



***61st “SEGHIZZI” INTERNATIONAL
CHORAL SINGING COMPETITION
GORIZIA - ITALY
2024***

Announcement and Regulations

Promoter and organising body

ASSOCIAZIONE CORALE GORIZIANA CESARE AUGUSTO SEGHIZZI

with the sponsorship, contribution and collaboration of the following:

**ITALIAN MINISTRY OF CULTURE - FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA REGION –
MUNICIPALITY OF GORIZIA – CA.RI.GO. FOUNDATION**

CONTENTS

Calendar	p. 3
Brief presentation of the competition	p. 5
Part One: application procedure (art. 1-4)	p. 6
Part Two: programmes – performances – jury (art. 5-10)	p. 7
Part Three: prizes (art. 11)	p. 12
Part Four: organisation – miscellaneous (art. 12)	p. 14
Part Five: audio-video recordings, legal rules	p. 14

CALENDAR

Thursday 18th July 2024

- at 10.00 Workshops, Masterclasses, Performances, Concerts, Exhibitions
- at 12.00 Official presentation of choirs and jury members to the press and authorities
- at 21.00 Opening Concert – 61st “Seghizzi” International Choral Singing Competition
- at 21.00 20th Seghizzinregione – Choral Concert Festival across Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Slovenia

Friday 19th July 2024

Performances by groups enrolled in the following categories:

- at 14.00 Cat. 1a - Sacred polyphony (a cappella) from Renaissance to Baroque (1400 – 1750)
Duomo di Gorizia – Cattedrale dei Santi Ilario e Tiziano, Corte S. Ilario

Cat. 1b - Sacred polyphony from Romanticism to the Present (1800 – present day)
Duomo di Gorizia – Cattedrale dei Santi Ilario e Tiziano, Corte S. Ilario
- at 18.00 Cat. 1c - Profane polyphony from the Renaissance and the 17th Century
(1400 – ca. 1650)
Castello di Gorizia, Borgo Castello 36 – Sala del Conte
- at 21.00 Cat. 4 - 20th Seghizzinregione – Choral Concert Festival across Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Slovenia

Saturday 20th July 2024

Performances by groups enrolled in the following categories:

- at 14.00 Cat 1d - Profane polyphony from Classicism to the Present (1751 - present day)
Auditorium della Cultura friulana, Via Roma 23

Cat. 2b - Choral arrangements of spirituals and gospels, pop and jazz music
Auditorium della Cultura friulana, Via Roma 23

Cat. 3 - Contemporary music (compositions selected by the Jury of the 21st Seghizzi”
International Composition Contest)
Auditorium della Cultura friulana, Via Roma 23

Cat. 2a - Choral arrangements of folk and traditional songs
Anfiteatro piazzale Seghizzi - Borgo Castello
- at 21.00 Party dinner offered by the Organising Committee to all participating choirs, guests and jury members

Sunday 21st July 2024

at 11.00 Free concerts & performances / 20th Seghizzinregione – Choral Concert Festival

at 15.00 **34° GRAND PRIX SEGHIZZI** - Teatro Verdi, Via Garibaldi 2A

at 20.45 Prize-giving ceremony - Teatro Verdi, Via Garibaldi 2A

at 21.15 Gala concert of the winning choirs - Teatro Verdi, Via Garibaldi 2A

Monday 22nd July 2024

at 21.00 Cat. 4 - 20th Seghizzinregione – Choral Concert Festival across Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Slovenia

Due to logistical reasons, the organising committee reserves the right to change the venue for categories 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 2a, 2b and 3, which will always be held in Gorizia.

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BRIEF PRESENTATION OF THE COMPETITION

Main aspects of the competition:

- ❖ Choirs and vocal groups submitting programmes divided in musical genres and historical periods.
- ❖ Choirs are admitted after selection of the application material.
- ❖ Choirs admitted to the competition will be assessed by an International Jury that defines merit lists.

