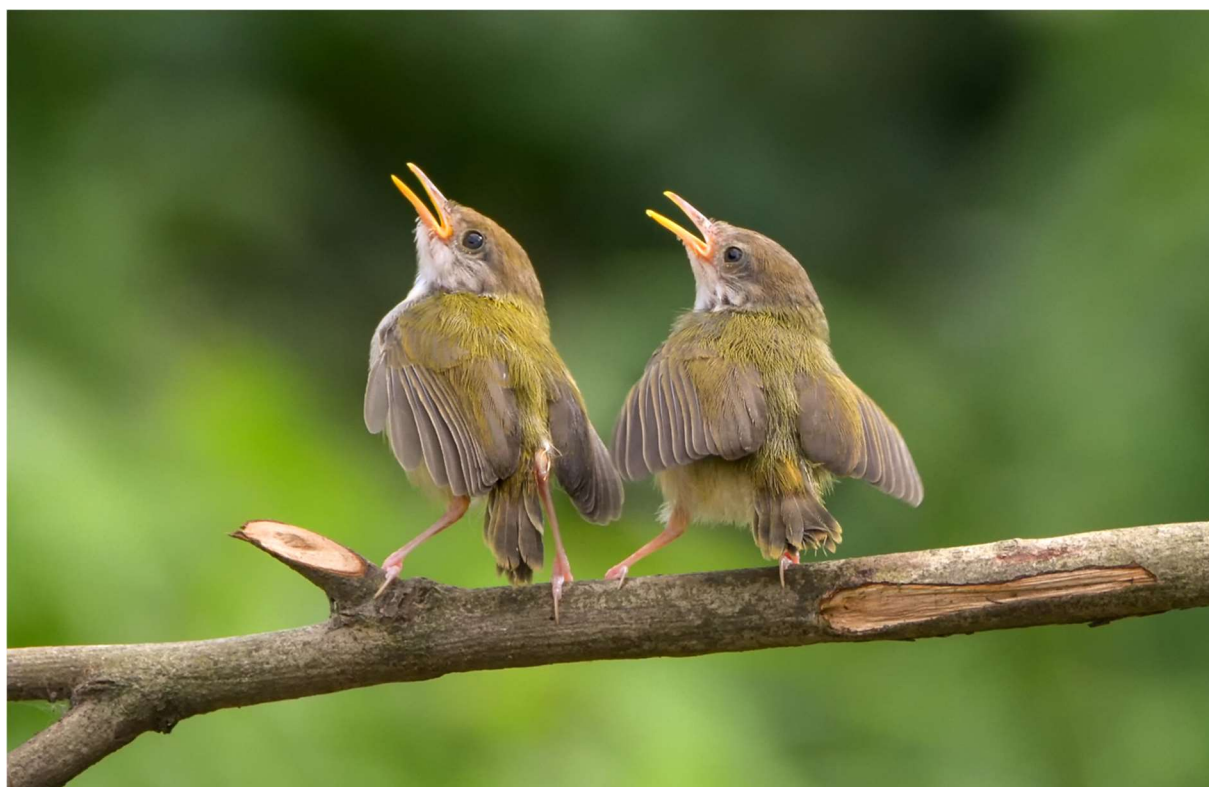


# VOX INTERNA

*Sense of Singing*



## Annual Report 2021

Stichting Vox Interna

## Overview of activities

The year 2021 has been dominated by the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, which had a severe impact on both the volume of the activities and the financial results of Vox Interna. However, Vox Interna kept on planning (new) activities and extending its network. Looking back at 2021, the following highlights can be mentioned:

- The revised version of the Amra Programme co-drafted by Vox Interna and submitted by Trinity College Dublin to the EU- received a 71%-score evaluation, just below the threshold. In spite of this, our contact in Trinity College indicated not to be interested in a further effort to obtain EU-funding for this initiative;
- To obtain access to cross-border EU-funding in the eastern border region, Vox Interna founded a 'sister organisation' seated in Winterswijk, under the name 'Vox Externa. At the same time, it will function as a platform for regional project choirs, dedicated to rehearsing and performing Anúna and 'Echoes from the Middle Ages' repertoire;

The idea is to register Vox Externa as a 'Cultural ANBI', which makes it more attractive for potential private donors, due to a 125% tax discount;

- The organisation delivered two major events: the Anúna School Rotterdam 2021 and three weekends of the workshop-concert series *Echoes from the Middle Ages* in June, July and October (highlighted with more detail on the following page.

