



Consensus Vocalis

Consensus Vocalis is firmly rooted in the Eastern part of the country, based in Enschede and the only professional vocal ensemble along the entire eastern border. The artistic direction of the choir is in the hands of conductor Béni Csillag.

Together with the other professional (music) companies, the choir is of great importance to the cultural infrastructure (Nederlandse Reisopera, Phion, Theater Sonnevand) in the eastern part of the country. It is also a valued partner of Stichting BachTwente, the Noord-Nederlands Orkest, Het Gelders Orkest, Rotterdams Philharmonisch Orkest, Musica Amphion, Nederlands Blazers Ensemble, Metropole Orkest, Valerius Ensemble, Stift Festival, Internationale Koorbiënnale Haarlem, Muze van Zuid and ArtEZ Conservatorium Zwolle, among others.

In recent years the choir has worked with conductors such as Jules Buckley, Benjamin Goodson, Antony Hermus, Julia Jones, Antonello Manacorda, Benjamin Lévy, Daniel Reuss, Ilyich Rivas, Ed Spanjaard, Klaas Stok, Jan Willem de Vriend and Jaap van Zweden.

The choir has a broad repertoire, varying from Bach and Beethoven to contemporary composers such as Pärt, Vasks, Gustavs, Welmers, Bank, van Rossem, Jeths, Torstensson and Rijpstra. From a cappella, opera and chamber music to baroque, new compositions, music theatre, youth performances and the great symphonic works. (including War Requiem by Britten, Beethoven IX, Requiem Mozart).

Due to a careful selection of singers, Consensus Vocalis has a completely unique sound that is recognisable in everything: clear, expressive, intense and full of dedication. The ensemble guarantees great stylistic flexibility and a high quality choral sound, and manages to work with the best professional choral singers from home and abroad after strict selection.

Consensus Vocalis sang the premieres of *Licht en Donker* by Jan Welmers, *Via Crucis* by Andries van Rossem, *Aube* by Daan Manneke with organist Leo van Doeselaar, *Requiem* by Willem Jeths in an arrangement for cello octet, choir and percussion and two vocal soloists, and in 2019 recorded a CD with works by Peteris Vasks with Daniel Rowland and Maja Bogdanovic in the presence of the composer (release 2020). For the online edition Live from Haarlem of the International Choral Biennale Haarlem, Consensus Vocalis recorded works by the young composer Frieda Gustavs, Ēriks Ešenvalds, Hendrik Andriessen, Gustav Mahler and Charles Ives in 2021. These recordings were streamed via the successful video channel of the British ensemble Voces8. In the festival Muze van Zuid, Consensus Vocalis is Choir in Residence in September 2021.

The reviews about the choir are laudatory: 'Amazingly beautiful' (muziek-recensie.nl), 'Outstanding in character and colour' (**** NRC), 'Of exceptional level' (Theaterkrant). "The chorus Consensus Vocalis sings Verdi's delightful choral scenes freshly, sharply on the beat and eloquently." (**** La Traviata – NRC) www.consensusvocalis.nl