



Chamber Choir Ireland and the Contemporary Music Centre announce *Choral Sketches 2017/ 2018* with composer Tarik O' Regan.

Chamber Choir Ireland is the country's flagship choral ensemble and national chamber choir under the internationally celebrated and multi-award-winning conductor Paul Hillier as Artistic Director. The Contemporary Music Centre is Ireland's resource organisation for contemporary music, documenting, developing and promoting new music from Ireland at home and abroad.

Following the success of the inaugural *Choral Sketches* project in February 2017, Chamber Choir Ireland and CMC will renew their partnership in 2017/2018, to present this unique professional development opportunity for composers who wish to develop their skills in writing choral music with mentoring from renowned composer Tarik O'Regan. The purpose of the *Choral Sketches* initiative is to provide a creative and open environment for composers to deepen their experience in writing for voices in a choral context. The project is open to composers registered with the Contemporary Music Centre. Through Chamber Choir Ireland's membership of TENSO – the network of professional chamber choirs in Europe, one international composer will participate in the programme, nominated and supported by TENSO.

What happens in the *Choral Sketches* project?

- A maximum of four composers will be selected to take part in the workshop from a submissions process from an anonymous submission process.
- The selected composers will receive online mentoring from Tarik O'Regan at intervals from November 2017 – January 2018 leading to the development of a series of compositional sketches for a new choral work.
- These sketches will be the focus of a public workshop led by Tarik O'Regan, with Chamber Choir Ireland and guest conductor Nils Schweckendiek on **Saturday January 20th 2018**, in Dublin.
- Each composer shall be allocated c.40 minutes to workshop their choral sketches with input from Tarik O' Regan, Nils Schweckendiek and the singers.
- Chamber Choir Ireland will make provision to present performance readings of the final works from the *Choral Sketches* project in Autumn 2018.

Would you like to apply for the *Choral Sketches* project?

Chamber Choir Ireland and the Contemporary Music Centre are now seeking expressions of interest in this initiative. In order to make a submission, composers must submit the following by email to submissions@cmc.ie by 5pm on **Friday 13 October 2017** (please put ***Choral Sketches*** in the subject heading).

- A short proposal outlining how *Choral Sketches* will enable you to explore your compositional ideas and develop your skills.

- Two recent completed scores in pdf format (not excerpts) and mp3 recordings or electronic realisations of each score.

A video feature and report on *Choral Sketches 2017* can be found here: <https://www.cmc.ie/features/choral-sketches-workshop-video-and-report>

Notes for applicants:

- Composers chosen to participate will be informed during the week beginning **23 October 2017**.
- Participating composers may apply for CMC travel bursaries.
- Composers who were selected to participate in *Choral Sketches 2017* are ineligible to apply for *Choral Sketches 2018*.
- There is no age restriction for applicants.
- The completed works which develop from the sketches are embargoed for public performance until after the subsequent performance reading by Chamber Choir Ireland in Autumn 2018.
- Submissions are checked for eligibility by a member of CMC staff and each submission is acknowledged.
- Submitted scores and recordings are then presented to the selection panel without the applicant's name, titles of works, or other identifying features.
- The selection panel includes the mentor composer, the guest conductor, the CEO of Chamber Choir Ireland and the Director of the Contemporary Music Centre.
- The panel's decision is final.

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