

# Brisbane Concert Choir

Musical Director  
*Dr. Debra Shearer-Dirié*

Tour to Prague, Salzburg and Vienna  
26 November – 10 December 2008

[www.brisbaneconcertchoir.com](http://www.brisbaneconcertchoir.com)

Brisbane  
Queensland  
AUSTRALIA



*Dr. Debra Shearer-Dirié*, originally from Perth, Western Australia, is currently established in Brisbane, Australia. With a Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Western Australia, she began her teaching career in the elementary and high schools of Western Australia. After an exciting encounter with teachers from the Kodály Intezét in Kecskemét, Hungary, Debra was accepted into the diploma program and spent a year during 1990-91 studying in Hungary. The high standard of music education which she observed there made her eager to return to her own country to develop a similar system. Debra was invited to give several in-service sessions for music educators in Western Australia and was a clinician for the Australian Kodály Society, to assist in spreading the word of Kodály and improving the standard of music education in Australia.

After completing a Master of Music Education at Indiana University, USA, Debra turned her sights to choral conducting in pursuit of a Doctoral Degree. During her time there, she was director of the IU Children's and Youth Choir; asst. director of the Pro Arte Singers; and director of the International Vocal Ensemble. From 2000-2001, she was Artistic Director of the Northwest Girlchoir in Seattle. After completing her dissertation, *Emerging Voices in Australian Choral Music*, Debra was invited to present at national choral conferences (ACDA in New York 2003, and ANCA 2004 and 2006 in Australia).

Debra was appointed Musical Director of Brisbane Concert Choir in 2005, and in 2006 founded Vox Pacifica Chamber Choir, a 16-voice youth chamber choir. She teaches at The University of Queensland and is in demand as an adjudicator, clinician, educator and conductor. Debra is currently serving as editor of the ANCA National Journal. Her work in 2008 has taken her to Denmark, Austria, the Czech Republic and New Zealand, as well as Perth and Canberra in Australia.

**Brisbane Concert Choir at St Andrew's** is an auditioned adult community choir based in Brisbane, Australia. It presents three concerts per year, two with orchestra, covering a wide selection of the classical music repertoire, as well as sharing concerts with local and visiting choirs. The choir travels regularly, with major tours to New Zealand (1999), North Queensland (2002) and Europe (2008), and has recently released its second CD *Radiance*. The choir has a strong presence on the web, through an extensive website and selected video performances available there.



**Radiance: Aspects of Light**  
A choral CD with a difference - music old and newly composed, serious and humorous.

