



**Greetings
from the President of Iceland
Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson**

Reykjavík Male Choir has for many decades struck a powerful chord in the soul of the Icelandic nation. Its song has expressed love for our country, odes to nature and emotions which we share at times of celebration and joy, sorrow and loss.

When we recall remarkable events, song is always the language that best interprets what we feel in our hearts and minds.

Then the choir sings for us, its resonance imposing and grand or light and playful, its voices harmonizing with our unspoken feelings.

It is a highly appropriate gesture in the year when Iceland celebrates the millennium of the discovery of America and the adoption of Christianity, that Reykjavík Male Choir should visit our relatives and friends in the New World and bring them greetings in song from the people of Iceland.

The heritage preserved in the Icelandic communities in North America is a remarkable part of our national history. Old buildings, churches and green fields preserve the footprints of people who continued to be Icelanders when they made their homes in a distant country. They sang the old poems from the home country, read stories and delivered tidings. They created another Iceland which we cherish dearly.

With the songs of Reykjavík Male Choir we pay tribute to those Icelandic pioneers and send our friends and relatives greetings from the country that we share.

Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson
(sign)