

31 AUGUST- 3 SEPTEMBER

LISBON CHORAL CONDUCTING MASTERCLASS 2023

ORGANIZED BY
NOVA ERA VOCAL ENSEMBLE

novaeravocalensemble.com



iscte INSTITUTO
UNIVERSITÁRIO
DE LISBOA



Nova Era Vocal Ensemble presents the **fourth edition** of Lisbon Choral Conducting Masterclass from the **31st August to the 3rd of September 2023** for conductors, music teachers, students, and choral enthusiasts, giving them the opportunity to work with experienced conductors.

The course is designed to respond to the needs of all students – **from beginners to established conductors** – and therefore **three levels are offered**, where participants will develop and refine their core skills in choral conducting. There is a strict limit of participants for each level.

Two selected students of each level will be offered the opportunity to work in a **joint session with the other levels' conductors** as well as the three choirs singing together. All participants will have the chance to **perform in the final concert** of the Masterclass. The students will receive a participation certificate and the recording of the final concert.

This course also welcomes the ones who simply wish to learn by observing and listening. This kind of application is available for all levels. The Masterclass will be given in **English**, and will take place at **Iscte - Instituto Universitário de Lisboa**.



Nova Era is a vocal ensemble that brings together 28 singers. The ensemble was founded by João Barros in 2019. In the last few years, Nova Era has premiered pieces from composers such as Alfredo Teixeira, Eugénio Rodrigues, Gerson Batista, Hugo Vasco Reis, Georgi Sztojanov, João Viegas, Helga Arias, André Mota, João Fonseca e Costa, Manuel Moreira, Bernardo Beirão, among others.

Recently, Nova Era has performed choral masterpieces from the history of music like “Cantique des Cantiques” by Daniel Lesur, “Mass for double choir” by Frank Martin, “Messe en Sol majeur” by Francis Poulenc, “Canticle of the Sun” by Tõnu Kõrvits and Bach’s motets.

In 2021, the choir took part in the ceremony for the quincentenary of the death of King Manuel I - Light to D. Manuel, at Mosteiro dos Jerónimos, upon invitation by Massimo Mazzeo. In the same year, Nova Era participated in the recording of the album “Voices and Landscapes” by the portuguese composer Hugo Vasco Reis, with the piece “Sleeping Landscapes.”

Nova Era Vocal Ensemble is the main ensemble of the Lisbon Choral Conducting Masterclass. Throughout the different editions, collaborated with Bernie Sherlock, Josep Vila, Pedro Teixeira, Gonçalo Lourenço, Inês Tavares Lopes and Marcos Cerejo.

Nova Era Schola is a musical project established in January 2020. Being part of Nova Era Schola choir gives young singers an opportunity to develop musically and vocally in a professional environment. Each singer has individual vocal lessons on weekly basis and also gets a chance to work with singers of Nova Era Vocal Ensemble. The training doesn't consist only of vocal practice but also of sight reading and score analysis. Nova Era Schola is an opportunity for the singers to grow and eventually become part of Nova Era Vocal Ensemble based on their development and ability. The choir is led by the conductor Marcos Cerejo and Mónica Beltrão is the personal vocal coach.



The **Iscte Choir** was established in 2015. It is formed by Iscte community members (students, alumni, teachers, researchers and other employees) and is also open to people with no connection to this institution. Its main objective is to promote the practice of choral music and the deepening of musical knowledge. The choir is led by the conductor João Barros.

BEGINNER LEVEL



SÉRGIO FONTÃO

- One of the most dynamic choral directors in Portugal;
- Masters in Choral Conducting at Lisbon School of Music (ESML). Previously studied Singing, Piano, Harp and Percussion;
- Music and Artistic Director of Voces Caelestes, one of the most acclaimed Portuguese choirs, of which he was one of the founders, in 1997. Also works with several other vocal and instrumental ensembles, both as music director and invited conductor;
- As a conductor or ensemble singer, has toured Europe, Asia and the Americas. Recorded for Deutsche Grammophon, Erato, Naxos, Philips and Virgin, among other labels;
- As a chorus master, has prepared choirs for conductors such as Leonardo García Alarcón, Harry Christophers, Enrico Onofri and Peter Schreier, among many others;
- Teaches Conducting and Choral Singing at the BA in Community Music at ESELx and ESML.

