

CHOIR WORKSHOP FOR COMPOSERS

7th Edition | 2023

The Virgo Vox association INVITES composers of all nationalities, without age restrictions and without any limitations to the aesthetic orientation to participate to the

COMPOSITION OF CHORAL SONGS FOR FEMALE VOCAL ENSEMBLE

The main purpose of the Workshop is to encourage creativity in the field of Contemporary Music and the composition of new songs, particularly for female vocal ensemble.

PIECES

Must be inedited and composed for a female vocal ensemble (10 members)

Best to be a cappella work

(however, the songs with a single instrumental accompaniment or a small group of instruments will also be evaluated)

Maximum of number of voices in the composition: 6

Time lenght: from 3 to 8 minutes

THEMES

METAMORPHOSIS

STABAT MATER

CUTS

"ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND"

**A TEXT TO BE CHOSEN
AMONG THE TEXTS PROPOSED BELOW**

If the text is in a language other than Italian, English, German, Spanish or Latin, the phonetic text (in written form) must also be sent. It is possible to compose the complete text or part of it in the original language of the work. The themes proposed can be freely interpreted either in the choice of the texts and in the genre to be used (sacred or profane).

The songs that will fail to respond to the required themes will be excluded from the evaluations. They may be proposed again in the next editions if they will meet all the criteria.

MUST SEND

- A form with the personal data, the theme chosen from the ones proposed, an e-mail address and a telephone number.
- A short description of the composition wiht the method of execution .
- A midi file of the composition.
- A declaration by the author that the submitted composition has never been published or performed or awarded before (ther is a form online on Virgo Vox's web site).

The material must be submitted via the dedicated form on www.virgovox.it

On the score (to be sent in PDF) there must be the title of the piece, the chosen theme, the estimated duration of the composition and the writer's name of the text as well as its provenance, when necessary.

The name of the composer must NOT appear on the score: the piece will be submitted to the commission anonymously.

Each composer may submit a maximum of three pieces.

The application for the competition requires the payment of €30 for the first composition (€15 for the followings). The payment includes the annual membership to the Association Virgo Vox. The fee must be paid via PayPal through the website (www.virgovox.it). Bank payment description: Choir workshop 2023- title of the composition and the composer's family name.

DEADLINE

The songs must be
submitted by the end of
31 July 2023

JURY

The members of the jury
will be announced
at a later date and no later than
30 April 2023

**CRITERIA
OF EVALUATION**

SUITABLE FOR VOICE
(VOCAL RANGE, VOICE LEADING)
AND CONDUCTING OF THE PARTS

MUSIC-TEXT RELATIONSHIP

COMPOSITIONAL PLAN

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- The publication of the composition in the Virgo Vox Contemporanea series within the catalogue of **Casa Musicale Sonzogno by Piero Ostali**
- One free copy of the volume in which the work is published
- The recording of the composition at the first performance by the Virgo Vox Ensemble during the finals and the assignment of a certificate

The composers of the 5 final pieces will be notified by email **by the 5th of September 2023** and will be invited to the final which will be held on **30 November 2023**

The final selection will be public and the pieces will be performed in front of the committee members who will announce a maximum of 3 winning compositions.

The commission will be formed by three renowned experts in the field of contemporary music, the artistic director of the Virgo Vox ensemble and the publishing manager of **Casa Musicale Sonzogno**.

The winning songs will be officially announced on www.virgovox.it.

The jury has the right to not award prizes if it does not consider the submitted works suitable. It also has the faculty to mention any worthy composition even if not awarded

The songs submitted may be included in the ensemble's repertoire at the discretion of the artistic director.

TEXTS

- The texts must be set to music in their original language.
- It is possible to choose a different text, from the ones proposed, of the same authors, by indicating the catalogue and edition. If possible please provide a translation in Italian.
- The lyrics that are not in the public domain must be accompanied by a permission, from the author or the publisher who holds the rights, to set the text to music and to publish it.

LEWIS CARROLL**ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND (1867)**

How doth the little crocodile
Improve his shining tail
And pour the waters of the Nile
On every golden scale!

How cheerfully he seems to grin,
How neatly spreads his claws,
And welcomes little fishes in
With gently smiling jaws!

ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND (1867)

Twinkle, twinkle, little bat!
How I wonder what you're at!
Up above the world you fly,
Like a teatray in the sky...

TEXTS**FRANZ KAFKA****DA: BETRACHTUNG (1913) - DIE BÄUME**

Denn wir sind wie Baumstämme im Schnee.
Scheinbar liegen sie glatt auf,
und mit kleinem Anstoß sollte man sie wegschieben können.
Nein, das kann man nicht,
denn sie sind fest mit dem Boden verbunden.
Aber sieh, sogar das ist nur scheinbar.

For we are like tree trunks in the snow.
Apparently they lie smoothly on top,
and with a little push you should be able to push them away.
No, you can't,
because they are firmly attached to the ground.
But you see, even that is only apparent..

CHARLES DICKENS**A CHRISTMAS CAROL (1843)**

"I wear the chain I forged in life.
I made it link by link,
and yard by yard;
I girded it on of my own free will,
and of my own free will I wore it.
[Is its pattern strange to you?"]