2020 INTERNATIONAL
BEETHOVEN
FESTIVAL

JUNE 19-27, 2020
PRAGUE | VIENNA
2020 INTERNATIONAL BEETHOVEN FESTIVAL

A Music Festival celebrating the 250th birth year of Ludwig van Beethoven

Prague, Czech Republic & Vienna, Austria

June 19-27, 2020

Jerry Blackstone
Artistic Director and GRAMMY® Award Winning Conductor

Classic Performances BY CORPORATE TRAVEL
Event Management and Production

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The 2020 International Beethoven Festival celebrates the 250th birth year of Ludwig van Beethoven through two concerts featuring his masterworks for chorus, orchestra and soloists under the direction of Artistic Director, Dr. Jerry Blackstone. Participating choruses will perform in St. Vitus Cathedral in Prague and in the Musikverein, the premiere performance venue in Vienna. Each concert will feature the opportunity for individual choirs to combine with other fine choirs to rehearse and perform with a select orchestra and professional soloists. Individual vocalists, musicians, and non-performing applicants are invited to participate in this festival. Participation in the festival does not require that a choir tour with a balanced ensemble. Participating ensembles will be provided customized tour itineraries accommodating their scheduled concert performance. A sample itinerary is provided herein under “Tentative Itinerary.” Balanced choirs may elect to arrange additional concert performances under the auspices of the 2020 International Beethoven Festival. Bands and orchestras may also elect to participate in these neighboring venues and Classic Performances will work with enrolled ensembles to arrange and promote these additional concert performances.

Corporate Travel is a family owned full-service tour operator that has been serving its customers for over 50 years. Our company is comprised of 6 travel divisions: Classic Performances, Pilgrimage, Education, Business & Retail, Cruise and Event Management. We specialize in high-quality and customized experiences for groups and individuals around the globe. While we serve more than 26,000 people each year, our staff of more than sixty of the industry’s most qualified professionals strive to provide extraordinary and personal attention to each traveler we have the privilege to serve.

Our mission is to enhance lives and promote culture by creating customized travel experiences that open the world to our clients.

We have a tradition of exemplary service, we are governed by integrity, and we value innovation.

Classic Performances specializes in customized performance opportunities for musical ensembles. In collaboration with accomplished musicians, Classic Performances has served thousands of choirs, orchestras, and bands who have enjoyed world-class concerts in iconic venues across the world. From events at Carnegie Hall, the Sydney Opera House, the Musikverein, and Westminster Hall, Classic Performances has successfully developed and produced concerts at each of these legendary venues. Additional venues include St. Peter’s Basilica, St. Stephens, and other major cathedrals and basilicas across Europe as well as performances and collaborations in quaint hillside towns for an experience of the local culture and charm.
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

GRAMMY® Award winner Jerry Blackstone is a leading conductor and highly respected conducting pedagogue. He served on the faculty of the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance for thirty years where, as Director of Choirs, he led the graduate program in choral conducting and oversaw the University’s eleven choirs. In February 2006, he received two GRAMMY® Awards (“Best Choral Performance” and “Best Classical Album”) as chorusmaster for the Naxos recording of William Bolcom’s Songs of Innocence and of Experience. The recent Naxos recording of Milhaud’s L’Orestie d’Eschyle, on which Blackstone served as chorusmaster, was nominated for a 2015 GRAMMY® Award (“Best Opera Recording”). The University of Michigan Chamber Choir, conducted by Dr. Blackstone, performed by special invitation at the inaugural conference in San Antonio of the National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO) and presented three enthusiastically received performances in New York City at the National Convention of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA).

In 2017, NCCO presented him with its prestigious Lifetime Membership Award and, in 2006, for “significant contributions to choral music,” he received the ACDA-Michigan chapter’s Maynard Klein Lifetime Achievement Award. Blackstone conducted the U-M Men’s Glee Club from 1988-2002 and led the ensemble in appearances at the 1997 ACDA National Convention in San Diego, in multiple appearances at ACDA Central Division conventions, in four international tours, and in annual tours throughout the United States.

From 2003-2015, Blackstone served as conductor and music director of the University Musical Society (UMS) Choral Union, a large community/university chorus that frequently appears with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Choirs prepared by Blackstone have appeared under the batons of Valery Gergiev, Neeme Järvi, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Leonard Slatkin, Hans Graf, Michael Tilson Thomas, John Adams, and Helmuth Rilling.

