

The Octangle Male Choir

Resonant Weiwuying

2026.10.10 Sat. 14:00, 16:00

Weiwuying Recital Hall

Duration is 30 minutes without intermission.

National Kaohsiung CENTER FOR THE ARTS
WEIWUYING
衛武營 國家藝術文化中心
國家表演藝術中心 National Performing Arts Center

Synopsis

This year, during the special anniversary celebration of Weiwuying, The Octangle Male Choir will present a timeless sonic feast with its diverse male vocal textures.

Opening with Brant ADAMS' vibrant “Musica,” we journey through the solemn 16th-century temple by William BYRD’s Ave verum corpus, and experience the pure longing,“As the deer panteth for the water” described by LIN Ching-mei. Then, in SHIH Ching-ju’s “When the World Quiets Down,” we feel the gentleness of Taiwanese literature. Finally, we turn toward the inspiring theme song of the *HERO! HITO!* , and conclude with the inspiring gospel music “Cornerstone,” building the strongest foundation for perseverance and faith.

Program

Brant ADAMS: “Musica”
William BYRD: Ave verum corpus
LIN Ching-mei: ”As the deer panteth for the water”
SHIH Ching-ju: ”When the World Quiets Down”
Fire EX. (Arr. LEE Chien-yu) : “The Day We Rise”
Shawn KIRCHNER: “Cornerstone”

Performers

Conductor | LI Chien-yi

Dr. LI holds a Doctor of Choral Conducting degree from the University of South Carolina and dual Master's degrees in Choral Conducting and Piano Performance from the University of Mississippi. His expertise spans both vocal and instrumental music, and he has accumulated extensive performance and conducting experience, including conducting Dr. Craig JESSOP's "Messiah" Orchestra, working with British conductor Paul SPICER, and leading masterclasses in choral music with Tim SHARP, President of the American Choral Directors Association. He has also been invited to perform with the USC Choir at Carnegie Hall, the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), the South Carolina Music Educators Association (SCMEA), and touring the Eastern United States and Europe. He has led The Octangle Male Choir to three national gold medals in the male voice category, a silver medal at the 2023 Taoyuan International Choral Competition, a silver medal in the unison category at the 39th Takarazuka International Chamber Choir Competition, and a gold medal in the equal voice category at the 7th Tokyo International Choral Competition, where he was also awarded Best Conductor. Together with the The Octangle Tainan Choir, he won the Gold Award in the Mixed Voice Category and the Silver Award in the Female Voice Category at the 2024 National Social Group Competition. He is currently Assistant Professor at Taiwan Graduate School of Theology, Director of the Church Music Division of the Master of Arts Program in Christian Studies, and serves as the Conductor of The Octangle Male Choir and The Octangle Tainan Choir. He also teaches at Tainan National University of the Arts.

The Octangle Male Choir

The Octangle Male Choir originated from Tamkang High School, established by the Presbyterian Church. The school's history of male choir can be traced back to the Japanese era. In 1920, CHEN Ching-chung, known as the father of Taiwanese choral music, graduated from Doshisha University in Japan and returned to Taiwan the following year to teach at Tamsui High School (the predecessor of Tamkang High School). In 1925, he founded the first Taiwanese choir, the "Tamsui High School Choir." Tamkang High School's choral tradition continues to this day, boasting a mixed choir, male choir, male quartet, and a wild-voice choir composed of indigenous female students, creating a vibrant musical atmosphere. In March 2005, several Christian alumni of Tamkang High School founded the "Tamsui High School Alumni Quartet," with the aim of serving God through choral music, giving back to their alma mater and the Presbyterian Church, and sharing moving stories from their hymns. In April 2011, the alumni quartet expanded and reorganized into the " The Octangle Male Choir," taking its name from a beautiful building on its alma mater completed in 1925. Many church members who were not Tamkang alumni also joined. On August 21, 2012, The Octangle Male Choir was officially registered as a performing arts group with the New Taipei City Cultural Affairs Bureau, continuing its professional development.

The Octangle Male Choir is currently active in the church and choral communities. In recent years, they have held concerts at the National Concert Hall, NTCH Recital Hall, Weiwuying Concert Hall, Hsinchu City Performance Hall, Yuanlin Performance Hall, Chiayi City Concert Hall, and Tainan Cultural Center, receiving high praise and strong box office returns. Furthermore, The Octangle Male Choir released two albums in 2014 and 2015: *Inheritance · Heartbeat* and *Mackay's Journey of Life and Poetry.* The former was nominated for Best Religious Music Album at the 26th Golden Melody Awards for Traditional Arts, while the latter won the same award at the 27th Golden Melody Awards for Traditional Arts.

In 2022, The Octangle Male Choir won the bronze medal at the Taoyuan International Choir Competition and qualified for the Grand Prix at the Taipei International Choral Competition, winning three gold medals in the category stages. The choir also won the gold medal in the male vocal category at the National Social Choir Competition three times - in 2022, 2024, and 2025. In 2023, the choir won the silver medal at the Taoyuan International Choir Competition. In July 2024, the choir competed overseas for the first time and won the silver medal in the equal voice category at the 39th Takarazuka International Chamber Choir Competition. In 2025, the choir won the gold medal in the equal voice category at the 7th Tokyo International Choir Competition and qualified for the Grand Prix, with conductor LI Chien-yi receiving the Best Conductor award.

Artistic and Production Team

Conductor | LI Chien-yi

The Octangle Male Choir

Production Team of Weiwuying

Program Coordinator | Fan YANG

Technical Coordinator | Sue YANG

Marketing Coordinator | Luna SUN

With All the Staff of National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts (Weiwuying)

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