanced by John Curwen, teaches the use of so-fa names to sing scale degrees by showing function within a key and relationship between pitches. Zoltan Kodaly later on discovered this way of teaching and now is part of a greater pedagogy known as the Kodaly method in Hungary.



### **Fred Sjöberg**

In the workshop we will focus on the role of the conductor. What is absolutely needed, what can be looked upon from another way. How do you prepare yourself as conductor before a rehearsal, how do you prepare your thought about programming, audience, interest for the choir singers etc., etc. We will also look into the secret of the Scandinavian choral sound which has become world famous all around the world. Fred Sjöberg has an expertise in these fields as pedagogue, conductor and artist. He has also been a singer in Eric Ericson choirs for many years.



THE AMERICAN  
INTERNATIONAL  
CHORAL  
FESTIVAL



FEB 14 - 18, 2019  
PRINCETON, USA





SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2018

**PRAY FROM KOBE CONCERT**  
12:30 h

The “Pray from Kobe Concert”, as it is called in Japan, was first held in 2012 in Kobe in order to sing and pray for the victims of the huge earthquake and tsunami around Fukushima on the east side of Japan in March 2011. Since then, hundreds of singers around Kobe attended the annual concerts that became a tradition to be held during the last weekend of January.

Tragic events like this are no news to the people living around Kobe, since in 1995 the city was also hit by a great earthquake, leaving behind many victims and destroying tens of thousands of buildings. However, what you see today is a city completely rebuilt, with only a few signs of the terrible event, a significant testimony of the power of life over natural disasters.

It is thus a very meaningful tradition the one that is about to evolve in Japan – from 2016 choirs from all over Japan will be getting to sing and pray not only for the victims of those natural disasters, but also for peace in the world. This is a festival that does not abide by a certain conviction, but it is rather religious at a much higher level! It is an invitation to sing and pray in the language of all religions, in the language of humanity! More than 600 singers will be gathering in Kobe and international choirs are also invited to sing for peace in the world in the beautiful Kobe Bunka Hall.

It has never been so important for people to strive for peace in the world. Hardly a sentence applies here better than that of St. Augustine: “Those who sing, pray twice!”







For Pray from Kobe 3.11 concert in Japan



## Furusato

Lyrics: TAKANO, Tatsuyuki  
Music: OKANO, Teiichi  
Arm. Javier Busto (1949)

*mp*  $\text{♩} = 80$

T  
U - sa - gi o - i - shi ka - no ya - ma

B  
*mp*  
U - sa - gi o - i - shi ka - no ya - ma

5

ko - bu - na tsu - ri shi ka - no ka -

ko - bu - na tsu - ri shi ka - no ka -

8

wa yu - me wa i - ma mo me - gu - ri - te

wa yu - me wa i - ma mo me - gu - ri - te

13

wa - su - re - ga - ta - ki Fu - ru - sa - to

wa - su - re - ga - ta - ki Fu - ru - sa - to

17 *mp*

S  
i - ka - ni i - ma - su Chi - chi Ha - ha tsu - tsu - ga

A  
*mp*  
i - ka - ni i - ma - su Chi - chi Ha - ha \_\_\_\_\_ tsu - tsu - ga



## 2 - Furusato

22

na - shi ya to - mo - ga - ki a - me ni ka - ze ni  
na - shi ya to - mo - ga - ki a - me ni ka - ze ni

27

tsu - ke - te - mo o - mo - i i - zu - ru Fu - ru - sa - to  
tsu - ke - te - mo o - mo - i i - zu - ru Fu - ru - sa - to

33

*mp*

S Ko - ko - ro - za - shi wo ha - ta - shi - te i - tsu - no  
*mp*  
A Ko - ko - ro - za - shi wo ha - ta - shi - te i - tsu - no  
*mp*  
T Ko - ko - ro - za - shi wo ha - ta - shi - te i - tsu - no  
*mp*  
B Ko - ko - ro - za - shi wo ha - ta - shi - te — i - tsu - no

