



Newsletter Early Summer 2017

Dear Friends of the Coro dos Amigos

As we near the end of another season, at the time of writing we still have three performances to prepare and look forward to. We hope that you will be able to join us for one or more of these events.

On Sunday, 28th May, 5 pm. we shall take part in the final concert of the Olhão Festival of Chamber Choirs (Coros de Câmara) in the Igreja Matriz in Olhão. We shall be singing alongside two other choirs and the Orchestra of the Olhão Conservatório. The other vocal participants are the Coral Feminino Outras Vozes and the Coro de Câmara de Lisboa. This will be the culmination of a week of music-making in the town, and the revival of a festival that has been suspended for some years. The Concert starts at 5 pm

Our next engagement, at 6.00 pm on Saturday, 3rd June, Museu de Trajo, S. Brás, is one very dear to our hearts, as it is a tribute to our first Maestro, Walter Sulzer, who died last year. I can do no better than to reproduce the press release for this concert, written by our President, Diane:

“It is already 9 months since the death of Walter Sulzer, but the memories of this exceptional man are still fresh and green. It was not his musicality alone, his gifts as musician and choirmaster, but the extremely rare combination of a man who could both inspire, and endear himself to those he inspired. The choir he created will always remember him with love and respect, as long as there remain singers from the days when he was choirmaster.

It is therefore with a sense of celebration that the Coro dos Amigos have decided to hold a concert in homage to the memory of Walter Sulzer. They have chosen songs that Walter himself loved - baroque, of course, but also medieval from the days when Andalusia was at its height. He delighted in the regularity of German baroque, but equally loved the discords and the liberties that the very English Purcell took in blending four voices. Portuguese sacred music, slightly naughty English madrigals - he took enormous pleasure in all music that was well crafted.

So the choir will do its best to present a concert that Walter would have loved, and individuals from within and outside the choir will also present some pieces that they would like to offer up to his memory. Not only that but the Coro de Câmara de Beja will join us for a special performance in memory of the man who was once a valued member of their choir, until he moved to the Algarve. There will be no entry charge, but a collection will be made in Walter's honour, for his family to donate to a local charity of their choosing. All are welcome to join us, it promises to be a special evening.”

Our final appearance of the season will take us out of our usual area, and into the auditorium at Vale de Lobo. We have been invited to perform there as part of their summer season of concerts, and we shall sing a variety of pieces under the title `A Continental Journey`, ending with Vivaldi's `Gloria`, which we performed twice last year with our friends from Tavira. This concert begins at 7.30 on June 10th, and you can find more information online at <https://www.valedolobo.com/en/vale-do-lobo/news-events/>

The Committee and members of the Coro dos Amigos wish you all a happy and restful summer, and we look forward to singing for you again in the 2017-18 season.