The October concert in Rotterdam of the Echoes from the Middle Ages series, presented by the Umbra Ensemble from Iceland, was broadcasted by the public broadcasting station for Classical Music NPO 4 on the evening after the concert;

- Vox Interna received grant approvals for the Echoes from the Middle Ages Series from:
  - Stichting Bevordering van Volkskracht (€1.200) , Elise Mathilde Fonds (€1.800) and
  - The K.F. Hein Fonds (€750), Fentener-van Vlissingen Fonds (€1.000) and the Municipality in Utrecht (€1.400); and:
  - The Wesseling-van Breemen Fonds in Deventer (€1.000);

Vox Interna is very grateful for the (renewed) courage demonstrated by these foundations to put their confidence in our organisation!

All these activities have been instrumental to establish new alliances, broaden the network of Vox Interna and to gain useful experience for future activities. For example, during one of the Echoes workshops, Vox Interna established a contact with a specialist on 'Singing during Pregnancy', geared to bonding between the parents and the to be born child(ren). Discussions to carry this highly interesting way to implement the mission of Vox Interna to *bring singing to those places where it never was or under threat of disappearance* are ongoing -but delayed by COVID-restrictions- and are expected to materialise in 2023.

## **Anúna School Rotterdam 2021 (ASR 2021)**



The third Anúna School in Rotterdam, held from 13 to 16 October 2021, suffered from the (post-) COVID period:

- Of the still 22 participants initially registered, five dropped out in the week before the event due to COVID and family circumstances.
- The satisfaction rating of the individual tutors varied from 92% to 95% percent, similar to the previous years.
- The shift from Thursday-Sunday to a Wednesday-Saturday programme has been well received by the participants and will be continued in following editions;

Given the success of Anúna Schools of 2019, 2020 and 2021 there is a fourth Anúna School in Rotterdam will be organised in February 2023.

## **Echoes from the Middle Ages**

The Echoes from the Middle Ages series in 2021 badly suffered from the ever changing COVID circumstances both in terms of audience numbers and financial results

The first weekend, in spite of the maximum of 30 visitors during the Rotterdam concert, attracted a total of 42 visitors in two shifts of Colusca. The link between the emotions during the medieval period of the Black Death and the present COVID times, was very appropriate and illustrated with a personal anonymised experience of a depressive patient by psycho-therapist. The audience was very much impressed by both the music and this special addition to the programme. The Utrecht concert, was on the following night: the first day of release from the COVID-restrictions, with beautiful weather. In spite of a paid e-mail campaign through the Cultural Agenda among 14.000 recipients, only 11 visitors popped up. From an audience appreciation point view, the performance was very successful again. Due to the generous donor support, the weekend produced a very modest surplus.

The second weekend, with impressive performances by Hanna Martí, a musical telling of the Legend of the werewolf Bisclavret, suffered from a sudden release of all travel restrictions. This resulted in a massive exit of potential visitors (most of these not depending on school vacations for holiday planning). The Rotterdam concert, attracted only 15 visitors, which 'positively surprised' our contact at the Doelen, selling nearly no tickets at other events (a poor comforting...). In Utrecht only three persons attended the concert; this in spite of a combined e-mail campaign and internet banner on the website of the Cultural agenda. As a consequence, the weekend resulted in a loss of € 1.592; this in spite of generous donor contributions in both Rotterdam and Utrecht.

The third weekend, with the Icelandic Umbra Ensemble, the Echoes from the Middle Ages eries showed signs of recovery. The Rotterdam concert received 104 visitors, in spite of a (still) general hesitation among the public to attend the smaller cultural events. On the new location in Deventer, the series made a promising start with 20 visitors. In the Achterhoek (Winterswijk) the shift from the

big church in Winterswijk to a smaller location in the neighbouring Lichtenvoorde turned out to be a good move. Although receiving 22, instead of some 40 visitors (Winterswijk), the cost saving on the location produced a positive balance. The only workshop during this weekend, in Lichtenvoorde, was well attended with 10 participants. This in spite of some last minute COVID-withdrawals. Given the agreement with Umbra to perform for costs + surplus, the financial result was balanced. The Umbra Ensemble left very content with a still reasonable fee, massive CD sales and the recording of the Rotterdam concert, broadcasted by NPO Radio 4.

Against this background it has been decided not to continue in Utrecht with the series, unless a similar agreement like in Rotterdam with the Doelen can be achieved with the local concert hall.

## **Outlook 2022**

The next Anúna School Rotterdam, will be held in February 2023. Experience has learnt that this period is good for attracting participants, since the participation is likely to be boosted by the promotional possibilities during the planned Anúna tour in The Netherlands (December 2022).

