

Tamara Petijevic (RS)

She is a conductor, violin player and teacher, a researcher in the field of sacred music and leader of four choirs. She started choral conducting as an experienced orchestra and chamber musician and developed her skills through work with European experts in choral music (including Conductors' workshops at Europa Cantat Festivals in Mainz 2006 and Utrecht 2009).

She conducts an Orthodox church choir St Stephen of Dechani, the Isidor Bajic Music school mixed and female choir, a male choir of the Seminary of Serbian Orthodox church (as the first woman-conductor in history) and a professional vocal-instrumental oratorio studio Orfelin.

Her choirs won several prizes at national and international choral competitions and festivals. She was awarded the "Best Conductor Performance" at Young Prague 2006 competition, the "Ambassador of Good Will" at Zimriya Festival in Jerusalem 2007 and several high national prizes for her pedagogical work.

Today her choir St Stephen of Dechani is recognised as one of the best ensembles in Serbia that specialise in sacred music, with a varied repertoire and a unique sensibility for choral sound. Its members have a modern and fresh, yet authentic, understanding and interpretation of sacred music, while insisting on traditional values to preserve their national musical heritage. The choir sings regularly at church services and performed at concerts in almost all European countries, Russia and Israel.

Mrs. Petijevic's musicological research work in Orthodox church music resulted in several projects, such as editing and publishing the oldest manuscripts of the Serbian Octoechos in cooperation with the Musicological institute of the Serbian Academy of sciences and arts.

With her choirs she published many CDs, among them "Serbian Christmas" and "Holy Week and Easter", which brought to public more than 50 songs from the rich Serbian music heritage.

Recordings have been made for the Serbian, Hungarian, Welsh, Austrian, Italian, German and Russian national Radio and Tv companies

- **Eastern Orthodox repertoire**