❖ The competition is divided in the following categories:

Category 1a - Sacred polyphony (a cappella) from Renaissance to Baroque (1400 – 1750)

Category 1b - Sacred polyphony from Romanticism to the Present (1800 – present day)

Category 1c - Profane polyphony from the Renaissance and the 17th Century (1400 – ca. 1650)

Category 1d - Profane polyphony from Classicism to the Present (1751 - present day)

Category 2a - Choral arrangements of folk and traditional songs

Category 2b - Choral arrangements of spirituals and gospels, pop and jazz music

Category 3 - Contemporary music (compositions selected by the Jury of the 21st Seghizzi” International Composition Contest)

Category 4 - 20th Seghizzinregione – Choral Concert Festival across Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Slovenia

- ❖ **One of the selection criteria for acceptance is the number of categories a group registers in (except for the Grand Prix).**

Please note that the Seghizzinregione Choral Concert Festival is included in the Competition (Category 4).

- ❖ The Organiser, according to the financial resources available, might give a partial refund to cover the choir’s meal and accommodation costs. The amount of the possible refund will be determined based on the number of choirs admitted to the competition, the choir members of each group as well as the distance from the choir’s hometown to the competition venue. The size of the possible refund and the reimbursement methods will be notified after admission to the Competition.

Choirs can also participate in the SEGHIZZINREGIONE Choral Concert Festival which will take place across Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Slovenia on 18th, 19th, 21st and 22nd July 2024 according to the specific regulations included in the Application form.

PRELIMINARY COMMUNICATIONS

- ❖ Choirs admitted to the Seghizzi International Choral Singing Competition will have free **exhibition spaces** at their disposal in order to expose their own materials (CDs, records, DVDs, books, publications, scores, projects, proposals, gadgets, etc.). Choirs are responsible for arranging, looking after and managing their materials. Choirs interested in this proposal must fill in the specific box included in the Application form.

REGULATIONS

PART ONE

application procedure (art. 1-4)

Art. 1

Only **non-professional** groups can take part in the competition.

The "non-professional" definition does not include conductors and possible instrumentalists.

Art. 2

There is no limit to the number of choirs and groups taking part in the competition with exception of category 1c, where a maximum of 12 singers are allowed to perform.

Art.3

Groups wishing to participate in the competition have to email their **application form in PDF format** to info.seghizzi@gmail.com. The remaining materials (in particular scores and audio-video recordings), must also be **sent in digital format** to the above mentioned e-mail address or shared via a Google Account.

Closing date for receipt of completed applications is **midnight of 15th April 2024**.

The application must include all the details specified in the application form as well as the following **in digital formats**:

- a) a perfectly readable **copy** of each submitted score (for the Artistic Board);
- b) a recent **photograph** of the choir and of the Conductor in digital format (preferably jpg);
- c) **audio-video recordings** of a recent choir's performance (please write date and place of the recording, is possible), along with a declaration by the director stating the authenticity and the date of the performance. It is desirable that the music recorded pertains to the type of repertoire the choir wants to perform in the competition. It will be appreciated a reference (with the connected link) to a recent performance of the choir, video recorded and uploaded on the internet.

Art. 4

a) By **30th April 2024**, the Organising Committee, in agreement with the Artistic Director, will inform choirs about the **acceptance** to / or exclusion from the competition. In this selection phase the Artistic Director can avail himself of the cooperation of some musicians commissioned by the president of the Organising Committee.

b) A **valid artistic programme** is an essential condition for acceptance of the choir.

c) The Artistic Direction reserves the right to recommend the **replacement of the submitted scores**.

d) Manuscripts of regularly published scores will not be accepted, except for Renaissance music; in this case the transcribers' name must be indicated. The choirs take all responsibility as to the copyright protection of the performed material. Scores will not be returned.

PART TWO

Programmes – performances - jury (art. 5-10)

GENERAL RULES

No entry fee is required for admission.