The Echoes Series will be continued. After the end of the 2022/23 a decision will be taken on it future, depending on the development of audience numbers and workshop participants.

At the end of 2019, through mediation of Vox Interna, Anúna Teoranta has been awarded a grant of EUR 3.500 for Seán Nós singing in primary schools in Ireland, from the end capital of the Dutch Association of Friends of Ireland, The Claddagh. To this purpose Vox Interna applied for a EUR 20.000 grant from the EU. However, due to COVID-19 and delayed approval of the 2021-2027 EU budget, the outcome of the selection process, scheduled for July 2020, has not materialised until now.

At the beginning of 2022 Vox Interna supported Anúna with the application of a EUR 200.000 grant, which extends this concept to the Basque Country and Iceland. The outcome of the evaluation process will be known by the end of 2022. Although not being a formal partner in this programme, the experience gained will be useful for the wider mission of Vox Interna to revive singing tuition in the education system.

A similar initiative, but on a smaller scale, might be developed in the eastern border region, with the Lower-Saxon language, seeking Euregio funding through the sister organisation Vox Externa.

## Finance

### Balance sheet 2021 – amounts in EUR

Assets	01-Jan-2021	Debit	Credit	31-Dec-2021
Fixed Assets	388,50	-	81,80	306,70
Bank	350,35	24.879,38	22.895,02	2.335,31
Advance payments	-	834,64		843,64
Receivables	3,923,04	5.750,00	8.273,04	1.400,00
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>4.661,89</b>	<b>31.473,62</b>	<b>31.249,86</b>	<b>4.885,65</b>

Liabilities	01-Jan-2021	Credit	Debit	31-Dec-2021
Advance receipts	332,00	-	252,00	80,00
Payables				
Provision Sean-nós	3.500,00	-	-	3.500,00
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>332,00</b>		<b>252,00</b>	<b>80,00</b>
<b>Net reserves</b>	<b>829,89</b>	<b>475,76</b>		<b>1.305,65</b>
<b>Liabilities + Reserves</b>	<b>4.661,89</b>	<b>475,76</b>	<b>252,00</b>	<b>4.885,65</b>

#### Explanation:

- Receivables: Unused part of already approved grants for the Echoes series 2021/22.
- The provision Sean-nós is the result of a donation of the dissolved 'The Claddagh – Dutch friends of Ireland' association.

### Profit and Loss account Vox Interna - 2021 - budget 2022; amounts in EUR

Income	Budget 2021	Result 2021	Budget 2022
Donations - general	960	2.980	2.600
Anúna School Rotterdam (ASR)	12.500	7.298	0
Echoes from the Middle Ages	12.400	13.288	13.300
Autumn School Winterswijk	6.500	0	P.M.
Primary education	3.500	0	P.M.
<b>Total income</b>	<b>35.860,00</b>	<b>23.566</b>	<b>15.900</b>
<b>Costs</b>			
Administration	900	1.323	1.200
Anúna School Rotterdam (ASR)	11.000	7.026	0
Echoes from the Middle Ages	12.400	13.751,45	14.600
Autumn School Winterswijk	5.500	0	P.M.
Primary education	4.500	0	P.M.
<b>Total income</b>	<b>34.100</b>	<b>23.090</b>	<b>15.800</b>
<b>Net result</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>100</b>

**Explanation:**

- In general, the volume of activities in 2021 was at a similar level as the previous year. However, in 2022, in the absence of an Anúna School Rotterdam, the turnover will be lower than in 2021.
- The estimates for 2022 are partially based on information, already known at the time of finalisation of the annual report.

**Profit and Loss account Vox Interna - 2021 (itemised) – figures in EUR**

	Income	Costs	Result
<b>General</b>			
Donations - general	2.980		
Administration		1.323	<b>1.657</b>
<b>Anúna School Rotterdam</b>			
Income	7.298		
Costs		7.026	<b>272</b>
<b>Echoes from the Middle Ages</b>			
Income	13.288		
Costs		14.740	<b>1.452</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>23.566</b>	<b>23.090</b>	<b>476</b>

**Explanation:**

- The result of AWS 2021 showed a modest positive of € 272, mostly helped by the generous (extra) donations of the participants and the flexibility of the tutors regarding the fees.
- As mentioned earlier, the Echoes from the Middle Ages series, started with a financially sound start with Colusca, before the disaster struck during the Hanna Martí weekend. However, the recovery during Umbra Ensemble Weekend was encouraging. In the end, an overall negative result of € 1.452 remained.
- The general costs ended up significantly higher due to an experiment by absorbing a part of the cost of the creation of Vox Externa, among others;