



youth choir Carmina
Ekeren (Antwerp) – Belgium

Youth choir Carmina – a short presentation:

Each Saturday afternoon about 50 girls and boys between the age of 10 and 18, join to sing.

The goal of the choir is to educate teenagers and to bring them in contact with a wide range of multi-vocal work in a friendly atmosphere that encourages them to make music as a group.

The repertoire covers a wide range of styles and style-periods. Sometimes the works are a true challenge for the youngsters, sometimes it are just happy popular songs. It is always the intention that the songs have an added value for the group, disregarding the level of the work.

Obviously, a group of teenagers are not singing for the love of music only, an equally important stimulant is to, every week, meet friends.

Therefore, on a regular basis, group activities are organised such as a summer camp (already 32 years in a row), pick-nicks, rehearsal-weekends, ...

Still, training, education and rehearsals have no use if it would not be to reach a certain level. The goal of the choir is to maintain a level which allows *Carmina* to join and to stay amongst the higher quality choirs in Belgium.

For this reason, *Carmina* is always working on a project, a concert, Christmas carols, festivals, contests, or simply singing during a weekly Mass or at special Celebrations.

Youth choir Carmina is part of the C-Choirs.



The C-Choirs – a short presentation:



This picture was taken after the Celebration Mass in the Sint-Lambertuschurch at Ekeren to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the C-Choirs on 5 October 2008.

The C-Choirs is with 8 choirs, more the 350 singings members and 1.200 songs in her repertoire, one of the largest (if not the largest) choir organisations in Belgium.

Since the C-Choirs were founded in 1968, more than 2.000 singers out of the Antwerp area have been in contact with choral music.

The wide range of high quality, well organised choirs in a nice atmosphere are the basis of success and continuing growth.

Beside the weekly practices (500 hours rehearsal yearly), the various concerts, musicals, concert tours, youth camps and other fun activities are creating a unique musical experience in a friendly atmosphere. Further on, the C-Choirs are ensuring a very professional counselling by our conductors, pianists, supervisors and administrative support.

The C-Choirs is a large choir-family that covers all ages:
(The C is the starting letter of the name of almost all our choirs).



LAMBERTINTJES

the starters-choir for our dearest,
wobbling and jumping
preschoolers
of the age of 5 till 8.

LAMBERTIINEN

the next step for
boys and girls
between 8 and 12
years, singing
songs
that fit perfect in
their world of joy
and play.



CARMINA

teenagers of 10 till
18 years singing
multi-vocal work;
the real work
often testing their
talent in a contest
(with success).





CANTILENE

for young adults of 17 till 25 years, who are, as in real life, growing independently and strongly. A very tight group of friends.

CALIENTÉ

the next choirs in the circle of life for the age of 28 till 45 – often parents of children singing with Lambertijnen and/or Carmina.



CON AMORE

the choir for those who cannot and will not stop singing, simply because it is a part of their life.





CANTANDO

The choir for the passionate singers, selected and trained and aiming to be constantly among the best.

CANTABO (Schola Gregoriana Cantabo)

A choir of 8 men bringing Gregorian religious songs during Mass on feast-days and services of vesper.



The conductor of Carmina:



An Meeusen was born on 18 October 1977.

Already at the age of 7 she was singing in the youth choir Scaldis Cantat.

She studied violin and drama at the music academy of Merksem.

In 2000 she obtained her “Master”-degree singing - with distinction – at the Conservatorium of Antwerp.

An is a teacher at various music academies and also renders technical support (voice education) to various choirs.

In 1996 she became conductor of youth choir *Carmina*.

She is also conductor of Caljenté, another choir of the C-Choir family.

What has Carmina been doing for the last years? Some highlights!

Apart from participations to joint concerts with other choirs of the C-Choir family and one-time performances, *Carmina* has worked on and performed the following projects:

2005

Adiemus of Karl Jenkins.

Carmina brought the full work of Karl Jenkins as a combination of music, dance and video.

Semi-finals of the “Choir of the Year”- contest.

A yearly contest of the “Choir federation” in cooperation with Canvas – the national television broadcast.

2006

Las Amarillas.

A concert with Spanish music and tango.

A musical city walk in Antwerp.

As starter for the new season, *Carmina* brought songs at various locations in the city for the general amusement of the shopping people and the experience and as remedy against stage-fever for the choir members.

Feel the Spirit.

A concert with songs for the Christmas season, brought jointly with the Symphonic ensemble of Ekeren in the Baroc church Carolus Borromeus at Antwerp.



2007

Carmina Burana of Carl Orff.

Carmina was one of the participating choirs of the mass production / three concerts of Carmina Burana with 3 other choirs and a full symphonic orchestra.

2008

Movie music.

A concert jointly with a wind instrument orchestra of the music academy of Deurne with the music of movies as theme.

Provincial contest.

The participation of *Carmina* to the 4-yearly contest organised by the Cultural Department of the Province of Antwerp. The jury awards the participants with a degree.

Carmina was awarded the degree “excellent”.

Celebration Mass - 40-year Anniversary of the C-Choirs.

A joint concert / Celebration Mass with all C-Choirs to celebrate the 40-year anniversary of the C-Choirs and to start a year of various celebration activities.

Christmas 2008.

2 double concerts jointly with Caljenté.

Planned concerts.

Spring 2009: Anniversary concert with all C-Choirs in the concert hall “de Single” in Antwerp.