

Turkish State Choir

11th Walter Strauss Choral Conducting Masterclass

24 - 30 January 2027

From **January 24 to 30, 2027**, join internationally acclaimed Dutch conductor **Daniel Reuss** for an inspiring week of intensive choral conducting training in Ankara, working with the **Turkish State Choir**, a full-time professional ensemble.

Recognized as one of Europe's leading choral conductors, Daniel Reuss has served as chief conductor of renowned ensembles including Cappella Amsterdam, the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir, and the RIAS Kammerchor Berlin. Widely admired for his refined musicianship, expressive interpretations, and expertise across a broad range of choral repertoire, he has collaborated with leading orchestras and festivals throughout Europe and has mentored generations of young conductors.

Designed for conductors with previous experience, the masterclass offers an intensive program focused on developing artistic vision and technical excellence. Participants will take part in daily podium sessions with the Turkish State Choir, receiving direct feedback from Maestro Reuss while refining their conducting gesture, rehearsal technique, score study, interpretation, and ensemble leadership.

In addition to the podium sessions, participants will benefit from a rich educational program throughout the week. The schedule includes a series of specialized seminars and workshops covering topics such as body awareness for conductors, Baroque performance practice, vocal health, and musical interpretation, as well as listening sessions that encourage critical discussion and stylistic awareness.

Over the past decade, the Walter Strauss Masterclass has established itself as one of the region's leading conducting academies, welcoming distinguished mentors including Paulo Lourenço (PT), Lorenzo Donati (IT), Ragnar Rasmussen (NO), Josep Vila i Casanas (ES), Jan Schumacher (DE), Georg Grün (DE), Gary Graden (SE), Sebastjan Vrhovnik (SI), and Zoltán Pad (HU). The 2027 edition continues this tradition in the beautifully restored Historical Symphony Hall in Ankara, providing participants with the unique opportunity to work with a professional choir in an inspiring artistic environment.

Alongside the international masterclass, **Burak Onur Erdem** will lead a parallel **Choral Conducting Workshop** for introductory-level conductors, working with a choir formed by the participants. **This workshop is conducted entirely in Turkish and will not be accompanied by English translation.**

General Participation Rules

- Each participant may apply to **only one program**.
- **Attendance is mandatory** in both options. Absence of two or more days will result in disqualification from the program, and no certificate of participation will be given.

Important Note

To complete your application, the participation fee must be paid **within the application period**. Please transfer the amount corresponding to your chosen program to the bank account below, with the description “**Donation.**” For confirmation purposes, the sending account must be in the applicant’s own name.

Time & Location

Start: **Sunday, January 24, 2027, 10:30 AM**

End: **Saturday, January 30, 2027, 7:00 PM**

CSO ADA ANKARA Tarihi Salon (Presidential Symphony Orchestra, Historical Hall)

Daily Schedule

10:30 AM - 1:00 PM: Conducting Technique

2:00 PM - 4:30 PM: Rehearsal with the Turkish State Choir / Conducting Technique

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM: Seminar

***The active participants of Daniel Reuss's program will work with the Turkish State Choir.**

Education Team

Daniel Reuss, Guest Conductor

Burak Onur Erdem, Choral Conductor

Filiz Balkız, Pianist

Gölce Sevgen, Pianist

Repertoire

Daniel Reuss, Masterclass

Johannes Brahms - Ein deutsches Requiem: I. Selig sind, die da Leid tragen

Johannes Brahms - Ein deutsches Requiem: IV. Wie lieblich sind deine Wohnungen

Felix Mendelssohn - Verleih uns Frieden

Cyrillus Kreek - Psalms David: 104 Kiida, Mu Hing, Issandat!

Cyrillus Kreek - Psalms David: 141: Issand, ma huuan Su poole

Christopher Theofanidis - Messages to Myself: Rumi

Tõnu Kõrvits - Ne İçindeyim Zamanın

Burak Onur Erdem, Choral Conducting Workshop

Works by Mozart, Mendelssohn and Brahms

Selected Turkish choral work

Application and Participation

Daniel Reuss - Masterclass

Active Participation: 5 people

The participation fee for active participants in 2027 is 600 €. Active participants in the masterclass will attend one-on-one conducting lessons for a week and have the opportunity to work with the Turkish State Choir. Active participants will conduct one piece at the closing concert of the workshop.

To apply for active participation, the following documents must be submitted to the Turkish State Choir Directorate through the application form by **11:59 PM on Sunday, November 15**.

- Resume
- Document summarizing the choir conductor's musical background
- Video recording
- Must be at least 5 minutes long
- Must be shot in such a way that the conductor's face and hands are clearly visible while the choir conductor is rehearsing with a choir or orchestra
- Can be sent online (by uploading to the relevant section of the application form, Vimeo, YouTube, WeTransfer)

The application form can be found at this link: <https://forms.gle/CTabvUErJsDzAYHbA>

Observer Participation: 65 people

The participation fee for observer participants in 2027 is 400 €. Observer participants in the workshop will be able to attend all week-long activities and take group lessons.

To apply for observer participation, the following documents must be submitted to the Turkish State Choir Directorate through the application form by **11:59 PM on Sunday, November 15.**

- Resume
- Document summarizing the choir conductor's musical background

The application form can be found at this link: <https://forms.gle/CTabvUErJsDzAYHbA>

Burak Onur Erdem - Choral Conducting Workshop

Active Participation: 5 people

The participation fee for active participants in 2027 is 500 €. Active participants in the masterclass will attend one-on-one conducting lessons for a week. Active participants will conduct one piece at the closing concert of the workshop.

To apply for active participation, the following documents must be submitted to the Turkish State Choir Directorate through the application form by **11:59 PM on Sunday, November 15.**

The Choral Conducting Workshop led by Burak Onur Erdem will be conducted in Turkish, and no English translation service will be provided.

- Resume
- Document summarizing the choir conductor's musical background
- Video recording
- Must be at least 5 minutes long
- Must be shot in such a way that the conductor's face and hands are clearly visible while the choir conductor is rehearsing with a choir or orchestra
- Can be sent online (by uploading to the relevant section of the application form, Vimeo, YouTube, WeTransfer)

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Bank Info

Bank Name: DenizBank A.Ş

Swift Code: DENITRIS

Bank Code: 0134

IBAN: TR500013400002410355900004

Recipient: Çoksesli Korolar Derneği

Description: Donation