

Carmina Burana

Celebration of meetings and Diversity

10, 11, 12 November 2017

In autumn 2017, the choirs of By Folkärna and Avesta Grytnäs Parish will invite the public to two performances and an open dress run of the scenic cantata Carmina Burana in Folkärna Kyrka.

Carmina Burana was first performed in 1937 in Nazi Germany and is a secular, non-religious piece of work by Carl Orff. Orff composed music for Latin lyrics from the 12th and 13th century. The lyrics reflect the fate of humankind and are concerned with the things that unify us, irrespective of time, culture and religion: love, pain, nature, sorrow, longing. *A positive attitude to life – despite all*, is the message that runs through the work. The most famous piece is *O Fortuna*, which many people recognise.

We wish to make Carmina Burana something more than just a work of choral music. We wish to gather as many people in the audience as we can from different cultures and religions, for a joint cultural experience.

Each week 350 singers meet up in our choirs and we want to make something out of that. Around a hundred adult singers will take over the church of Folkärna the second weekend of November, as well as around forty children, dancers, fire breathers and a large orchestra. We do this in a spirit where meetings and diversity is considered a prerequisite for a more peaceful world.



Part of the work will be interpreted in movement by Gracefool Collective, a company of four dancers – two from England and two from Sweden (one from Avesta). Apart from performing the work, they will also be working with our youth choirs.

Folkärna Kyrka has a capacity of 500 people. We hope to see the church filled with people from different cultures, different countries and different religions, where we can gather with the shared vision that meetings and diversity are an asset to humanity.

To make sure that this gets the attention and breadth that we would like, we want to distribute information about the celebration to as many as possible in Avesta council. Individuals, businesses, international groups – anyone that wants to stand up for the importance of meetings and diversity. To be able to meet across different kinds of borders is perhaps the greatest challenge of humanity today.

The more of us that have the courage to see meetings and diversity as a possibility, the better opportunities we'll have to counter anxiety, fear and suspicion. The ancient lyrics of Carmina Burana swing between hope and despair for our existence, but most of all they express a longing for love.

*"April's face - The soul of man,
is urged towards love."*

No one can do everything, but everyone can do something. We hope and wish that many of us will gather in Folkärna Kyrka in November 2017. If you have questions, or want to know more, please contact us!

Helene Thunberg, kantor i By Folkärna:
thunbergslund@hotmail.com

Anna Risberg, musikpedagog i Avesta Grytnäs:
anna.risberg@svenskakyrkan.se

Tickets: 100 kr

Takings will go to the creation of the performance.

