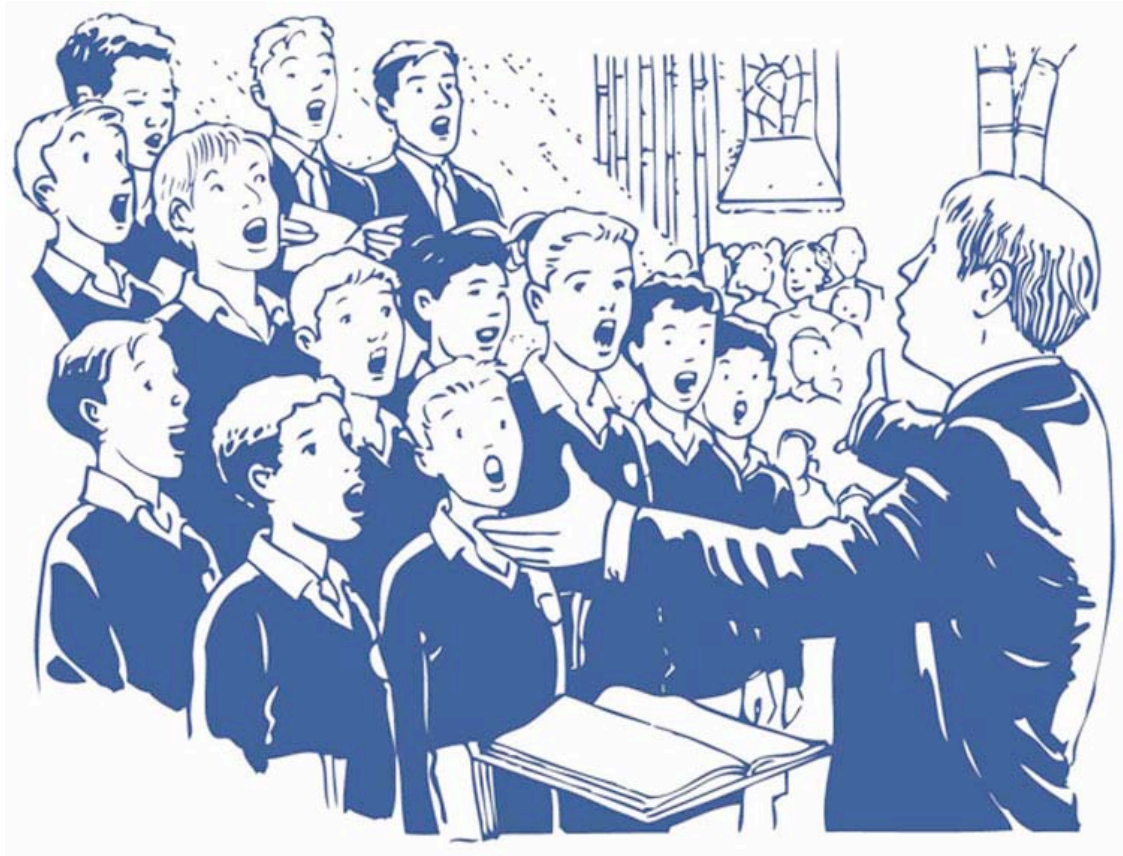


# The Paris Boys Choir

Choir Master François Polgár

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Les Petits Chanteurs de Sainte-Croix



## *On Tour in the USA*

*Boston – New York – Washington D.C.*

*From July 12th through July 30th*

**Conductor: François Polgár +33 6 85 70 46 42**

**Press contact: Walter L. Mitouard +33 6 70 86 42 50**

**In the USA: +1 (857) 413-6141**

Email : [info@parisboyschoir.org](mailto:info@parisboyschoir.org)

Web : <http://www.parisboyschoir.org>

## THE PARIS BOYS CHOIR IN CONCERT IN THE UNITED STATES

**The Paris Boys Choir** (Les Petits chanteurs de Sainte-Croix) is a boys' choir created in 1956 at Collège Sainte-Croix, Paris, France.

