

Portrait molto cantabile

molto cantabile was founded in 2003. The enthusiastic group of singers from Lucerne and its surroundings is lead by young conductor Andreas Felber.

molto cantabile was soon recognised by the Swiss audience thanks to their success at various competitions. In 2005 the ensemble won the audience award as well as the special award of the jury of the Swiss Choir Competition in Glarus, while in 2007 it was awarded the 1st place at the Valiant Forum for Young Orchestras and Choirs at the Murten Classic Summer Festival.

In addition, molto cantabile has taken part in several renowned international choir competitions where it has proved to belong to the leaders of the international choir scene. In May 2004 the ensemble took part in the European Music Festival in Neerpelt, Belgium, where it was awarded 1st prize summa cum laude with 99/100 points. In October 2005 molto cantabile appeared at the Choir Festival in Tolosa, Spain, where it came second in the category polyphony and fourth in folklore. In May 2008 the ensemble won the Musica International Award at the Cork Choral Festival in Ireland, while in July 2008, they achieved three awards at the International Choir Competition in Spittal an der Drau in Austria (audience award, 2nd place in the category art-song and 3rd place in folk songs).

In June 2011 molto cantabile won the 5th place at the International Chamber Choir Competition in Marktoberdorf in Germany. This competition is internationally recognised for its high quality standards.

molto cantabile performs regularly and organises its own concerts as well. In December 2006 they appeared with their first concert programme «mystisch hören» with works by Arvo Pärt, Jaakko Mäntyjärvi and Henryk Mykolaj Górecki. In November 2007 they performed «In Paradisum», a joint concert with the Luzerner Sängerknaben and the Orchestra Camerata Musica Luzern. The concert included «Children's Crusade» by Benjamin Britten and Maurice Duruflé's Requiem. In November 2008 molto cantabile took part in a debut performance of the oratorio «mater aeterna» by Bert Appermont together with the orchestra Musik Muri, the Swiss Chamber Choir and the Knabenkantorei Luzern.

Their programme «einklang», which includes works by Hugo Wolf, Anton Webern and Eric Whitacre, was performed four times in May 2009 and thanks to its great success again for German audiences in April 2010 as part of the concert series Oraniensteiner Konzerte. In April 2010 molto cantabile gave an a cappella concert entitled «Zwischenwelten» together with the Collegium Vocale zur Franziskanern in the famous concert hall of the Culture and Convention Centre Lucerne (KKL). Featured works included pieces by Richard Strauss, Gustav Mahler and Arnold Schönberg. In September 2010 the ensemble performed Mozart's Requiem in Frauenfeld and at the beginning of December 2010 they attracted a big audience with their charity concert «wunschlos glücklich», featuring a Christmas programme.

molto cantabile first appeared on television in the well-known Swiss folk music programme «Hopp de Bäse» in June 2007. The ensemble has released several CDs. Their debut CD «aufgezeichnet» was followed by recordings of the concert programmes «mystisch hören», «einklang» and lately by the Christmas CD «wunschlos glücklich».

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