



Canterbury Cathedral  
Festival Choir Evening Concert



Canterbury Cathedral  
Festival Choir Evensong



London's Southwark Cathedral  
Festival Choir Final Concert with the Virtuosi of London



Hong Kong Children's Choir Concert  
Canterbury Cathedral



Indianapolis Children's Choir  
Canterbury Cathedral

## **The International Children's Choir Festival, 2013, at Canterbury Cathedral and London conducted by Henry Leck and David Flood continues its long tradition of choral excellence with eleven choirs from China, Canada and the United States.**

- ◆ Canterbury 2013 was perhaps the most extraordinary festival to date. With eleven very fine choirs, the music making was unparalleled !! With the beauty and acoustics of Canterbury and Southwark Cathedral, the aesthetic experience was almost beyond belief ! What an incredible memory to carry for a lifetime!  
- Henry Leck, Festival Co-Conductor since 1997
- ◆ It was such a thrill and a privilege to be able to host the International Children's Choirs Festival again in Canterbury and to continue this to London. The festival is one of the most astonishing events in our Cathedral calendar and the calibre and achievement of all these gifted choirs was truly outstanding. It was wonderful to see and hear these young musicians evolve and grow together in such a remarkable way. Many congratulations to all who were involved."  
- David Flood, Festival Co-conductor since 1997
- ◆ You were absolutely remarkable to work with and your festival was beyond my imagination, so wonderful (and I had GREAT expectations!). Thank you so very much!  
- Elizabeth Shepley, Director, Northfield Youth Chorus, Northfield, MN
- ◆ On behalf of the Hong Kong Children's Choir, I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for your arrangement of the International Children's Choir Festival held in Canterbury and London. It is believed that our stay in the United Kingdom is one of the most precious and memorable events in our children's lives. We look forward to working with you again in the near future.  
- Wilson Tse, General Manager, Hong Kong Children's Choir
- ◆ This was an awesome experience for the kids! My son was there from Toronto Canada and it was the most beautiful thing I have ever heard. Would do it all over again.  
- Bob Jones, Etobicoke Youth Choir Parent, Toronto, Canada (from YouTube)
- ◆ Thank you for all your hard work in making this such a wonderful festival. We truly enjoyed every minute of it. You were wonderful to work with and very supportive during the process.  
- Susan Benson, Manager, South Bay Children's Choir, Torrence, California (third participation)
- ◆ We had such a wonderful time at the International Children's Choral Festival performing in historic venues like Canterbury Cathedral and Southwark Cathedral. We worked hard and our choir came away a better choir: more musical, thoughtful, close-knit, and responsive. The girls loved working with David and Henry, and enjoyed listening to the many other fine choirs. This festival is a life-changing experience for the singers and their directors alike. Euro Arts Tours was very easy to work with, very responsive and available to answer any questions or concerns that arose. The musical selections were of the highest quality. We had an amazing time and we're so glad we decided to participate in this festival!!  
- Karen Silva, Director, Peninsula Girls Chorus, Burlingame, CA

- ◆ I want to thank you for a splendid festival--one of the best ever. How gratifying it must be to you to see so many young choirs bursting with new life as a result of your hard work. I had a rehearsal with my choir this morning--the first since the festival--and they sounded wonderful. I wish we could do this every year!  
- Capers Cross, Choirmaster, St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Charleston, SC (fifth participation)
- ◆ What an incredible experience the tour was. Thank you for all of your hard work!  
- Mary Evers, Assistant Conductor, Indianapolis Children's Choir (fourth participation)
- ◆ I must congratulate you for always managing to be wholly and comfortably on top of all the details, seeming always to be calm and collected, even with time to linger and chat. That is an amazing accomplishment considering the enormous and manifold logistic complications of a festival like this one. You are bloody brilliant! And you can quote me on that. The two conductors were a wonderful idea, as we got different ideas and inspirations from each. David Flood is very British, with zeal for choral music in every fibre of his being, delivered with zany, child-friendly humour and fun. His repertoire included some of the more exciting new British composers like Bob Chilcott, Howard Goodall and Timothy Noon, with older gems by Constantini and Massenet. Flood is brilliant with boys' voices and vocal production, as his choir at Canterbury Cathedral is men and boys. Henry Leck works at a very high level, but does so in a friendly, easy-going American style. He is a masterfully expressive conductor, especially good with rubato and nuanced dynamics. His repertoire choices included beautiful contemporary settings of Hebrew and Latin texts, plus reworkings of Baroque treasures by Handel and Vivaldi. The festival was full of wonderful experiences for all involved. I wholeheartedly recommend this festival to any children's or treble youth choir, as it was well organized by David Searles and delivered high-level performance experiences in stunning historical venues. The atmosphere was supportive and convivial and the festival conductors – David Flood and Henry Leck – were superb. Beyond the artistic program, time was built into the schedule for sight-seeing, with each group having its own professional tour guide. Our guide, Tim Martin, was excellent, informative, entertaining and very patient with our enthusiastic and energetic membership. As a previous member of Lady Diana Spencer's personal security team, he was uniquely qualified to provide a myriad of interesting anecdotes and details about the British monarchy.  
- Paul Grindlay, Director, Calgary Boys Choir, Calgary, Canada
- ◆ Many thanks for a rich musical experience - it was such a joy to watch my singers take it all in and grow. I felt that we got to know Canterbury musically - a very special treat that no ordinary tourist can ever hope to do!  
- Peggy Spool, Director, Vivace Youth Chorus, San Jose, California
- ◆ Congratulations on another triumph! I hope you enjoyed the festival as much as the choirs did! It is such an inspiring occasion watching the individual choirs become one, seeing the children make new friends and experiencing new places and seeing their personalities blossom. Thank you for asking me to be a part of this unique venture. I hope you are able to get a well-earned rest and bask in the knowledge that you have transformed the lives of 300+ children!  
- Gavin Webb, Blue Badge Tour Manager, Northfield Youth Choir
- ◆ The Choir Festival concerts were fantastic (a couple of the arrangements are still buzzing around my head) and all the more enjoyable having seen the immense amount of planning and preparation that went into them beforehand.  
- Rachel Kolsky, Blue Badge Tour Manager, Centennial Children's Chorus

***Watch Festival Videos on YouTube under "International Children's Choir Festival - 2013" and "Canterbury Festival Choir"***