

## **Moving voices and moved dances - Inciting fortissimo and touching pianissimo.**

### **That was the EJCF 2023!**

Dear friends, participants and audience

A single tear forms at the thought of it being over. The fantastic EJCF 2023. With mixed feelings we look at the beautiful memories we formed. In this newsletter, we reminisce together and look back on unique moments and great emotions we were able to experience at the festival.

### **Tuesday: Welcome to rainy Basel!**

The festival office is set up, the city is ready. In the afternoon, singers from abroad arrive in cold, gray Basel. After checking in at the festival office, they are welcomed by their host families.

**Quote of the day, Tamar (Efroni, Israel): *Oh my god, my host family is so nice, and they even have bunnies!***

### **Wednesday: a fulminant choir spectacle!**

500 high school singers in white EJCF T-shirts and Federal Councillor Elisabeth Baume-Schneider welcome the festival choirs. The entrance procession is almost reminiscent of the Olympics. The new format in the St. Jakobshalle is perfect to get to know all choirs at the beginning of the festival, which a great added value for the singers as well. During the break, they don't go to the dressing room, but play with huge pink balloons - great entertainment for the audience as well. The performances of the choirs are of the highest quality and the festival spirit radiates all the way up to the top rows.

**Quote of the day, Barbara (visitor): *We all experienced a wonderful choral show, were thrilled and left feeling excited for the Ascension weekend, which was rich with so many concerts.***

### **Thursday: Sing along! and party**

On Thursday, the whole city sings. Whether it is the participants in the choir conductors' meeting and at Sing mit! in the crowded Foyer Public of Theater Basel or the Swiss choirs, which meet from the afternoon on in four ateliers lasting several days. The encounter gets into full swing: The choirs meet visitors of the church services at various shared meals, march along at the "Arlesheimer Banntag" or grill sausages on fortress Landskron. In the evening, the choir members get to know each other even better at the party and celebrate exuberantly around fire bowls and in the disco.

**Quote of the day, Simone (OK Nähen Barfässerplatz): *The FCB fans helped us clean up the stand, it was a wonderful gathering.***

### **Friday: Choir Boat, lunch concerts and evening concerts around the region**

On Friday it becomes even more apparent that the city is ready for the EJCF 2023. The churches at the lunch concerts are full to the brim, the audience enthusiastic. The choirs spend the well-deserved break on the choir boat and cruise up and down the Rhine singing. In the evening, they sing in high-level concerts in various municipalities throughout the canton of Basellandschaft.

**Quote of the day, a passerby: *Is there also something going on without choir music at this choir festival?***

### **Saturday: Singe uf dr Strooss, Sewing on Barfi, Atelier concerts**

After you have already spotted one or the other choir in public transport or on the streets, they stream into all the squares on the bright sunny Saturday. The city resembles a celebration, people listen, dance, eat and sew backpacks from old flags (more than 100!). The day ends with overwhelming atelier concerts of the Swiss choirs, among others the Nordic Light in the Stadtcasino.

**Quote of the day, Bernard (former conductor Collège du Sud Bulle, Atelier Nordic Light) : *The testimonials from the choristers I met after the concert were unanimous: a real joy!***

### **Sunday: It's not a Goodbye, it's a See you Soon**

The final concert brings all the singers together once again and, contrary to the expectations of the festival management, they even all fit together on stage for the festival song (see video festival song here). A grand finale of a wonderful week full of youthful choral music.

**Quote of the day, Remigijus (conductor Dagilėlis Lithuania): *We would like to say thank you for the wonderful organization, the greatest concert venues, and the fantastical audience. Thank you for a great time in Basel!!!***

### **Further memories:**

- On our website you can [check out media coverage](#) of the festival. We are especially happy that SRF has broadcasted several reports about the festival. Also, be sure to mark your calendars for Sunday, June 25 at 12 noon. Then we will broadcast a special hour of music about the male voices of the Boys Choir Lucerne at the EJCF 2023. This is the result of the Kulturplatz broadcast, which has met with great interest among the viewers.
- Here you can find a [selection of photos](#) from the festival.
- On our [YouTube channel](#) you can watch lots of concert videos. Among other things, more VLOGs will be published there, which show the everyday life at the EJCF from the point of view of participating singers.

### **Not enough choir yet? 20th edition of "[Lörrach singt!](#)" on June 24, 2023**

*Countless voices and a varied program will transform Lörrach into a singing city on Saturday, June 24. Thanks to a variety of choirs, ensembles and soloists, the city centre will be dominated by singing voices for an entire day. Even though there are numerous choir festivals worldwide, the concentrated energy at "[Lörrach singt!](#)" seems to magically attract participants as well as visitors. We cordially invite you to the opening singing at 10 a.m. on the market square. This will be organized by the Lörrach Municipal Music School in cooperation with Lörrach elementary schools. In the usual manner, the singers will then fill the stages and squares in the city centre with their voices and carry the sound through the city. Not least in the numerous sing-along offers, singers and guests show that music does not set boundaries, but creates connections. At 5 p.m., we cordially invite you to join us at the Burghof outdoor stage for the final sing-along. This will be performed by the soul and gospel choir Soulfamily/Soulfamily Nation under the direction of Joel Da Silva.*