

Press Release

München, June 24, 2013

don camillo chor

Matthias Seitz complements the choir's conduction

Matthias Seitz is from now on an additional conductor of the don camillo choir. He supports the musical director, Andrea Figallo, with weekly rehearsals.

The don camillo choir is opting for a dual leadership: from now on, the music teacher Matthias Seitz supports the musical director, Andrea Figallo, during rehearsals and concerts. The reason for this engagement is Andrea Figallo's new job as bass of the vocal-pop-band "Wise Guys" in Cologne.

"We are very happy to have won Matthias over. With him, we have found someone who can complete the team", says Signe Faber, chairwoman of the don camillo association. She states that Matthias Seitz has a clear handwriting as a musician, but is still at the beginning of his career as a choir conductor. This makes him very curious and want to learn a lot.

The new conductor thinks equally: "The singers have a lot of fun reaching the highest possible musical quality. Therefore they often participate in workshops and coachings. This is especially for me as conductor very interesting", says Seitz. He is very tempted by the beautiful harmonic sound of the don camillo choir, which reminds him of the sound esthetics of a classical choir, despite the pop and jazz style.

Seitz and Andrea Figallo have been working together and Seitz describes it as very pleasant and respectful. Seitz is happy that “Andrea’s knowledge of rhythm and groove is very impressive and helps the choir very much.”

Next to his commitment with the don camillo choir Matthias Seitz works as a freelance musician. He is a choir conductor (munichbluenotes), pianist (Hannes-Keseberg-Band), singer (StimmBand) and arranger. He also teaches “practical piano playing for school” at the University of Music and Theater of Munich.

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About the don camillo choir:

Goose bumps all over – that is the special feeling the don camillo chor has been generating for 18 years now for lovers of sophisticated vocal music - with jazz ballads, swing standards, sophisticated a-cappella rock arrangements, but also with rare, precious classical pieces. Most important to the 35 singers is working on the details of timbre, vocal technique and interpretation, which, in the end, bestows its own personal, musical brilliance upon a song.

The don camillo chor stands for pure Jazz and Pop delight and is one of the best jazz choirs in Germany: After having won the first prize at the Bavarian Choir Contest in 2009, the choir achieved third place at the German Choir competition in 2010.

National and international competitions and festivals have led the Munich vocalists to Mainz (Vocal Jazz Summit), Austria (vokal.total), Denmark (Aarhus Vocal Festival), Poland and many other destinations. At the World Choir Games 2008 in Graz the ensemble won a gold medal in the category Jazz.

The Italian name „don camillo“ which the choir has had since its founding, specifically refers to a concrete transalpine relationship: don camillo chor has an artistic director, Andrea Figallo, who comes from Italy. He is a coach for choirs and vocal groups all over Europe and is frequently invited to participate as a jury member in international prestigious competitions. Not only is he a well-respected arranger and producer. For many years he was the bass singer and vocal percussionist of the internationally known a-cappella group „The Flying Pickets“. In January 2013, Andrea Figallo became the new bass of the successful German vocal pop band “Wise Guys”.