- (a) There is no limit to the number of performers with exception of category 1c (maximum of 12 choir members).
- (b) The overall duration of the performance for each category must **not exceed 20 minutes**. This rule does not apply to categories 3, 4 and Grand Prix.
- (c) Mixed-voice, male, female and children's choirs are allowed to participate in all categories.
- (d) One of the selection criteria for acceptance is the number of categories a group registers in.
- (e) When choosing the musical programme for the competition, choirs and vocal ensembles are invited to read carefully Part Three of the Competition Regulations (**Special prizes**).
- (f) All performances are open to the public.
- (g) Where compositions require an instrumental accompaniment, the Organiser will provide a piano, while an organ will be available for Category 1b - Sacred polyphony from Romanticism to the present day.

Art. 5

The 61st “Seghizzi” International Choral Singing Competition consists of two phases:

(A) Categories 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 2a, 2b, 3, 4

(B) Grand Prix Seghizzi

A - Every choir admitted to the competition and registered in one or more categories will take part in the A-phase. Choirs must perform a musical programme **not exceeding 20 minutes in total**, for each category they are registered in and have been admitted to.

B - Choirs with the best assessment in the Categories 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 2b and 3 (with the exception of category 2a) are admitted to the B-phase | Grand Prix.

Each phase has its prizes and/or awards.

Art. 6

The merit list of choirs participating in the 61st “Seghizzi” International Choral Singing Competition and the 34^o Grand Prix Seghizzi 2024 will be based on the judgement given by the members of the International Jury appointed by the Organising Committee. The judgement given by each member of the Jury is absolutely individual.

The Jury's overall judgement will be expressed by an arithmetical mark, resulting from the average of the points given by each member, excluding the highest and the lowest mark: this does not apply if jury members give the same mark.

Accordingly, each choir will be given a merit range determined as follows:

1 st prize	from 91 to 100 points
2 nd prize	from 86 to 90 points
3 rd prize	from 81 to 85 points

In order to be admitted to the 34° Grand Prix Seghizzi, choirs must achieve a mark over 81/100.

Art. 7

There is no *ex-aequo* for any award of the competition. In the case of arithmetic *ex-aequo* we will determinate a ranking list by taking into account all types of marks given to the choir, as well as the choir's ranking in other categories and also the ranking given by each member of the Jury.

Art. 8

The judgement of the Jury is unquestionable. However, the members of the Jury will abstain from voting when their role turns out to be incompatible with respect to one or more contestants (choirs and/or conductors).

Art. 9

Choral ensembles not appearing at their performance at the fixed date and time, or not taking part in the categories they have entered, will be excluded from the competition. This exclusion entails the cancellation of any obligation for the Organising Committee, as provided for by these regulations.

Art. 10

Any claim against alleged infringements of these regulations must be promptly submitted to the Jury's Office, so as to allow a rapid examination of the matter. Oral complaints are allowed, provided that they are immediately followed by a written petition. Failure to comply with such formalities will lead to the invalidity of the petition.

<p>61st "SEGHIZZI" INTERNATIONAL CHORAL SINGING COMPETITION Categories 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 2a, 2b</p>
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CHOIRS MUST PERFORM A MUSICAL PROGRAM NOT EXCEEDING 20 MINUTES IN TOTAL FOR EACH CATEGORY THEY REGISTERED IN AND HAVE BEEN ADMITTED TO.

CATEGORY 1a

SACRED POLYPHONY FROM RENAISSANCE TO BAROQUE (1400 – 1750)

Participating choirs must perform a significant musical programme consisting of **a cappella** pieces written between Renaissance and Baroque (1400 – 1750).

CATEGORY 1b

SACRED POLYPHONY FROM ROMANTICISM TO THE PRESENT

Participating choirs must perform a significant musical programme consisting of pieces written between Romanticism (1800) and the present day, with or without instrumental accompaniment.

CATEGORY 1c

PROFANE POLYPHONY FROM THE RENAISSANCE AND THE 17TH CENTURY

Participating choirs must perform a significant musical programme consisting of **a cappella** pieces written between the Renaissance and the 17th Century (1400 – ca. 1650).

