

*Sacrae cantiones/Harmonices mundi* workshop  
with Mario Penzar  
Sara Dodig Baučić

Mario Penzar is a Croatian organist and full professor of organ at the Academy of Music of the University of Zagreb. He graduated in organ from the Academy of Music in Zagreb and studied at the Vienna School of Music with A. Mitterhofer and at masterclasses in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, and Croatia (J. Ferrard, Ch. Dubois, L. Rogg, K. d'Hooghe et al.). He has given numerous lectures, seminars and workshops at the Institute of Church Music of the Catholic Faculty of Theology, University of Zagreb, the Academy of Music in Ljubljana and the Academy of Music in Sarajevo, at several universities in the United States (Rochester / New York, Oshkosh / Wisconsin, Greencastle / Indiana), as well as at the Summer Organ School in Šibenik, Summer Organ Academy in Gothenburg and at various locations in Croatia. As an organist with an international reputation, he has collaborated with orchestras and chamber ensembles throughout Europe and participated in the realization of about twenty sound carriers. He is an artistic director of the International Festival of Early music Dvigrad and the Organ Festival Organum Histriae.

Within the International Scientific and Artistic Symposium “Ivan Lukačić, *maestro di cappella* of the cathedral of Split” Mario Penzar held a two-day workshop entitled *Sacrae cantiones/Harmonices Mundi*. Penzar reminded the audience of the time and ideals that make the music stand at the pinnacle of the seven arts. He held the workshop in the cathedral church of St. Domnius on October 13-14, 2020. Contemplating the present as a secular time, Penzar sought to raise awareness, through a mathematical prism, of some of the musical, theological and sociological features of Baroque music performance. Evoking the reflections of the 17th and 18th centuries that arose within various intellectual gatherings, Penzar emphasized the importance of such thought in the field of art, with particular reference to the Leipzig Collegium Musicum and J. S. Bach. At the end of the two-day workshop, soprano Jelena Buble Čilaš sang the motet *Sicut Cedrus* by Ivan Lukačić along with the basso continuo part realized by Mario Penzar. At the end, the winner of the first

award in the international organ competition in Mechelen (Belgium, 1988), the Flor Baron Peeters Award and the Milka Trnina and Kantor Awards, the titular organist of the Vatroslav Lisinski Concert Hall, Mario Penzar, provided an insight into the context of the time of composing the motets of the *maestro di cappella* of the Split cathedral, Ivan Lukačić.