



## ***Gustaf Vasa Chamber Choir***

Gustaf Vasa Chamber Choir is a well-known choir residing in one of Stockholm's larger churches in the heart of the city.

Gustaf Vasa Chamber Choir consists of around 32 choir members, all with different backgrounds but with a mutual interest in singing and performing church music on a next to professional level. Several members are working as musicians and composers, but the main part of the members are amateurs with a passionate interest in singing choir music. The conductor is Lars Fredén, born in 1968. Lars is the leader of the choir since the year of 2001, employed by the congregation of Gustaf Vasa Church. He is also the conductor of the smaller Gustaf Vasa Vocal Ensemble. Lars Fredén was educated at the Royal Music Academy in Stockholm. Apart from conducting, he is also a trained organist giving organ concerts on a regular basis, as well as a composer, published by several publishing houses such as Gehrman's Musikförlag and Norsk musikförlag a/s.

Gustaf Vasa Chamber Choir performs with a large repertoire. The choir has staged most of the classical great works of J S Bach such as the *St Matthew Passion* and *Mass in B minor*, *Messiah* by Handel, the *Requiems* by Mozart, Brahms and Schnittke, *Vespers* by Rachmaninov etc. The Choir cooperates with professional orchestras such as Drottningholms Barockensemble and Hovkapellet of the Royal Opera.

Gustaf Vasa Chamber Choir has also a preference for music that is rarely performed in Sweden. The choir recently gave a concert with music written by the Spanish composer of baroque music Fransisco Courcell: *Missa ave Maris Stella*, but has also sung *Requiem* by Luigi Cherubini and *Vespers* by Isabella Leonarda. Also to be mentioned is a composer's portrait of the British composer Cecilia McDowell, performed in 2015.

Gustaf Vasa Chamber Choir also enjoys giving concerts a capella. The repertoire includes well-known pieces such as *Friede auf Erde* by Arnold Schönberg, *Tallis Speem in alium* by Thomas Tallis and *Figure humaine* by Francis Poulenc.

A sample of the music performed by Gustaf Vasa Chamber Choir can be listened to at <http://www.gvkk.se/lyssna.html>

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