No more than 12 choir members are allowed to perform in this category. Choirs consisting of more singers may enter this category with a reduced ensemble.

CATEGORY 1d

PROFANE POLYPHONY FROM CLASSICISM TO THE PRESENT (1751 - present day)

Participating choirs must perform a significant musical programme consisting of pieces written between Classicism and the Present, with or without instrumental accompaniment (1751 - present day).

CATEGORY 2a

CHORAL ARRANGEMENTS OF FOLK AND TRADITIONAL SONGS

- Participating choirs must perform a programme including choral arrangements of folk and traditional songs from the choir's native country.
- The use of idiophonic or ethno-musicologically or historically justified **instruments** is allowed.
- The combination of (stylistically justifiable) choreographic **movements** with singing is also permitted and desirable. This may deserve special merits.

CATEGORY 2b

CHORAL ARRANGEMENTS OF SPIRITUALS AND GOSPELS, POP AND JAZZ MUSIC

- Participating choirs must perform a programme including choral arrangements negro spirituals and gospels, pop and/or jazz music.
- As for spirituals and gospels, the use of idiophonic or ethno-musicologically or historically justified instruments is allowed.
- As for pop and/or jazz music, the use of **instruments** is allowed as long as the number of instrumentalists is inferior to that of the vocal performers.
- **Electronic vocal amplification** is not permitted, and possible instrumental amplifications must be adequate to the vocal sounds.
- The combination of (stylistically justifiable) choreographic **movements** with singing is also permitted and desirable. This may deserve special merits.

**CATEGORY 3
CONTEMPORARY MUSIC PROGRAMME**

Choirs registered in this category must perform **one or more** of the following scores selected by the Jury of the 21st Seghizzi” International Composition Contest:

HOPE – Paolo Orlandi (Italia)

RIMANGO SOL – Aurélien Hallopeau (Francia)

SURGE AMICA MEA, ET VENI – Aurélien Hallopeau (Francia)

VIEN DUNQUE, AMOR – Roberto Brisotto (Italia)

The above listed compositions will be uploaded to the Seghizzi Association’s website.

In this category scores different from the above ones are not admitted.

61st “SEGHIZZI” INTERNATIONAL CHORAL SINGING COMPETITION

Category 4

20th Seghizzinregione – Choral Concert Festival across Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Slovenia

See specific regulations included in the Application form

34° GRAND PRIX SEGHIZZI 2024

- a. The best qualified choirs **-with a mark over 81/100 obtained in the A-phase of the competition in categories 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 2b and 3-** will be admitted to the 34° Grand Prix Seghizzi 2024. A maximum of 6 groups will be selected by the jury to perform on Sunday 21st July 2024 at 15.00 o'clock in order to qualify for the 34° Grand Prix Seghizzi 2024.
- b. In case the first prize is NOT awarded in one or more categories or if a choir is already the best qualified in one or more categories, the choir in the next position will be admitted to the Grand Prix provided that it achieved a mark over 81/100.
- c. By 23.00 o'clock on Saturday 20th July 2024, the Secretariat of the Association, after examining the results of the performances in the competition categories, will disclose the list of the choirs admitted to the 34° Grand Prix Seghizzi 2024.
- d. Choirs admitted to the Grand Prix must perform a programme consisting of pieces selected at their discretion as long as they pertain to categories 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 2b and 3.
- e. The jury of the 34° Grand Prix Seghizzi 2024 can be opened also to other Artistic Directors from international competitions and festivals.
- f. The musical programme performed during the Grand Prix must **NOT exceed 25 minutes in total.**
- g. **Changes to the musical programme of both categories and the Grand Prix must be notified to the Secretariat of the Association (specifying Author, Title and length of each piece) not later than 1st July 2024.**
- h. The winner of the Grand Prix Seghizzi 2024 will be announced at the end of the prize-giving ceremony and the gala concert on Sunday 21st July 2024.
- i. The title of "Finalist of the "34° Grand Prix Seghizzi 2024" will be awarded to the other choirs.

