

Windsbach Boys Choir

The Exceptional Sound of Sacred Music

The *Windsbach Boys Choir* has become one of the leading German boys choirs. With its repertoire extending from the Renaissance to contemporary music, the choir specializes in the sacred repertoire. This rich tradition covers *a capella* works of all eras, as well as the great oratorios of Johann Sebastian Bach, Georg-Friedrich Händel, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy and Johannes Brahms.

Founded in 1946 by Hans Thamm the choir was brought to national and international acknowledgement by his successor Karl-Friedrich Beringer. In 2012 Martin Lehmann took on as conductor of the choir, that represents a synthesis of musicality, precision and purity of sound. As a result top orchestras as the *Deutsche Symphonie-Orchester Berlin* or the *Bamberger Symphoniker* love to work with the choir. The choir also has repeatedly and successfully worked together with the *Akademie für alte Musik Berlin* performing in Bach's Matthäus Passion, with Bach cantatas at the Bachwoche Ansbach or at the Dresdner Frauenkirche in 2011 or in Bach's christmas oratorio for example at the concert hall Berlin in 2014.

In June 2016 the choir is invited to the Vatican to be part of a special concert at the Sistine Chapel and to sing at the Holy Mass on the occasion of the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul at the St. Peter's Basilica, celebrated by Pope Francis, the leader of the Roman Catholic Church.

Frequent invitations to important festivals, such as the *Rheingau Musikfestival* and the *Bachwoche Ansbach*, emphasize the standing the choir has acquired in the national and international music scene. The choir has gone on concert tours within Europe, as well as to Japan, North and South America, Israel, Australia, Taiwan, Singapore and several times to the Peoples Republic of China – there most recently in May 2016.

Many CD productions, radio broadcasts and television appearances have brought raves from music critics and audiences alike. In Spring 2015 the choir released a CD with a first recording of Johann Staden's „Kirchenmusik I“ at SONY followed by Johann Sebastian Bach's christmas oratorio part 4-6 in November 2015.

Every year, the „Windsbacher“ take in new talented young singers, who frequently enroll for the choir during the transition from fourth to fifth grade. In addition to vocal training, instrumental instruction and a well-rounded education are the focus of the boarding school. The musical and academic institution is financed by public and church funding, as well as private donors. As a „cultural ambassador“ of Nürnberg's Metropolitan Region, the *Windsbach Boys Choir* has become a trademark of Franconia and a musical „advertisement“ for the Lutheran Church in Bavaria.

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