

News from the Nordic Pavilion at EXPO 2005, Aichi Japan
 August 4, 2005

Finland's Philomela Choir Ends Japan-tour in the Nordic Pavilion

EXPO visitors received a nice surprise today when they visited the Nordic Pavilion. The Finnish Philomela Choir gave three concerts in the pavilion today, and its Finnish songs and theatrical performances were highly appreciated by the Japanese audience.

The Choir is here to participate in the Seventh World Symposium on Choral Music, which was held in Kyoto this year. With the symposium finishing yesterday and the choir traveling back to Finland tomorrow, it was great luck for the Nordic Pavilion that the group managed to squeeze an EXPO visit into its busy schedule.



Philomela mainly performed songs by modern female composers and the Finnish folk music group, Varttina. All the songs, which have strong roots in Finnish folk music, were sung in Finnish. The concerts were very lively – the choir members moved freely around the stage and spiced up the performance with rich facial and body expressions.

“Even if the guests did not understand the lyrics we really connected with the audience - they smiled all the right places and some of them even had tears in their eyes when we were singing the sad songs in our repertoire”, said one choir member after the concerts.

The Helsinki-based choir is well known in Finland, but has also many activities abroad. This visit to Japan is Philomela's second in three years– and at present group members are already busy planning a concert tour of Belgium in September 2005 (see www.philomelachoir.net)

The Nordic Pavilion will also receive distinguished guests from Finland next week, when the whole Moomin Family visits EXPO 2005.

You can find more information about the Nordic Pavilion on our website,
www.nordicatexpo2005.org

For further information please contact,
Kristin Ingvarsdottir
Director Media & Events / Pavilion Director

Tel: +81 (0)90-9139-6105

Email: kristin.ingvarsdottir@nordicatexpo2005.org