38

hi ni ka ka - e - ra - n ya - ma wa a - o - ki  
hi ni ka ka - e - ra - n ya - ma wa a - o - ki  
hi ni ka ka - e - ra - n ya - ma wa a - o - ki  
hi ni ka ka - e - ra - n ya - ma wa a - o - ki



## Furusato - 3

43

Fu - ru - sa - to mi - zu wa ki - yo - ki Fu - ru - sa -  
 Fu - ru - sa - to mi - zu wa ki - yo - ki Fu - ru - sa -  
 Fu - ru - sa - to mi - zu wa ki - yo - ki Fu - ru - sa -  
 Fu - ru - sa - to mi - zu wa ki - yo - ki Fu - ru - sa -

48

*rit.* Lento e Marcato

to mi - zu wa ki - yo - ki Fu - ru - sa - to  
 to mi - zu wa ki - yo - ki Fu - ru - sa - to  
 to mi - zu wa ki - yo - ki Fu - ru - sa - to  
 to mi - zu wa ki - yo - ki Fu - ru - sa - to

Hondarribia, 21 - 01 - 2012  
 ca: 2.00 min.





# 6th VIETNAM INTERNATIONAL CHOIR COMPETITION

MAY 15 – 19, 2019 HỘI AN, VIETNAM

**A UNIQUE CHOIR COMPETITION IN FASCINATING VIETNAM**







## COMPETITION





## Competition

SATURDAY, 27 JANUARY 2018

Bunka Hall, Main Hall  
11:00 h

Category M – Music of Spirit and Faith

- 1      **GUANGDONG SHUNDE CHOIR**  
Foshan, Guangdong, China  
Conductor: Jun Wang  
  
Program:  
• Jun Wang: Om Mani Padme Hum  
• Keyi Liu: Yi Xiu Yun  
• Zuqiang Wu: Nv Zhan Shi Wu
  
- 2      **MUKOGAWA WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR**  
Nishinomiya, Japan  
Conductor: Takako Okamoto  
  
Program:  
• Teruaki Suzuki: Orion wa Nishi ni utsurite  
• Teruaki Suzuki: Nanten no Sasori yo moshi Nare  
• Teruaki Suzuki: Futagoza no awaki Hikari wa  
• Tarik O`Regan: Alleluia, laus et gloria
  
- 3      **COLEGIO SAN AGUSTIN - MAKATI'S THE AUGUSTINIAN SINGERS**  
Makati City, Philippines  
Conductor: Jose Juan Reyes  
  
Program:  
• Josef Rheinberger: Abendlied  
• Lester Delgado: O magnum mysterium  
• Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy: Frohloeket, ihr Völker auf Erden  
• Alejandro II Consolacion: Alleluja

SATURDAY, 27 JANUARY 2018





- 4 CHILDREN'S CHOIR "ALYE PARUSA"**  
Krasnogorsk, Russia  
Conductor: Elena Volodina
- Program:**
- György Orbán: Mass No. 6 - Gloria
  - Josef Gabriel Rheinberger: Messe in g, op. 187 - Kyrie
  - Javier Busto: Salve Regina
  - Mattia Culmone: Laudate pueri Dominum
- 5 WATTANA CHILDREN`S CHORUS**  
Bangkok, Thailand  
Conductor: Sathit Sukchongchaipruk
- Program:**
- Albert Hay Malotte: The Lord's Prayer
  - Victor Johnson: Et in terra pax
  - Cristi Cary Miller: Musica Dei
- 6 SYUKUGAWA ANGEL CHOIR**  
Japan  
Conductor: Nezu Yoshiko
- Program:**
- Ko Matsushita: Antagata Doko sa
  - Mtoori Ngayo: Nanatsunoko
  - Ro Ogura: Hotaru Koi
  - Okano Teiichi: Furusato
- 7 TAGUM CITY CHAMBER CHORALE**  
Tagum City, Davao del Norte, Philippines  
Conductor: Mario T. Sabello
- Program:**
- John August Pamintuan: Ummah Sallih
  - Christian Izaac Tamaela: Toki Gong
  - Eudenice V. Palaruan: Gapas
  - Rodolfo Delarmente: Ilay Gandangan