PART THREE

Art. 11 prizes

A-PHASE

The prizes listed below will be awarded for each of the following competition categories:
1a, 1b, 1c, 1d

1 st prize	Euro 1,500,00 Certificate and plate
2 nd prize	Euro 1,000,00 Certificate and plate
3 rd prize	Euro 500,00 Certificate and plate

Further **SPECIAL PRIZES** will be awarded during the event.

A single prize will be awarded for each of the following competition categories:
2a, 2b and 3:

Euro 1,000,00 Certificate and plate

Further **SPECIAL PRIZES** will be awarded during the event.

Furthermore, a Certificate and plate will be awarded to **the author of the best qualified composition in Category 3**, chosen among scores selected by the Jury of the 21st Seghizzi” International Composition Contest.

B-PHASE

34° GRAND PRIX SEGHIZZI 2024

PRIZE

EURO 3,000,00 (three thousand)

Certificate and trophy

Admission to the 62nd “Seghizzi” International Choral Competition –
Nova Gorica – Gorizia European Capital of Culture 2025

The **conductors of choirs admitted** to the Grand Prix acquire the right to be a Jury member in one of the next “Seghizzi” international choral competitions.

SPECIAL PRIZES

"CHILDREN VOICE" PRIZE (certificate and medal)

Derived from the ranking obtained in the Categories and awarded to the children-voice choir with the highest absolute mark.

“MALE/FEMALE/MIXED VOICES” PRIZE (certificate and medal)

Derived from the ranking obtained in the competition categories and awarded to a male, female or mixed voice choir with the highest absolute mark.

SPECIAL PRIZE FOR THE BEST TRADITIONAL COSTUMES (certificate and medal)

Awarded to the group performing with the best costumes.

SPECIAL PRIZE FOR THE BEST CHOREOGRAPHIES

Awarded to the group featuring the best choreographies.

AUDIENCE AWARD (diploma and medal)

Awarded to the choir with the highest ranking given by the audience during the Grand Prix.

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR CONDUCTORS

"DOMENICO CIERI" PRIZE (certificate and plate)

For the ensemble's conductor. This prize is awarded by the Artistic Board for the **programme of highest artistic interest**.

“ANREA GIORGI” PRIZE (certificate and plate)

Awarded by the Artistic Commission to the best conductor of choirs performing in Categories 1 and Grand Prix.

“MAURO CHIOCCI” PRIZE (certificate and plate)

Awarded to the most talented emergent conductor.

PART FOUR

Organisation – miscellaneous (art. 12)

Art. 12

Choirs are responsible for their own travel, board and lodging expenses.

On request, the Organising Committee will send a list of partner hotels, travel agencies or institutions.

Choirs can benefit from board and lodging in affordable colleges.

The Organiser, according to the financial resources available, might give a partial refund to cover the choir's meal and accommodation costs. The amount of the possible refund will be determined based on the number of choirs admitted to the competition, the choir members of each group as well as the distance from the choir's hometown to the competition venue. The size of the possible refund and the reimbursement methods will be notified after admission to the Competition.

Upon request, the Organising Committee will make available an assistant for free.

PART FIVE

(Audio-Video recordings, legal rules)

A. The Organising Committee reserves the right to record (audio-visual recordings) any performance given during the competition, even for radiophonic, television and discographic purposes, and for subsequent broadcast on radio/television both in Italy and abroad, without payment to the performing ensembles or their conductors.

B. If strictly necessary, the Organising Committee reserves the right to modify the articles of these regulations due to reasons of force majeure, giving prompt communication to all participants.

C. Participation in the competition implies full knowledge and acceptance of these regulations.

D. For any litigation the place of jurisdiction is Gorizia and the Italian version of the announcement and regulations are the only authentic documents to be considered.

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