



General Information:

Designing Voices for Our Lives

A project for the WORLD EXPO OSAKA 2025

The most human expression, the foundation of all communication, a medium of artistic expression, the carrier of our thoughts and feelings: all of this is embodied in the voice. We think with our voice and language; we reflect internally and express outwardly what moves us. The voice is the physical form of our thoughts and emotions. The ability to modulate the voice and the temporal organization of language are the two fundamental elements of all music: melody and rhythm. Exploring the many facets of transforming thought and spoken word into song is the central theme of the project:

Students from as many AEC (Association Européenne des Conservatoires, Académies de Musique et Musikhochschulen) member institutions as possible will gather in Osaka for the WORLD EXPO 2025 to rehearse and sing together for two weeks. The highlight will be a concert on May 23, 2025, at the cultural center of EXPO 2025, the "National Day Hall."

The musical program for the Austrian pavilion at EXPO 2025 is organized by Mozarteum University Salzburg. The project was created by its Rector, Prof. Elisabeth Gutjahr, who is also Vice President of the AEC, in coordination with the AEC Council. Our vision is that from May 11 to May 23, students from as many AEC members as possible will gather in Osaka. Under the direction of Jörn Andresen, Professor of Choral Conducting at Mozarteum University, they will create a vibrant, multilingual a cappella program. The concert theme will feature works that explore voice, words, and music—but above all, hope. Reflecting the motto “Voices for Our Lives,” it addresses the pressing question of where our world is headed in light of challenges like climate change, AI, the rise of authoritarian systems, armed conflicts, and other threats. How can we give voice to our hopes? What voices, what musical languages can open perspectives for our lives and our future?

The Basic Concept:

- A cappella concert(s) in Osaka and surrounding areas
- Project phase in Osaka from May 11 to May 23, 2025
- Singers: Students of Voice, Choral Conducting, Church Music, Music Education, etc.
- Requirements: Choral experience and enthusiasm, ability to prepare independently, vocal training



Each application includes:

- Audio files:
 - o One aria from opera or oratorio
 - o Brahms Op.74 (see below)
 - o A vocal range test (see below)
- Completed application form
- High-resolution digital photo for promotional use
- Confirmation from the member institution to cover travel and accommodation expenses
- Agreement from student/s to (if selected) attend rehearsals as scheduled and prepare independently
- Consent for audio, video, and photo recordings from the performances to be used for promotional purposes by the AEC, member institutions, and Expo 2025

A jury at Mozarteum Salzburg will select one singer per member institution based on the submitted audio files and notify the selected singers by the beginning of February. Three online choir rehearsals will be held:

- Sunday, March 16, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Sunday, March 30, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Sunday, May 4, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Each AEC member institution will cover the travel and accommodation expenses for its selected singer(s). Accommodation in youth hostels will be organized by Mozarteum University, while flights will be arranged by the member institutions. Sheet music will be provided by Mozarteum University in digital form for preparation and in print in Japan. Braille sheet music will be provided for visually impaired singers.

Timeline:

- **January 31: Application Deadline**
- Sunday, March 16, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.: Online rehearsal
- Sunday, March 30, 5:00p.m. - 8:00 p.m.: Online rehearsal
- Sunday, May 4, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.: Online rehearsal
- May 11: Get-together in Kobe from 6:00 p.m. (local time)
- May 12: Rehearsals begin in Kobe at 10:00 a.m.
- May 12 - May 22: Rehearsals
- May 23: Concert at Expo 2025, Osaka
- May 24: Departure

Email address: designing.voices@moz.ac.at

Audio files:

1. An aria of your choice from opera or oratorio (max. 5 minutes)
2. Johannes Brahms: Opus 74, No. 1 Motet "Warum ist das Licht gegeben," measures 1-24 (sheet music attached)
3. Vocal range test: Please sing the following exercise on the vowel "A" (as in "S-A-nctus"), chromatically ascending and then descending. Start on C4 (for women) or C3 (for men), approximately at a tempo of quarter note = MM 100. Then sing the exercise on the vowel "U" (as in "s-U-per").

♩ = 100 etc.



Ah - - ah. Ah - - ah. Ah - - a^o.
Uh - - uh Uh - - uh Uh - - u^o

10 etc.

Ah - - ah. Ah - - ah. Ah - - ah.
Uh - - uh Uh - - uh Uh - - uh



Designing Voices for Our Lives

A project for the
WORLD EXPO OSAKA 2025

(29) 3

Zwei Motetten für gemischten Chor a cappella

Philipp Spitta gewidmet

Johannes Brahms, Op. 74
(Veröffentlicht 1879)

1. Warum ist das Licht gegeben dem Mühseligen?

1. *Langsam und ausdrucksvoll*

Sopran
War - um? War.um ist das Licht ge - ge.bendem Müh.se - li.gen, und das Le -

Alt
War - um? War - um? War.um

Tenor
War - um? War - um?

Baß
War - um? War - um?

*)Pianoforte

- ben den be - trüb - - - - - ten Her - zen, den be - trüb - ten Her - zen, den be -

ist das Licht ge - ge - bendem Müh - se - li.gen, und das Le - - - ben den be - trüb - -

8
War - um ist das Licht ge - ge - bendem

*)Nur zur Aushilfe beim Einüben

J. B. 112



Designing Voices for Our Lives

A project for the
WORLD EXPO OSAKA 2025

4 (30)

trüb - - - ten Her - zen, und das Le - ben den be - trüb - - - ten Her - zen,
- - - - ten Her - zen, den be - trüb - ten Her - zen, den be - trüb - - - - ten Her -
13 Müh - se - li - gen, und das Le - - - - ben den be - trüb - - - - ten Her - zen,
War - um ist das Licht ge - ge - bendem Müh - se - li - gen, und das

war - um ist das Licht ge - ge - ben, ge - ge - ben den be - trüb - - - ten
zen, und das Le - ben den be - trüb - ten Her - - - zen, den be - trüb - - - ten Her -
18 den be - trüb - ten Her - zen, den be - trüb - ten, den be - trüb - - - ten Her -
Le - - - - ben den be - trüb - ten Her - zen, den be - trüb - - - ten, den be -

Her - - - zen? War - um? Die des To -
zen? War - um? War - um? Die des To -
23 zen? War - um? War - um? Die des To -
trüb - ten Her - zen? War - um? War - um? Die -

J. B. 112