SATURDAY, 27 JANUARY 2018

Bunka Hall, Main Hall  
15:30 h

Category M – Music of Spirit and Faith

- 1**            **ST.SCHOLASTICA'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL GLEE CLUB**  
 Manila, Philippines  
 Conductor: Carl Elmore Facto

**Program:**

  - Miklós Kocsár: Salve Regina
  - György Orbán: Pange lingua
  - Pekka Kostiainen: Jaakobin pojat
  
- 2**            **TIANJIN PHILHARMONIC CHAMBER CHOIR**  
 Tianjin, China  
 Conductor: Siwen Wang

**Program:**

  - Ruxin Zhang: The Prayer Song of Matsu
  
- 3**            **EBEN HAEZAR CHRISTIAN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR**  
 Manado, Indonesia  
 Conductor: Jacksen Stief Pangemanan

**Program:**

  - Kevin Bosco Wantalangi: Dies irae
  - André van der Merwe: Nader My God By U
  - Trad. Bali, arr. Budi Susanto Yohanes: Janger
  
- 4**            **CHOIR VIVO**  
 Osaka, Japan  
 Conductor: Yoshiyuki Ueda

**Program:**

  - Makiko Kinoshita: Shukufuku
  - Francis Poulenc: Salve Regina
  - Ivo Antognini: O magnum mysterium
  - Jack Halloran: Witness
  
- 5**            **THE SKYLINE CHOIR OF SHENZHEN MEILIN HIGH SCHOOL**  
 Shenzhen, China  
 Conductor: Ji Dong

**Program:**

  - Xiancheng Peng: Skyline Chorus
  - Raymond Wise: Steal Away
  - Linda Spevacek: Gloria



6

**SHS CHORALE**

Quezon City, Philippines

Conductor: Nicanor Castro Infante

**Program:**

- John August Pamintuan: Ummah Sallih
- Kocsár Miklós: Salve Regina
- Rodolfo Delarmente: Ilay Gandangan

7

**CORO LUNETTA**

Miyagi, Japan

Conductor: Hayakawa Mikio

**Program:**

- Cristóbal de Morales: Missa "Ave Maria" - Kyrie
- Ivo Antognini: Agnus Dei
- Siegfried Strohbach: Ave Maria
- Miklós Kocsár: Salve Regina

8

**CHULADA CHOIR OF CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY DEMONSTRATION  
SECONDARY SCHOOL**

Bangkok, Thailand

Conductor: Atichai Tragoondet

**Program:**

- Conductor: Atichai Tragoondet
- Trad. Spiritual, arr. Atichai Tragoondet: Hold On
- Ramon Lijauco Jr.: Sanctus
- Atichai Tragoondet: Tisarana





SATURDAY, 27 JANUARY 2018

Bunka Hall, Main Hall  
20:15 h

Category M – Music of Spirit and Faith

- 1      **MUKOGAWA WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR**  
Nishinomiya, Japan  
Conductor: Takako Okamoto  
  
Program:  
• Takatomi Nobunaga: A Hundred Years Hence  
• Takatomi Nobunaga: Hab' ein Lied auf dem Lippen
  
- 2      **VOX SINGERS - CHÓR POKIS**  
Plock, Poland  
Conductor: Robert Majewski  
  
Program:  
• Wojciech Trzcinski: Psalm Stojacych w Kolejce  
• Wlodzimierz Korcz: Jesli Milosc  
• Michael W. Smith: Purified  
• Wlodzimierz Korcz: Czesto stamtad dlugo na mnie patrzy
  
