

Professor Tigran Hekekyan (b. 1959), well known and highly respected choirmaster both in Armenia and abroad, is the founder, artistic director, and principal conductor of the choir “Little Singers of Armenia.” He is also the founder and President of the Armenian Little Singers International Association. Since 2003 he is the Headmaster of the Sayat Nova School of Music. A graduate of the Sayat Nova School of Music and the Romanos Melikian Music College of Yerevan, he completed his post-graduate studies in conducting at the Komitas State Conservatory, where he continues to teach since 1985. He is also a graduate of the Philological Department of the Khatchatur Abovian Pedagogical University.

During 30 years of creative activity, Mr. Hekekyan has established and worked with a number of choirs, including winners of national and international competitions, notably the “Children’s Choir of the Alexander Spendiarian School of Music,” the “Women’s Choir of the Committee of Youth Organizations of Armenia,” the “Armenian National Radio Chamber Choir,” and “Little Singers of Armenia.” During 1990 – 1995, Prof. Hekekyan’s choirs and students won 5 Gold, 5 Silver, and 1 Bronze prizes in international competitions, including the Arnhem International Choir Festival (Holland), the Takarazuka International Choral Competition (Japan), the Rodepoort and Llangollen International Music Eisteddfod competitions (South African Republic, Great Britain), and the Golden Gate International Children’s Choral Festival in San Francisco (USA).

Tigran Hekekyan participates in various international festivals and competitions, and performs in Europe, North America, and Asia. He has recorded several works released in the USA, Holland, France, Switzerland, Russia, and Armenia. Among his numerous award-winning recordings are the Complete Works of Parsegh Ganatchian and Sacred Music of the 5th – 20th Centuries. His 3-CD album, *Fiat Lux*, was released in the USA in 2009.

Tigran Hekekyan is a full member of the European Academy of Natural Sciences (Hannover), the International Academy of Sciences, Nature and Society, the International Federation for Choral Music, the European Federation of Young Choirs, the International Society for Children’s Choral and Performing Arts, and the Choir Olympic Council of the INTERKULTUR Foundation. He has been elected Artistic Director of the “Golden Ferry” Children and Youth International Festival organized by PABSEC, and has been nominated Artistic Director of the Aram Khachaturian Centennial Committee.

Tigran Hekekyan is also the founder and artistic director of different national and international competitions and festivals such as “Ashtarak 93”, “Yerevan 96”, “Singing Armenia”, “Let the Song Unite Us” and “The Song of Unity”. He periodically participates as jury member in different international choral competitions. As part of his cultural mission, he has also lectured in international symposia and festivals on the art of Armenian choral music, and has been instrumental in the inclusion of choral works by Armenian composers in prominent publications. Mr Hekekyan frequently delivers lectures, leads master classes, acts as an international adjudicator and guest conductor in different countries.

Tigran Hekekyan was also awarded with high prizes by the Prime Minister of Armenia, the Ministries of Education, Culture, and Science, and the Mayor of Yerevan. In 2001, the European Federation of Youth Choirs granted him the honorary title of “Ambassador of Culture.” For his remarkable contributions to the development of national culture, Tigran Hekekyan was awarded the Medal of Movses Khorenatsi in 1996, and for his outstanding contributions in the field of education, he was awarded the honorary title of “Prominent Educator” by the President of the Republic of Armenia in 2010.