

**David Eben** was born in Prague in 1965. After graduation from clarinet studies at Prague's conservatory, he took up musicology at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University in Prague. Already during his studies, he specialized in medieval music, mainly in Gregorian chant. In 1991 he graduated from Paris conservatory (Conservatoire Nationale Supérieur de Musique de Paris) the program Conducting of Gregorian chant, and in the following year he worked as a conductor of the ensemble *Choeur gregorien de Paris*. Then he also often visited the Solesmes monastery, a centre of research in Gregorian chant, with the view of studying and consulting.



Besides his scholarly work, David Eben is concentrating on the interpretation of Gregorian chant. In 1987 he founded the vocal ensemble Schola Gregoriana Pragensis ([www.gregoriana.cz](http://www.gregoriana.cz)), which has been intensively recording and giving concerts in almost all European countries, Japan and Israel. The CDs of the ensemble have received a number of awards (Choc du Monde de la Musique, 10 de Repertoire, "Zlata Harmonie" - Golden Harmony Award for the best Czech recording of the year). Further information -

Since 1993 he works at the Institute of Musicology of Charles University where he lectures on topics related to Gregorian chant and liturgy (neumatic and staff notation, introduction to Gregorian chant studies, seminar on medieval monody etc.). From 2008 to 2013 he worked as professor of Gregorian chant at the University of Lucerne (Switzerland). He regularly tutors in summer courses on theory and practice of Gregorian chant in France, Switzerland and Belgium. On a long term basis he has been co-operating with the Czech Radio in creating programs on Gregorian chant (55-part cycle „Liturgical Year in Gregorian Chant“).

### Selected bibliography

- Die Bedeutung des Arnestus von Pardubitz in der Entwicklung des Prager Offiziums, (Cantus Planus Pécs 1990), Budapest 1992, p. 571-577
- Zur Frage von mehreren Melodien bei Offiziums-Antiphonen, Cantus Planus Eger 1993, Budapest 1995, p. 529-537
- Organizace liturgického prostoru v bazilice sv. Víta [Organisation of Liturgical Space in Saint Vitus Cathedral in Prague], in: Castrum Pragense 2 (1999), p. 227-240.
- O mulier / Vade mulier: Lösen eines "Antiphonenknotens", in: Cantus Planus (Visegrád 1998), Budapest 2001, p.119-126
- Die Offiziumsantiphonen der Adventszeit, diss. Charles University, Institute of Musicology, Praha 2003
- Die Benedictus-Antiphonen von Quatember-Mittwoch und Quatember-Freitag im Prager Ritus, in: Miscelanea Musicologica XXXVII, Praha 2003, p. 63-68
- Historical Anthology of Music in the bohemian Lands, ed. Jaromír Černý and others, Praha 2005 (cf. the section of sacred monophony p. 4-30)
- L'office de saint Eloi dans les manuscrits de la confrérie des orfèvres de Prague, in: De Noyon à Prague, Le culte de Saint Eloi en Bohême médiévale, Praha 2007, p. 115-156
- Der Blick von Oben. Gregorianische Inspiration im Werk von Petr Eben; publikováno ve sborníku z konference: „Musikalische und theologische Etüden zum Verhältnis von Musik und Theologie“, Hg. Wolfgang Müller, Zürich 2012, s. 201-214
- Die Evangeliumsantiphonen der Donnerstage in der Fastenzeit, in: Cantus Planus, (Papers read at the 16th meeting, Vienna 2011), Wien 2012, s. 127-134
- Eine unbekannte Quelle zum Prager Offizium des hl. Adalbert, in: Hudební věda 2014/1-2, str. 7-20.

## Recordings with the ensemble Schola Gregoriana Pragensis

(cf. [www.gregoriana.cz](http://www.gregoriana.cz))

**Toussaint — Requiem** - Mass and Office of the feast of All Saints, liturgy for the departed. Jointly with the Choeur Grégorien de Paris (Jade 74321 30294-2),

**Bohemorum sancti** — Czech Saints in Holy Jerusalem (Supraphon SU 0003-2231 )

*Choc du Monde de la Musique (September 1996)*

*10 de Répertoire (December 1996)*

**Rosa mystica** — Devotion to the Virgin Mary in Medieval Bohemia (Supraphon SU 0194-2231)

*1995 “Golden Harmony Award” for the year’s best Czech recording*

*Choc du Monde de la Musique (October 1996)*

**In Pragensi Ecclesia** — Christmas at Prague’s Cathedral During the Reign of Charles IV (Supraphon SU 3191-2231)

*Choc du Monde de la Musique (July 1997)*

**Anno Domini 997** — Millenium of Devotion to Saint Adalbert (Supraphon SU 3288-2231)

**Liturgical Year** — Survey of the musical variety and wealth of Gregorian chant in each liturgical season (Supraphon SU 3271-2231)

**Antica e Moderna** — Gregorian chant for the liturgy on the feast of the Consecration of the Temple and Suita liturgica by Petr Eben. Jointly with P. Eben — organ (Supraphon SU 3373-2231)

*Choc du Monde de la Musique (May 1997)*

**Codex Franus** — Repertory of Bohemian Utraquists according to a significant source from the beginning of the 16th century (Supraphon SU 3407-2231)

*Choc du Monde de la Musique (October 1996)*

*Harmony Award for the best recording of the year 1999 in the “Middleage and Renaissance Music” Category (April 2000)*

**Adoratio crucis** — Repertory of the Adoration of the Cross, from the Holy Week liturgy. Jointly with the Boni pueri boys’ choir (Supraphon SU 3448-2 231)

**Ach, homo fragilis** — Spiritual poetry in late medieval Bohemia. Special guest: Petra Noskaiová, mezzo-soprano (Supraphon SU 3623-2231),

*Choc du Monde de la Musique (March 2003)*

**Maiestas Dei** –Medieval Polyphony in the Work of Petra Wilhelmi de Grudencz, Supraphon SU 3807-2

*Choque du Monde de la Musique (September 2005)*

**Vêpres pour Sainte-Marie-Madeleine** – jointly with Arslys Bourgogne, dir. Pierre Cao, (Universal Classics France, Lc 280 476 9939), Paris 2006

**Close Voices from Far-away** – Gregorian chant and buddhist shomyo chants, jointly with Japanese Buddhist monks Gyosan-ryu Tendai Shomyo (Sony BMG 82876873042)

**Salve Mater, Salve Jesu** – Chant and Polyphony from Bohemia around 1500, Schola Gregoriana Pragensis, Capilla Flaminca, Barbara Maria Willi – organ (EtCetera KTC 1346, distribution Euromusica)

*Choque du Monde de la Musique (2007)*

**Dialogues** – dialogue of old and new music, jointly with Jiri Barta – violoncello, Supraphon 2009, SU 4009-2

**Adventus Domini** – Advent „Rorate Mass“ in Bohemia in 15th and 16th century, Supraphon 2011, SU 4071-2

**Carolus IV, rex et imperator** – Music at the time of emperor Charles IV, Supraphon 2015, SU 4193-2