Blackstone is considered one of the country’s leading conducting teachers, and his students have been first place award winners and finalists in both the graduate and undergraduate divisions of ACDA’s biennial National Choral Conducting Awards competition. His 2016 rehearsal techniques DVD, Did you hear that? (GIA Publications) deals with the conductor’s decision-making process during rehearsal. Santa Barbara Music Publishing distributes his acclaimed educational DVD, Working with Male Voices and also publishes the Jerry Blackstone Choral Series.
REPERTOIRE

Choral Works:
- Opus 86: Mass in C major (1807)
- “Halleluia” from Opus 85: Christ on the Mount of Olives – oratorio (1803)

Orchestral works to be selected from:
- Opus 67: Symphony No. 5 in C minor (“Fate”) (composed 1804–08, premièred 1808)
- Opus 68: Symphony No. 6 in F major (“Pastoral”) (composed 1804–08, premièred 1808)
- Opus 92: Symphony No. 7 in A major (composed 1811–12, premièred 1813)

SCHEDULE OF CONCERTS

Monday, June 22, 2020
Evening - Festival Concert
St. Vitus Cathedral – Prague, Czech Republic

Friday, June 26, 2020
7:30 pm - Festival Concert
Musikverein – Vienna, Austria

Musikverein “Golden Hall”
REHEARSAL SCHEDULE
TENTATIVE

The 250th birth year festival is built on the premise that all choirs will have the opportunity to perform in a concert featuring one of Beethoven’s choral/orchestral masterpieces. This opportunity is the centerpiece of the participant’s festival experience. To support the intended level of performance, the following rehearsal schedule will be accommodated:

Choral Rehearsals
Two three-hour chorus/piano rehearsals spread over two days prior to performance

Orchestral Rehearsal
Two-hour orchestral rehearsal on a day prior to performance

Dress Rehearsals
One Choral/Orchestral/Soloist rehearsal at each performance venue; each dress rehearsal will be on the day of the concert

Note that all festival concerts and venues are subject to a minimum number of registered singers. Individual festival concerts may be cancelled or combined depending on the actual number of registrations.
Schonbrunn Palace, Vienna
INDIVIDUAL CHORAL & INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCES

Balanced Choirs and instrumental ensembles may elect to perform an independent concert featuring repertoire of the conductor's choice in a venue outside of the two Festival Concerts. All programs must be submitted for approval and approved by the Artistic Director. A wide range of venues are available with which to offer exceptional performance opportunities to individual choirs, bands and orchestras. Interested ensembles are encouraged to contact a Classic Performances representative to discuss available opportunities. Possible independent concert venues include: The Haydn Church (Esterhazy), Vienna's Sofien Sale, St. Stephansdom, Palaise Ferstel, Schonbrunn Palace, and Votiv Kirche.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

To ensure a peak artistic performance at all venues and the opportunity for all to experience a once in a lifetime memory, we ask that each director submit a recent audio/video recording of their ensemble along with the Choral and Instrumental Application Form found at the end of this prospectus. This will allow the Artistic Director to hear each ensemble in order to assign participation in both Festival Concerts in St. Vitus Cathedral, and the Musikverein. It will also be utilized to identify ensembles who select to perform in an independent concert in one of the other local venues.

Please include a video recording of a live performance. This performance should include a music selection that clearly identifies your group's level of proficiency and mastery. The length of your submission can be up to 10 minutes in total length. A full camera view of the ensemble and conductor is preferred. The video should be uploaded to Youtube or Vimeo and a link should be provided on the application form.

For those groups that are selected to perform in the Festival Concerts in St. Vitus and the Musikverein, an additional audio/video recording with piano accompaniment will be requested six weeks prior to your departure date. This recording will allow each ensemble to demonstrate their preparedness using portions of all movements of Beethoven's Mass in C and the “Hallelujah”.

FESTIVAL CONCERT ATTIRE

The 2020 International Beethoven Festival requires specific attire for all musicians performing in the festival concerts. “Black Tie” attire is required for men in concert. This includes white dress shirt, black tuxedo or suit, black dress shoes, black dress socks and black bow tie. Reflectively, the concert attire for women includes black blouse, black long skirt or slacks and black shoes, with no bright jewelry. Participants are requested to refrain from wearing perfume or cologne at all rehearsals and concerts out of respect for their colleagues.
TENTATIVE ITINERARY

**Day 1: Friday, June 19, 2020 | Depart USA.**
Air arrangements can be made on own or through Corporate Travel Service

**Day 2: Saturday, June 20, 2020 | Arrive Prague**
Arrive in Prague, one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. Transfer in private motor coach to your hotel. Afternoon at your leisure. Evening welcome dinner with Artistic Director Jerry Blackstone and presentation of the 2020 International Beethoven Festival. Overnight in Prague. (D)

**Day 3: Sunday, June 21, 2020 | Prague**
European buffet breakfast at hotel, followed by your first morning choir rehearsal (3 hr). Morning orchestra tour of the glorious city of Prague. Enjoy a guided visit of Prague Castle and St. Charles Bridge. Free time for lunch. Afternoon orchestral rehearsal (2 hr) and repeat sightseeing tour for chorus members. Dinner on your own. Evening leisure in Prague. Overnight in Prague. (B)

**Day 4: Monday, June 22, 2020 | Prague**
European buffet breakfast at hotel followed by your last morning choir rehearsal (3 hr). Lunch and afternoon at leisure enjoying the remainder of the afternoon in Prague. Evening dress rehearsal and dinner. Evening Beethoven Festival Concert in St. Vitus Cathedral. Overnight in Prague. (B, D)

**Day 5: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 | Prague/Vienna**
European buffet breakfast at hotel. Transfer to Vienna via private motor coach. Guided visit of Schoenbrunn Palace. Check in to hotel. Dinner on your own. Overnight in Vienna. (B)