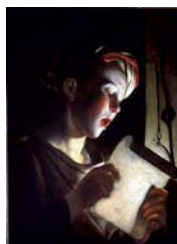
Louis Prudhomme founded the choir in 1956, bringing back to life one of the Collège's oldest and most delightful institutions: the Schola, an elite choir born at the same time as Sainte-Croix itself and much celebrated at the time by famous poet and alumnus Henry de Montherlant. Prudhomme significantly developed the choir's activities and built strong ties with the nascent Pueri Cantores federation, instituted by Monseigneur Maillet – the mythical founder of Les Petits Chanteurs à la Croix de Bois – making it one France's utmost children's choirs.

In 1985, François Polgár – a Sainte-Croix alumnus who then successively became assistant director of Les Chœurs de l'Opéra de Paris and director of Le Chœur de Radio France – was asked by Prudhomme to succeed him. Faithful to his predecessor's philosophy and impetus, Polgár embarked the choir on a path of radical modernization. Les Petits Chanteurs de Sainte-Croix de Neuilly were redeployed into a "Maîtrise": a specially adapted curriculum was crafted at Sainte-Croix for boy pupils willing to practice intensive choir singing and live a unique experience based on music apprenticeship and teamwork, while pursuing regular academic studies.

The choir contributes to the Collège's milestone ceremonies and is at the heart of the students' musical experience. It makes frequent appearances in world-class festivals (Oxford, Aix-en-Provence, Auvers-sur-Oise, Wengen, etc.) and regularly performs great pieces with orchestra (Mozart's Requiem, Fauré's Requiem, Handel's Messiah, etc.). Its repertoire also includes a variety of *a cappella* liturgical and profane songs.

Every summer, Les Petits Chanteurs go on tour, in France and around the world. They have performed in every region in France, and they have also sung in the US, the UK, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Canada, numerous Eastern European countries, etc.

On their Internet website, Les Petits Chanteurs de Sainte-Croix reassess their mission statement: "Through our singing and our actions as 'Missionaries of Peace', we pledge to deepen our spiritual reflection and that of our public. Through our hard work, recordings and live performances, we seek ever improving musical quality and vow to contribute to the renewal of the French children's choir school."



## Concerts in the USA : July 2010

### BOSTON, MA

July 13th 7pm Saint Paul Church, Cambridge

29 Mount Auburn Street, Cambridge, MA 02138

July 16th 7pm Cathedral of the Holy Cross Boston

1400 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02118

### NEW YORK, NY

July 18th 12:30pm Church of Saint Vincent de Paul

123 W. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street (b/w 7<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Aves.), New York, NY 10011

July 19th 1pm Trinity Church Wall Street

74 Trinity Place (at Rector St.), New York, NY 10006

July 20th 1pm Saint Paul's Chapel (World Trade Center)

209 Broadway (b/w Vesey & Fulton Sts.), New York, NY 10007

July 21st 7pm Church of Saint Paul the Apostle

405 W. 59<sup>th</sup> Street (at 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.), New York, NY 10019

### WASHINGTON, D.C.

July 24th 7pm National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

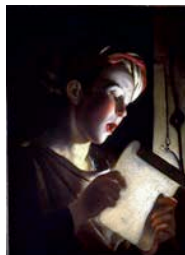
400 Michigan Avenue NE, Washington, D.C. 20017

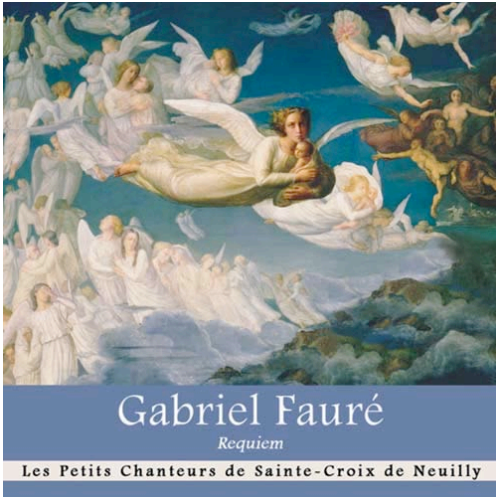
July 26th 7pm Church of the Epiphany (Georgetown)

