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## RAINER JOHANNES HOMBURG

studied church music as well as conducting, organ, musicology and philosophy in Cologne and Detmold, Germany. For eighteen years he served as the cantor of the Lippe region as well as the director of church music at St. Marien in Lemgo. Here, he has also founded the chamber music choir — which has since been renamed to Handel's Company | Choir — and the Handel's Company Orchester for early music. In 2008, Rainer Johannes Homburg and his ensembles were presented with the ECHO-Klassik music award for their recording of works of Johann Caspar Ferdinand Fischer.

Since 2010 Rainer Johannes Homburg has been the artistic director of the Stuttgarter Hymnus-Chorknaben. Ever since he has led the choir through about 500 performances in Germany as well as abroad. The newly achieved artistic reorientation of the boys' choir is represented in several CD recordings for the MDG label, amongst others, and regular TV and radio appearances.

In addition, Rainer Johannes Homburg was a university lecturer and he was engaged in training church musicians.

Together with his young musicians, Rainer Johannes Homburg is building the bridge from musical knowledge of the world to the truth and beauty of the artistic moment. The bridge is the sound. Once it has been achieved in its pure, round, clean form – which is only possible with the greatest attention from everyone – it lifts up the listeners and sets them free. At that moment the sound can become a vehicle for musical thought in which text and music merge. To accomplish this, especially with the boys' choir, Rainer Johannes Homburg conducts thousands of conversations during the rehearsal process, some of which go far beyond technical musical questions. The musicians not only want to be empowered for their common goal, but they also want to be won over.

Working with the Stuttgarter Hymnus-Chorknaben is testimony to the success of this endeavour.