

Candidate for ECA-EC Board 2021

RAUL TALMAR

Supported by Estonian Choral Association

Motivation letter

My motivation to work in ECA-EC Board is

- to help to enlarge the geography of choral singing people in ECA-EC activities,
- to increase visibility of choral conductor's position and make this profession to be an honourable one,
- to contribute to subjects connected with conductors' courses, meetings, educational events.

Only if motivated and professionally trained conductors are working with amateurs, we can achieve deeper understanding of music and universe.

Why are you interested in becoming a Board member of the European Choral Association

– Europa Cantat? What makes you a good Board member?

During several years I have seen, how ECA-EC is working, and I feel that some experiences we have in Estonia, might be useful to share as a Board member of European Choral Association. As I have visited many choral events and organisations in Russian-speaking countries, and speak Russian myself, I hope it is useful to create closer contacts with ECA-EC and Russian, Ukrainian, Belorussian etc choral organisations.

How can you contribute to the development of the federation and what would you like to focus on during the period on board?

I would like to contribute more in activities what are connected to musical education, as I see that in Europe there are many different approaches to musical education, especially in schools. I would like to contribute to good examples of curriculums of musical education and to make society to understand, that music (especially choral music) can heal our nervous world.

Also there could be more scientific approach to benefits of collective singing, I mean neurosciences have done lot of discoveries concerning music making.

- **What is your vision about the European Choral Association – Europa Cantat and its activities?**

My vision is that ECA-EC could reach closer to post socialistic countries, and from other hand use their experiences of making high level musical activities both in schools and concert halls. Also training of choral conductors in those countries is in many cases very high level and interesting to learn from.

Raul Talmar

CV of Raul Talmar

Raul Talmar (b 1959) graduated from the Tallinn Music Academy as choral conductor in 1982. He sang in mixed choir Noorus since 1977 and was the choir's principal conductor in 1991–2012. He has also worked with Academic Female Choir of Tallinn University of Technology, Male Choir of the Helsinki Trade University, Female Choir of the Klementi Sewing Factory, Pärnu Mattone Chamber Choir, Estonian National Girls' Choir „Leelo“, Tallinn Russian Choir and Tallinn St Charles Church Concert Choir.

At present, Raul Talmar is chief conductor of K.O.O.R. Mixed Choir and Mixed Choir of Baltic Film, Media, Arts and Communication School (BFM) of Tallinn University. He holds the position of Assistant Professor of choral conducting in Tallinn University since 2007, from June 2013 to May 2019 he was the President of Estonian Choral Association.

In 2006, Raul Talmar was nominated the Conductor of the Year by the Estonian Choral Association.

Since 1993, he has conducted mixed and female choirs at the Youth Song Celebrations and since 2004 at All-Estonian Song and Dance Celebrations. In 2011 he was the Artistic Director of Youth Song Celebration and the leader of Estonian programme of the 16th Baltic Students' Song Festival „Gaudeamus“, in 2019 was Raul Talmar leading conductor of female choirs in Estonian Song and Dance Celebration.

In 2018 was elected as board member of European Choral Association and was then also a member of Music Commission of EC Tallinn2018 and Ljubljana2021.

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Endorsement letter

Estonian Choral Association is glad to nominate Raul Talmar as a candidate for the board of European Choral Association. We believe that his experiences as a conductor, conducting teacher and a choral organisation leader are useful for ECA-EC.

Raul has worked in Music Commissions of EUROPA CANTAT festivals in Tallinn 2018 and Ljubljana 2021, he has participated in several ECA-EC events during past years and is interested in continuing contribution to its work.

Kaie Tanner
Board member of Estonian Choral Association, Secretary General

Tallinn, 29.09.2021