REQUIREMENTS

Dedicated to **beginners, with no previous knowledge or little experience** in choral conducting. It will mainly focus on good posture and the basic notions of conducting. The participants will develop confidence and conducting skills.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

10

BEGINNER LEVEL

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

10 am - 11 am	welcome reception, introduction and grouping
11 am - 1 pm	choral conducting techniques
2.30 pm - 6 pm	masterclass with piano

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

9.30 am - 11 am	masterclass with piano
11.30 am - 1 pm	masterclass with choir
2.30 pm - 4 pm	masterclass with choir
4.30 pm - 8 pm	joint masterclass with selected students

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

9.30 am - 10.30 am	session w/ invited conductors
11am - 1 pm	masterclass with choir
4 pm	concert



INTERMEDIATE LEVEL



BERNIE SHERLOCK

- Conductor of the multi-award-winning chamber choir New Dublin Voices, which she founded in 2005;
- Received her training in choral conducting from Ildikó Herboly Kocsár and Peter Erdei;
- Continued her studies with Gerhard Markson and earned a Masters in Conducting from NUI Maynooth;
- She was for ten years the Choral Director at the Dublin Institute of Technology Conservatory of Music & Drama;
- Lecturer in Music at the Dublin Institute of Technology Conservatory of Music and Drama. She also lectured for many years in the School of Music, Trinity College, Dublin, where she was conductor of the Dublin University Choral Society;
- Artistic Director of Educational Programmes for the Association of Irish Choirs and the Irish representative on the World Choir Council;

REQUIREMENTS

Dedicated to participants with **good musicality, experience working with choirs and who have studied choral conducting**. This level will focus on the development of conducting skills with more challenging music pieces, taking heed of score analysis, style, interpretation and rehearsal techniques. The participants are expected to be familiarized with the repertoire before the masterclass

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ADVANCED LEVEL

SIGVARDS KĻAVA



REQUIREMENTS

Dedicated to **experienced conductors**, with **excellent musical capacities**, who have **studied choral conducting**, have **solid conducting and rehearsal technique**, and show interest in improving them. The participants are expected to be fully familiarized with the repertoire before the masterclass. **The candidates will be selected beforehand** by Sigvards Kļava, and therefore must **send their cv and a video recording of a conducting sample to lccm.inf@gmail.com**.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

- Creative director and principal conductor of the Latvian Radio Choir;
- Studied conducting in the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, the International Bach Academy of Stuttgart, the Saint Petersburg State Conservatory, as well as in masterclasses in the Oregon Bach Festival;
- Professor in the Department of Choir Conducting of the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music;
- As guest conductor, performed with the Netherlands Radio Choir, the Flemish Radio choir, Accentus, the Netherlands Chamber Choir, Cappella Amsterdam, RIAS Chamber Choir, the MDR from Leipzig;
- Chief conductor of the Latvian National Song and Dance Festival.
- Repeated winner of the Latvian Grand Music Award, a recipient of the Republic of Latvia Cabinet of Ministers Award, and a Bearer of the Latvian Order of the Three Stars.

ADVANCED LEVEL

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31

2 pm - 2.30 pm	welcome reception, introduction and grouping
2.45 pm - 4.30 pm	choral conducting techniques
4.45 pm - 6 pm	masterclass with piano

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

10 am - 11 am	choral conducting techniques
11 am - 1 pm	masterclass with piano
2.30 pm - 6pm	masterclass with choir

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

9.30 am - 11 am	masterclass with piano
11.30 am - 1 pm	masterclass with choir
2.30 pm - 4 pm	masterclass with choir
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PARTICIPATION FEE

	Beginner		Intermediate		Advanced	
	Early Bird	Full Price	Early Bird	Full Price	Early Bird	Full Price
Regular	250	300	350	400	500	550
Associação Coros Portugal (Membro de Coro Associado)	225	270	315	360	445	495
Associação Coros Portugal (Associado Individual)	200	240	280	320	400	440
N.E.V.E / N.E.S or Iscte	150	200	250	300	375	415
Observer 1 day	80					
Observer 3 days	150					

Beginner Level & Intermediate Level

Early Bird Registration: 1st June

Full Price Registration: 21st July

Advanced Level

Early Bird Registration: 1st of May

Full Price Registration: 9th June

*In case of cancellation until July 1st, 80% of the amount paid will be refunded. In case of cancellation after the 1st of July, there will be no refund.

PARTICIPANT BENEFITS

- Tutor-led sessions with experienced conductors
- Music scores of all compositions
- Contact with new repertoire
- Opportunity to work the repertoire with the choirs (Nova Era Vocal Ensemble, Nova Era Schola, Coro Iscte);
- Performance in final concert
- Final concert professional recording
- Participation certificate