

Choral Conducting Masterclass with Jim Daus Hjernøe and Vivid Voices

26 – 29 September 2024, Hanover

This masterclass "Vocal Painting and Improvisational Works" is a groundbreaking journey of artistic exploration, tailored exclusively for choir conductors seeking to push the boundaries of traditional choral direction. Led by professor Jim Daus Hjernøe, a visionary conductor renowned for innovative choral programming, this immersive program promises to redefine the participants' approach to choir leadership.

The key focus areas include "Vocal Painting Mastery" to unleash the full potential of a choir's expressive capabilities through the art of Vocal Painting and to dive deep into techniques that transform the participants' conducting into a canvas, allowing them to shape and mold the choral sound with precision and emotion. Furthermore, 'Improvisational Ingenuity' enables to break free from the confines of written scores and explore the world of improvisational works in choral music and to learn strategies to guide a choir through improvised sections, fostering creativity and spontaneity within a structured framework.

The masterclass is designed for the participants to witness live demonstrations by Jim Daus Hjernøe, showcasing the transformative power of Vocal Painting and improvisation in action as well as to engage in hands-on rehearsals with the masterclass choir *Vivid Voices*, guided by personalized feedback from the instructor, fostering immediate application of new techniques.

Lastly, the masterclass strives towards enriching the community and fosters the connection with fellow choir conductors who share the passion for pushing the boundaries of choral artistry and facilitates a vibrant community where ideas are exchanged, collaborations are born, and collective creativity thrives. A concert in Hanover, led by the participants themselves, will conclude the masterclass on Sunday.

Master teacher:

A musical innovator and visionary leader, Jim Daus Hjernøe stands as a distinguished figure in the world of music and education, holding the prestigious position of full professor at the Royal Academy of Music in Denmark (RAMA). His journey as an educator and choir director has not only transformed the landscape of vocal music but also earned him global recognition.

At the heart of Jim's remarkable career lies his leadership at the RAMA Vocal Center, an institution internationally renowned for its pioneering work in jazz/pop choir directing. His impact extends far beyond the walls of the academy, reaching teachers, students, and collaborators across the globe.



Choir:

The jazz and pop choir with the "lively voices" of the Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media (HMTMH) has been under the direction of jazz singer and choirmaster Claudia Burghard since 2009. The approximately 45 singers of the *Vivid Voices* present a true kaleidoscope of popular a cappella choral music. Their sophisticated repertoire includes Scandinavian-spherical sounds as well as Brazilian samba rhythms, driving swing and catchy tunes from the pop charts.

The *Vivid Voices* have already won a total of seven first prizes at national and international competitions, making them one of the best jazz choirs in Europe. The young singers have already won the German Choir Competition twice (2002 and 2014), the choir competition at the Aarhus Vocal Festival in Denmark (2006 and 2015) and they were the overall winners of the Mainhausen International Choir Competition (2017).

Repertoire:

Loopsongs composed by Jim Daus Hjernø, and selected loopsongs from existing material, and vocal painting live composing and arranging.

Participants:

This masterclass is designed for choir conductors ready to elevate their craft, offering a fresh perspective on the intersection of vocal painting and improvisational works.

The number of active participants is limited to six persons. Selected parts of this masterclass will be open to passive participants (listeners) as well. **The masterclass is held in English.**

Preparations:

In preparation for the masterclass the selected participants will take part in three online sessions of two hours each on Sep 4th, Sep 11th, Sep 18th 2024 to lay the groundwork of Vocal Painting. Details will be given in due time.

Applications for active participation:

To apply as an active participant in the masterclass, please fill out the relevant application form at www.chor.com/masterclasses. Please include:

- a motivational letter (max. 1 page) including the experience of choral improvisation
- a video (max 15 min) with minimum 5 minutes of choir improvisation led by the applicant, and minimum one piece of pop/rock/jazz a cappella, conducted by the applicant

Links to YouTube and other online platforms are welcomed. Alternatively, you may send a DVD via postal service to: Deutscher Chorverband e. V., [chor.com/Masterclass Hjernø](http://chor.com/MasterclassHjernoe), Karl-Marx-Str. 145, 12043 Berlin, Germany.

The closing date for applications is 30 June 2024. The selection will be made latest by mid-august 2024.



Prices:

Participation in this masterclass is covered by price of the chor.com full-access ticket (Gesamtticket €360 normal price, concessions €180 for students, schoolchildren, unemployed persons, trainees, participants in the German Federal Volunteer Service, persons doing military or civilian service, persons with disabilities with a degree of 50 or more, subject to valid ID). This ticket additionally permits the holder to take part in other chor.com workshops and concerts (depending on availability and prior registration). One-day tickets do not entitle the holder to participate.

Board and lodgings are not included in the price of the ticket and must be organized independently. Full-access tickets are available at www.chor.com or at the chor.com event itself.

Passive participation:

Registered full-access participants of the chor.com can also passively participate in public sessions of the masterclasses without applying. Registrations for time slots takes place as part of the workshop bookings, for which the purchase of a chor.com ticket (full-access ticket or day ticket) is a prerequisite.

Contact and enquiries:

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