

## Because all you need is love

*The choir will kick off its series of summer concerts themed on love.*



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New Delhi May 12, 2019 UPDATED: May 12, 2019 02:31 IST



The Capital City Minstrels will perform this evening at the Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre.

It's been 25 years since The Capital City Minstrels' (CCM), one of the city's most cherished choirs, began its love affair with Delhi. Perhaps that's why it's apt to say 'love is in the air' as the choir chooses to keep love as the theme for its summer concerts.

Beginning today, the concerts titled 'Here's to Love! When all is well or when all is lost' will showcase broader interpretations of love, at its exhilarating height as well as the sadness or pain of lost love.

Based on the ancient Greek interpretation of the different kinds of love, CCM's repertoire will highlight this variety - the unconditional love of God; familial love, deep friendship; and of course, passion.

"The performance is in four different languages including Latin, French, German and English and has singing styles spanning centuries - there's a Baroque piece from the 1500s, romantic pieces from the romantic period, contemporary songs like Stand By Me, Love Walked In by Gershwin and a CCM classic: I can't help falling in love with you," says conductor Sharmila Livingston who has been associated with CCM for more than two decades.

Part of a trilogy of concerts that began in December 2018 with the choir's 'Peace' themed winter performances, this set of concerts in May celebrate 'Love', and will culminate in 'Joy' in CCM's 25th anniversary concerts in November 2019.

Comprising people from different walks of life including doctors, lawyers, engineers, designers and artists, CCM has over a period of 25 years performed more than 300 concerts across India and Europe, entertaining audiences with their wide repertoire

The choir has sung at embassies, prominent concert halls and auditoriums, cathedrals, historic monuments and at Government of India events, including performances for the President of India.

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As Livingston puts it, "Everyone who's part of CCM has a platform to engage socially and musically to life." The current choir with more than 65 singers includes students who've appeared for board examinations and even an 80-year-old man who's been with the choir right from inception.

For them, CCM is one big family which they now can't live without. The choir will also perform at Green Park, Free Church, Sri Aurobindo Marg, Tuesday, 7.30 pm.

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