

# CHOIR WORKSHOP FOR COMPOSERS

## 8th Edition | 2024

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**

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). Texts not in the public domain must be accompanied by the permission of the author and/or publisher who holds the rights to set to music and to publish the text. Each composer may present a maximum of three pieces.

*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.*

#### THEMES

**WATER / EVERYTHING FLOW**

**CHRONOS E KAIROS / TIME AND MOMENT**

**LUX FULGEBIT**

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

#### 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 with the method of execution .
- A midi file of the composition (.wav or .midi).
- A declaration by the author that the submitted composition has never been published or performed or awarded before (downloadable from Virgo Vox's web site).
- Registration receipt.

The material must be submitted via the dedicated form on [www.virgovox.it](http://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**.

The application for the competition requires the payment of €30 for the first composition (€15 for the followings). The fee must be paid via PayPal through the website ([www.virgovox.it](http://www.virgovox.it)). Bank payment description: Choir workshop 2024- title of the composition and the composer's family name.

### DEADLINE

The songs must be submitted by the end of **31 July 2024**

### JURY

The members of the jury will be announced at a later date and no later than **30 April 2024**

### CRITERIA OF EVALUATION

**SUITABLE FOR VOICE**  
(VOCAL RANGE, , VOICE LEADING)  
**AND CONDUCTING OF THE PARTS**  
**MUSIC-TEXT RELATIONSHIP**  
**COMPOSITIONAL PLAN**

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- The overall first place winner will receive a prize of €400 (four hundred);
- the publication of the composition within the catalogue of SZ Sugar;
- one free copy of the volume in which the work is published; **SZ SUGAR**
- 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 **9th of September 2024** and will be invited to the final which will be held on **30 November 2024**

The final selection will be public, and the pieces will be performed anonymously.

The commission will decree a maximum of three winning compositions with equal merit.

Only in the case of unanimity of the commission can a prize with an economic value equal to €400 be awarded.

During the final, the public will participate in a special prize.

The winning songs will be officially announced on [www.virgovox.it](http://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.

**EDWARD LEAR (1812-1888)****A BOOK OF NONSENSE, 1846**

[11] There was an Old Man with a flute,  
A sarpint ran into his boot;  
But he played daay and night,  
Till the sarpint took flight,  
And avoided that man with a flute.

[30] There was a Young Lady whose eyes,  
Were unique as to colour and size;  
When she opened them wide,  
People all turned aside,  
And started away in surprise.

**GABRIELE D'ANNUNZIO (1863-1938)****ACQUA**

Acqua di monte,  
acqua di fonte,  
acqua piovana,  
acqua sovrana,  
acqua che odo,  
acqua che lodo,  
acqua che squilli,  
acqua che brilli,  
acqua che canti e piangi,  
acqua che ridi e muggi.  
Tu sei la vita  
e sempre sempre fuggi.

TEXTS

FEDERICO GARCIA LORCA (1898-1936)

LA BALADA DEL AGUA DEL MAR

LIBRO DE POEMAS (1921)

El mar  
sonríe a lo lejos.  
Dientes de espuma,  
labios de cielo.

¿Qué vendes, oh joven turbia  
con los senos al aire?  
Vendo, señor, el agua  
de los mares.

¿Qué llevas, oh negro joven,  
mezclado con tu sangre?  
Llevo, señor, el agua  
de los mares.

Esas lágrimas salobres  
¿de dónde vienen, madre?  
Lloro, señor, el agua  
de los mares.

Corazón, y esta amargura  
seria, ¿de dónde nace?  
¡Amarga mucho el agua  
de los mares!

El mar  
sonríe a lo lejos.  
Dientes de espuma,  
labios de cielo.

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**REGULATION**

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- Songs arriving after the deadline will not be accepted;
- the material sent - score, illustrative text, audio file - must be free of the composer's personal data;
- the pieces that do not respect the duration and theme criteria indicated in the announcement will be excluded from the evaluation, without the possibility of reimbursement;
- from the commission's evaluations, the 5 finalists will be drawn based on scores above 7/10;
- the composers of the pieces that are not included in the final can ask for their own evaluation which will be provided with the average of each parameter;
- anonymity must be maintained until the award ceremony;
- any publication or declaration of ownership of one of the candidate songs will result in exclusion from the competition;
- the anonymity of the composers will be lifted only during the delivery of the certificates;
- the commission will decide the winners of the competition on the basis of the scores assigned up to a maximum of 3 songs;
- the prize with an economic value of €400 will be awarded only in the event of unanimity among the commission on an overall first place;
- all the finalists, at the end of the final, will have the opportunity to have an interview with the commission.