

English Translation Art - TV video



Bernhard Furchner: The Choir of Nations is a programme for making music together. We sing in 13 languages, 27 nations, and we are about 200 performers.

It can be taken as a political statement. But it's an age-old phenomenon that making music together changes our relationship with one another.



Erlinda Ruaya: I am Erlinda Ruaya, I am from the Philippines and I enjoy singing so much. Through singing I can recharge my batteries. And that's a kind of a recreation for me... like holidays.

It's so beautiful to feel that I am not alone. We are in the same boat, we strive for the shared aim, the same aim.

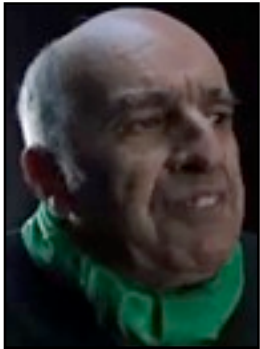


Bernhard Furchner: These cultures also elicit astonishment at first, many question marks. And if you give these question marks space, there is discovery and mutual enrichment.

Our everyday life is culturally imprinted and this imprint differs very much in the different cultures. When singing in an Islamic culture, there are in the example of Afghanistan people who will be made a head shorter. If a man from an Islamic country sings with us in our choir and he really does sing... then this is enormously liberating for him as a human being.



Jebayoges Joseph: There is a difference indeed... with us everybody always sings together, so only male voices and female voices... but here it is always separate... altos and sopranos... We don't hear that in Sri Lanka... only here... I am Mrs. Jebayoges Joseph, I am married... I have two children... I have been living in Lucerne for 20 years... I enjoy singing with all these people, to get to know all the countries... other cultures... I wish to learn such things.



Josef Priore: My name is Pietro Priore, that's how I was christened. I'm from Luchsingen, Canton Glarus. I have taken early retirement. I think it's great that they participate, that they integrate themselves so well... we should never exclude good fellow citizens... I emphasise... good fellow citizens... from a society... I must say that with exotic languages like Russian, Afghan languages, Turkish, I do have some problems, but you can also feel your way into it... hear your way into it.



Bernhard Furchner: We would like other cities to join us...that they may also establish their own Choir of Nations and enjoy this enrichment and profit from it. We hope and plan that this may be a continuous... an important element of our cultural life in music and also in meeting each other.

You can watch the video "Chor der Nationen - Lieder für den Frieden" on www.art-tv.ch