- 3      **GANGSTA SINGERS AOYAMA-GUMI**  
Tokyo, Japan  
  
Program:  
• Gregorian Chant: Salve Regina  
• Perotin: Sederunt (Sederunt Principes)  
• Guillaume de Machaut: Messe de Nostre Dame: No.1 Kyrie

SATURDAY, 27 JANUARY 2018







- 4**      **ATENEO DE DAVAO UNIVERSITY CHORALE**  
Davao, Philippines  
Conductor: Jeremy Sarmiento
- Program:**
- John August Pamintuan: Pater noster
  - Allen Pote, arr. Roberto Delgado: Prayer of St. Francis
  - Rodolfo Delarmente: Ilay Gandangan
- 5**      **PLENA ENSEMBLE**  
Busan City, Republic of Korea  
Conductor: Sung-Hoon Lee
- Program:**
- Javier Busto: Laudate Dominum
  - Ramiro Real: Regina caeli
  - Javier Busto: Magnificat
- 6**      **VOCES KSA:NA**  
Osaka, Japan  
Conductor: Inoue Kazuya
- Program:**
- Tomás Luis de Victoria: Jesu Dolce Memoria
  - Takatomi Nobunaga: Tomurai-no-ato-wa
  - Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy: Frühlingsahnung
  - Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy: Jauchzet dem Herrn, alle Welt





