VILNIUS Choir

VILNIUS is a professional choir characterised by the highest standards of performance, versatility and educational activities. Particularly responsive to current trends in art, the Choir can take pride in mastering best of the choral music from previous eras, too. A potent advocate for Lithuanian music, VILNIUS Choir annually presents several new works by Lithuanian composers, the most notable of which reach recording studios. VILNIUS has released 15 CD recordings while 300 recordings of choral works performed by the group are stored in the Lithuanian National Radio and Television sound archives.

A combination of creativity and professionalism, the ability to get through to diverse audiences and involvement in offbeat events and projects are among the Choir's hallmarks, which have forged VILNIUS a reputation as one of Lithuania's leading choral groups.

*"VILNIUS Choir fulfils its unstoppable artistic ambitions in extensive concert activities displaying high professional level and creativity. Over the years the Choir has developed a unique, well-defined vision for its repertoire, which enables it to encompass both centuries-old oeuvres and contemporary innovations in choral music. Thus the Choir's mission is a great stimulus not only for us, composers, but also for the entire culture of the country"* – Vytautas Miškinis, composer and conductor

Artistic maturity and professionalism has long been the top priority of the Choir's leaders. Its current principal conductor, a famous Lithuanian choir conductor and educator Artūras Dambrauskas, has set the Choir on a new creative trajectory towards innovative, versatile and modern artistic activity.

*"A performer's voice embodies their nature and their entire being. That's why the emotional charge present in a choir produces exceptionally strong vibrations and incredible force capable of immense impact on the audience and the conductor. I clearly felt the power while conducting VILNIUS Choir"* – conductor Robertas Šervenikas

Focused on the propagation of choral art, VILNIUS' intense concert activity features unique programmes tailored to a diverse range of audiences. The Choir performs not only in the concert halls of major cities, but also in the most remote towns of the country. Interactive and engaging programmes are specially designed for kids to raise the audience of the future.

VILNIUS State Choir has been the organiser of the yearly International St. Jacob Sacred Music Festival since its inception in 2011. Illuminating every autumn with the sound of sacred music, the Festival has become an indispensible part of the capital city's cultural life.

The Principal Conductor of VILNIUS Choir, Artūras Dambrauskas, is a renowned Lithuanian choir conductor and educator. Associate Professor and Head of the Music Theory and Practice Department at Vytautas Magnus University (VMU) Music Academy since 2009, he teaches conducting and other choral disciplines.

Artūras Dambrauskas has conducted at the Song Festival and other music festivals in Lithuania, has worked as a member of Jury at different international and national competitions and currently holds the position of the Artistic Director of the International St. Jacob Sacred Music Festival.

Since he took over the leadership of the Choir in 2015, Artūras Dambrauskas has introduced fresh changes in the creative strategy of the group. By combining art music and easy listening music in the repertoire, he further reinforces the multifaceted profile of the Choir.

In 2018, Artūras Dambrauskas's was bestowed with Lithuania's Cross of Knight for distinguished merits in culture.