2712 Dumbarton Street, NW, Washington DC 20007

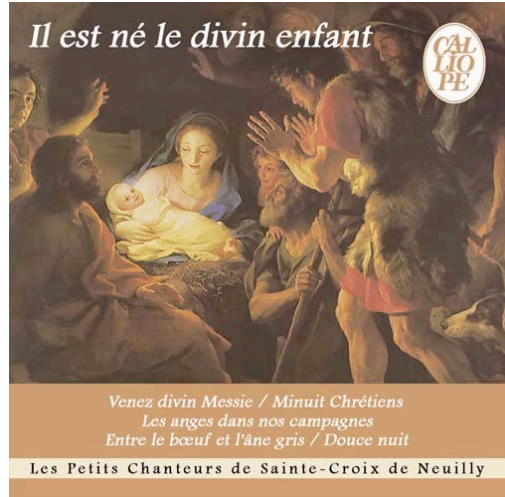
July 28th 7:30pm Saint Stephen Martyr

2436 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20037

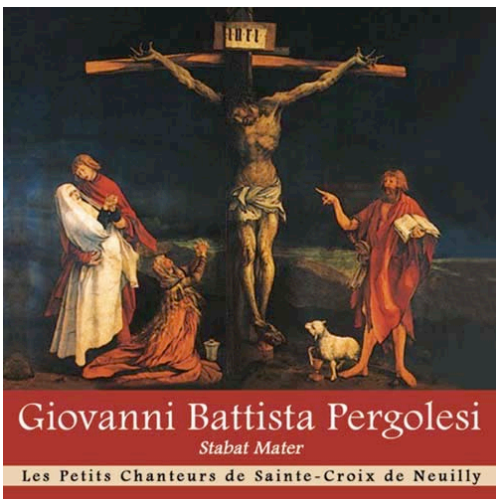




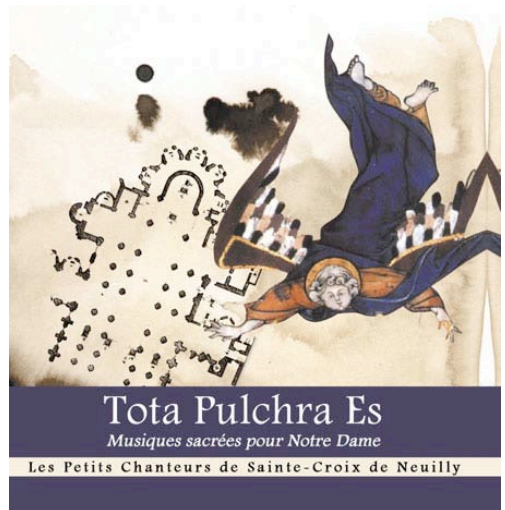
Fauré's Requiem  
(First-ever 1893 version recording)



Traditional Christmas Carols



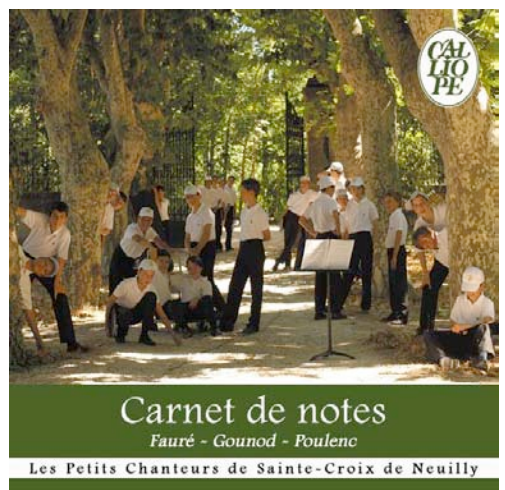
Pergolesi's Stabat Mater  
(First-ever recording featuring two boys soloists)



Hymns to the Virgin Mary



Mozart's Requiem



French secular choral music



*It was akin to a celestial exhalation overwhelming the Earth, as though silence had morphed itself into substance, as if garlands of fresh flowers were gushing from their mouths..."*

Henry de Montherland *La relève du matin* (1920)