# CHOIRS





**GANGSTA SINGERS AOYAMA-GUMI**  
Tokyo, Japan

M

Founded: 2008



**CHOIR VIVO**  
Osaka, Japan

M

Founded: 2001

Conductor: Yoshiyuki Ueda



**VOCES KSA:NA**  
Osaka, Japan

M

Founded: 2010

Conductor: Inoue Kazuya



**CORO LUNETTA**  
Miyagi, Japan

M

Founded: 2017

Conductor: Hayakawa Mikio



**SYUKUGAWA ANGEL CHOIR**  
Nishinomiya, Japan

M

Conductor: Nezu Yoshiko



**MUKOGAWA WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR**  
Nishinomiya, Japan

M

Founded: 1940

Conductor: Takako Okamoto



**MUKOGAWA WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR**  
Nishinomiya, Japan

M

Founded: 1940

Conductor: Takako Okamoto



**VOX SINGERS - CHÓR POKIS**  
Płock, Poland

M

Founded: 2012

Conductor: Robert Majewski



**TIANJIN PHILHARMONIC CHAMBER CHOIR**  
Tianjin, China

M

Founded: 2015

Conductor: Siwen Wang



**THE SKYLINE CHOIR OF SHENZHEN MEILIN HIGH SCHOOL**  
Shenzhen, China

M

Founded: 2013

Conductor: Ji Dong





**GUANGDONG SHUNDE CHOIR**  
Foshan, Guangdong, China

M

Founded: 1995

Conductor: Jun Wang



**EBEN HAEZAR CHRISTIAN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR**  
Manado, North Sulawesi, Indonesia

M

Founded: 2009

Conductor: Jacksen Stief Pangemanan



**PLENA ENSEMBLE**  
Busan City, Republic of Korea

M

Founded: 2006

Conductor: Sung-Hoon Lee



**TAGUM CITY CHAMBER CHORALE**  
Tagum City, Davao del Norte, Philippines

M

Founded: 2013

Conductor: Mario T. Sabello



**ST.SCHOLASTICA'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL GLEE CLUB**  
Manila, Philippines

M

Founded: 1963

Conductor: Carl Elmore Facto



**COLEGIO SAN AGUSTIN - MAKATI'S THE AUGUSTINIAN SINGERS**  
Makati City, Philippines

M

Founded: 2015

Conductor: Jose Juan Reyes



**ATENEO DE DAVAO UNIVERSITY CHORALE**  
Davao, Philippines

M

Founded: 1952

Conductor: Jeremy Sarmiento



**SHS CHORALE**  
Quezon City, Philippines

M

Founded: 2008

Conductor: Nicanor Castro Infante



**CHILDREN'S CHOIR "ALYE PARUSA"**  
Krasnogorsk, Russia

M

Founded: 1990

Conductor: Elena Volodina



**WATTANA CHILDREN'S CHORUS**  
Bangkok, Thailand

M

Founded: 1995

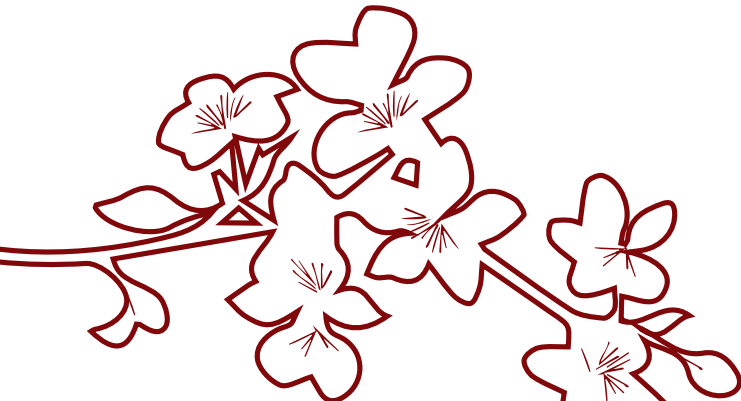
Conductor: Sathit Sukchongchaipruk



**CHULADA CHOIR OF CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY DEMONSTRATION SECONDARY SCHOOL**  
Bangkok, Thailand M

Founded: 2004

Conductor: Atichai Tragoondet





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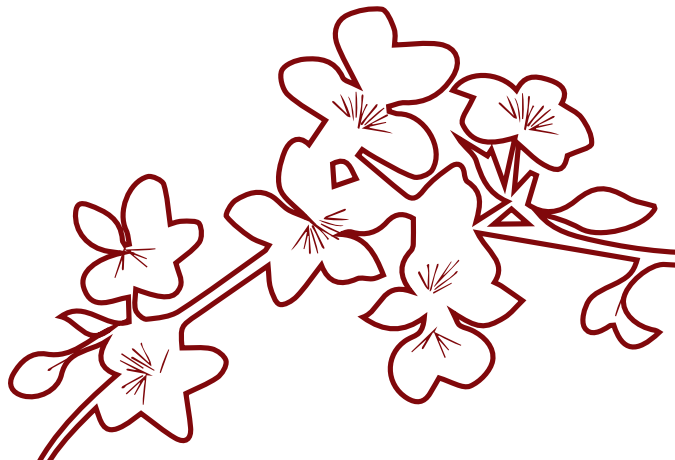
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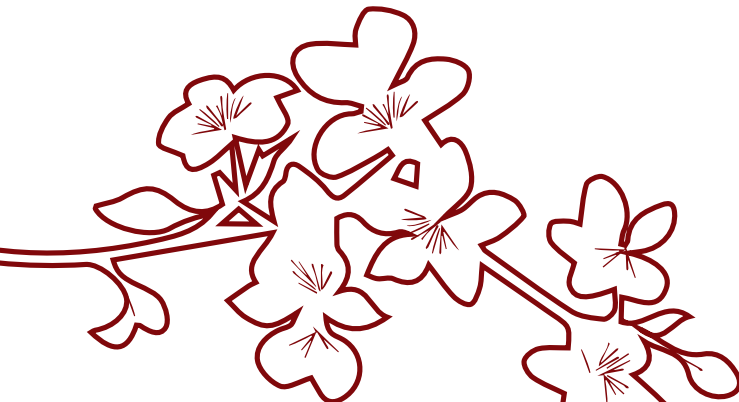
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Choir  
Games



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SOUTH AFRICA

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Early Bird Deadline: September 15, 2017  
Registration Deadline: December 1, 2017

