

**Message from the Directors, Symposium IX**  
(from *Symposium IX Programme*, 2013)

**Dr. Andrea Rose**  
**Prof. Ki Adams**

Welcome to *The Phenomenon of Singing* International Symposium IX. This event is as an integral component of our biennial, world-class international choral festival, **Festival 500 *Sharing the Voices***. With support from Memorial University, we have been able to organize a truly international academic symposium and celebration of singing and song. Approximately 90 Symposium IX presenters will represent 13 countries including India, Finland, Ireland, Germany, Japan, Russia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Scotland, Kenya, Nigeria, Hungary, United States and Canada. As we experience the multiplicity of perspectives and musical traditions over the next few days together, the phenomenon of singing will surely reveal itself in unique ways!

We are pleased to welcome our seven invited keynote presenters: Fr. Paul Poovathingal (India), David Moss (Germany), Francisco J. Núñez (USA), Mia Makaroff (Finland), Daniel Taylor (Canada), Tim Sharp (USA), and Marian Dolan (USA) who will moderate a special panel presentation on *Growing Choral-Singing Communities: Singing our Stories* with panelists Bob Chilcott (UK), Elena Sharkova (Russia/USA), Francisco J. Núñez (USA), Kellie Walsh (Canada), Mia Makaroff (Finland), and Kathy Romey (USA). These plenary presentations promise to be intriguing and powerful.

Symposium IX has been made possible by the support and dedication of a number of people. We would like to take this opportunity to thank especially the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers of FESTIVAL 500; Dr. Gary Kachanoski (President, Memorial University) and Deans Dr. Ellen Waterman and Dr. Kirk Anderson (School of Music and Faculty of Education, Memorial University). We extend a very special thank you to our Symposium IX Organizing Committee members who have been working on this event for two years. We also very much appreciate our student assistants and volunteers for their unwavering dedication to this biennial event. We feel truly fortunate and honored to be working with such talented and committed individuals.

We hope you enjoy your stay in Newfoundland and Labrador. The Symposium promises to be an exciting and rewarding one. We hope to see you at the various planned events where will have lots of opportunities to share ideas, experiences, friendships, music, theatre, food and fun!