

ENGLISH BIO - SHORT

The Real Group is a professional *a cappella* ensemble from Sweden, in constant development since its formation in 1984. The Real Group is one of the leading forces in the world of vocal music today. Their combination of perfection, personal touch and their wide repertoire have made it possible for the group to collaborate with symphony orchestras, jazz groups, popbands and international artists.

The members

Emma Nilsdotter Lisa Östergren Anders Edenroth Morten Vinther Janis Strazdins

Sound engineer: Linnea Carell

www.therealgroup.se www.therealgroupacademy.se

ENGLISH BIO - LONG

The Real Group is a groundbreaking vocal group based in Sweden.

With the voice as their sole instrument they have created a unique musical expression in the domain between jazz, pop and Nordic European choir music. The group was founded in 1984 and has been touring the world for more than 30 years. Their combination of perfection and personal touch along with original songs has made them accessible to music enthusiasts in general as well as to the more demanding ear. Their wide repertoire and musical excellence have made it possible for the group to collaborate with symphony orchestras, jazz groups, popbands and notable artists such as Barbara Hendricks, Toots Thielemans and Sir George Martin as well as performing for The Royal Family in Sweden, opening the FIFA World Cup in South Korea and singing for state officials all over the world – including the Emperor of Japan.

The Real Group has produced 20 CD's in their own name, and they have also produced their own concert tours, TV programs and have been artistic directors for several *a cappella* Festivals around the world. In 2008 The Real Group initiated and hosted "The Real A Cappella Festival" and in 2012 <u>"The Real Group Festival"</u> – both in Sweden - attracting visitors from more than 20 countries.

In 2015 they co-hosted the "Å Cappella" Festival on the island of Åland, focusing on vocal group singing, music sharing and positive encouragement.

In 2012 and 2013 the group toured as ambassadors for the charity program <u>Star For Life</u> to educate and raise awareness about AIDS/HIV among young adults in South Africa.

The Real Group is a part of an ongoing special project called LEVELELEVEN in conjunction with the Finnish vocal group Rajaton. Besides the musical collaboration, this cross-border interaction showcases how music can unite and inspire as opposed to being divisive or competitive.

The Real Group also focuses on education, and through workshops and coaching aims to inspire singers and teachers around the world. Former baritone in The Real Group - Peder Karlsson – is one of the elements in the educational initiative and he was appointed as an Honorary Professor at the Royal Academy of Music in Aalborg & Aarhus in January 2016. To find out more about the group's educational programs visit www.therealgroupacademy.se

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