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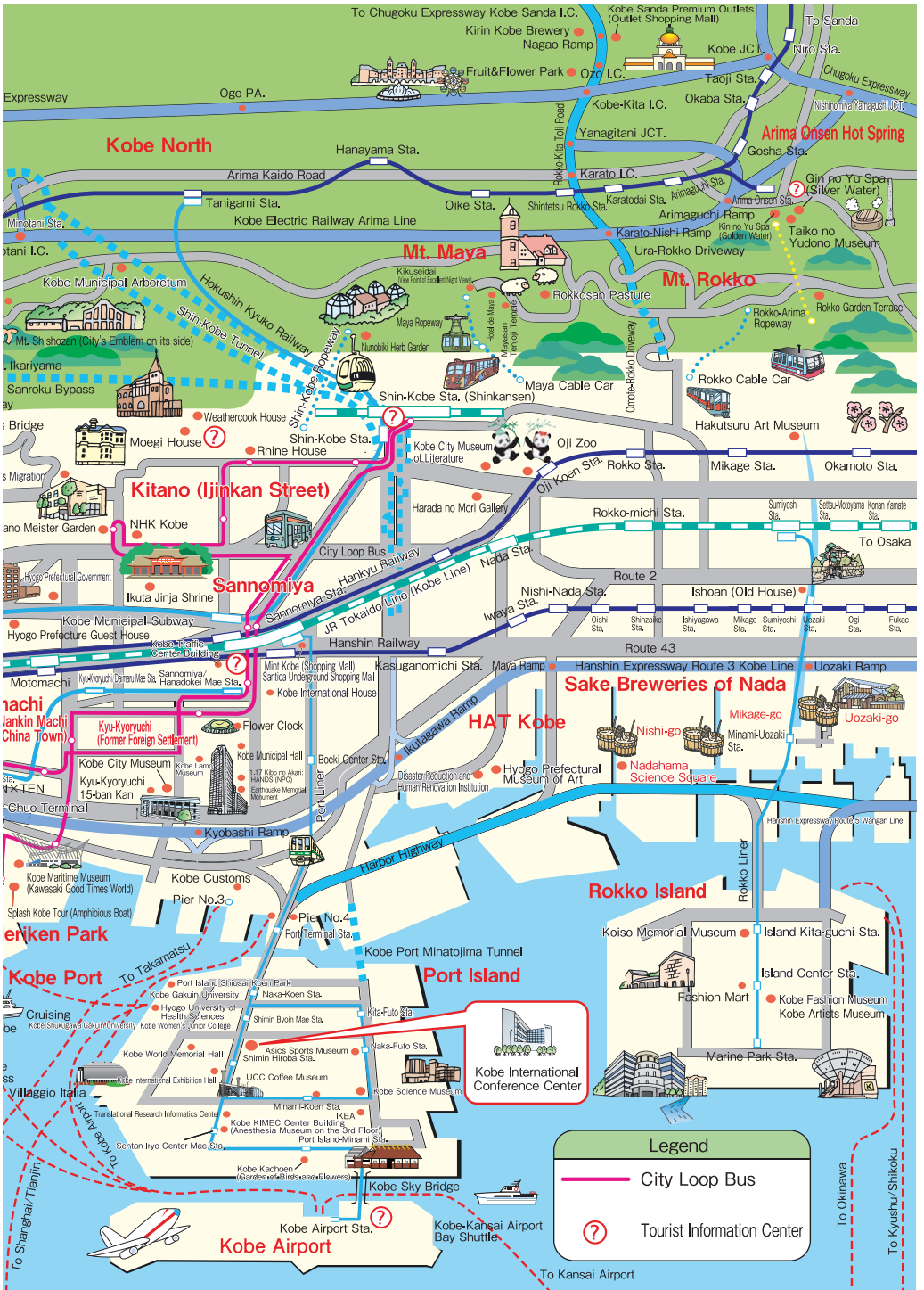
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AN INTERKULTUR EVENT





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AND FESTIVAL "SING`N`PRAY KOBE"**

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