**Day 6: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 | Vienna | Eisenstadt | Vienna**
European buffet breakfast at hotel followed by a full day excursion to Eisenstadt. Enjoy a terrific lunch at a local restaurant. Visit the Esterhazy Castle and the Haydn Church with optional choral performances. Return to Vienna for dinner on your own. Overnight in Vienna. (B)
**Day 7: Thursday, June 25, 2020 | Vienna**

European buffet breakfast at hotel. Today you have a half-day private sightseeing tour of the city. You will also have time to enjoy, on your own, the city of music by visiting the sites relating to Haydn, Beethoven, Brahms, Schubert, Strauss and Mozart. You can also spend time seeing historical Vienna, including the Ringstrasse, Parliament Building, St. Stephen’s Cathedral, Kartnerstrasse, the State Opera, Rathaus and Stadtpark. Optional individual concert performances at Sofien Sale or Votiv Kirche. Overnight in Vienna. (B, D)

**Day 8: Friday, June 26, 2020 | Vienna**

European buffet breakfast at hotel. Today your sightseeing possibilities include a visit to Mozart House, where Mozart lived from 1784 - 1787. This is where he wrote his most famous works, including “The Marriage of Figaro.” Lunch on your own. In the early evening there will be a final dress rehearsal followed by dinner and then the highlight of your tour, your participation in the 2020 International Beethoven Festival Concert in the Musikverein! Overnight in Vienna. (B, D)

**Day 9: Saturday, June 27, 2020 | Vienna | USA**

Private bus transfer to Vienna airport for departure to the USA

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This itinerary is a sample and subject to change. Following confirmation of each choir’s participation and acceptance into the festival, the itinerary and exact dates will be finalized in accordance with the particular performance venue.
FESTIVAL INCLUSIONS & COSTS

INCLUSIONS:
- Seven (7) nights accommodation at four star hotels: (3) nights in Prague and (4) nights in Vienna
- Daily European buffet breakfasts,
- Four (4) dinners, including a welcome and farewell dinner
- International Beethoven Festival Performance with your group
- Scheduled rehearsals
- English speaking European Escort for entire time in Europe
- English speaking local guides for half-day tours in Prague, Vienna and Eisenstadt
- Deluxe motor coach for touring and traveling in Europe
- Entrance fees for Prague Castle, Schonbrunn Castle and Esterhazy Castle
- Transfers to and from the airport in Vienna (for those purchasing group air from Classic Performances)

EXCLUSIONS:
- Airfare (trip is sold land only)
- Single room supplement
- Tips payable to driver/guides/hotel staff
- Optional travel insurance
- Performances in addition to St. Vitus Cathedral and the Musikverein

NOTES:
- Published price reflects a cash discount of $90 per person for tours paid entirely by cash or check
- Rates are based on a minimum of 45 paying passengers with 47 passengers per coach. If your group is smaller or larger, the group may be combined with other groups to maintain the pricing
- Overnight tour prices are per person according to room type: a “Single” room is one person in a room and a "Double" is two persons in a room. “Triple” rooms are discouraged because of cramped quarters. Triples are one double bed with two persons sharing the bed and one single bed. Triples are very limited in Europe and often not available
- Rates are based on the present currency exchange rate in January 2018 and are subject to change because of the volatility of exchange rates. Actual selling price may be adjusted at the balance due date due to exchange rate fluctuations and/or changes in actual air tax assessments.

LAND ONLY COSTS:

$3,189 Regular price, per person after October 1, 2018
-$100 Book by October 1, 2018 and save $100
-$90 Cash discount for payment by cash or check
$2,999 Early booking cash discount price (double occupancy)
APPLICATION FORM

Name of Director ________________________________________________________________
Name of Ensemble _____________________________________________________________
Address _________________________________________________________________________
Mailing Address __________________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip _____________________________________________________________________
Home phone ___________________________ Mobile phone ____________________________
Office phone ___________________________ Fax ________________________________
E-mail __________________________________________________________________________
Website __________________________________________________________________________

Chorus/Orchestra/Band Administrative Contact (if other than conductor)___________________
Address __________________________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip ______________________________________________________________________
Home phone ___________________________ Mobile phone ____________________________
Office phone ___________________________ Fax ________________________________
E-Mail __________________________________________________________________________

Approximate Number of Voices/Musicians in Ensemble______
Approximate Number of non-performers that you anticipate may accompany the ensemble______

This Choir/Orchestra/Band is applying for participation in the (check all that apply):
  □ St. Vitus and Musikverein Concerts (Choirs and Orchestras only)
  □ Individual Choral and Instrumental Performances in neighboring venues

Please mail, fax, or scan and email this application to:

Corporate Travel c/o Stephen Roberts
41780 W 6 Mile Rd, Suite 100
Northville, MI 48168

Email: sroberts@ctscentral.net Fax: 313-565-3621 Phone: 313-565-8888 ext. 157

Please submit your video recording by uploading it to Youtube or Vimeo.
Please, provide the link here:_______________________________________________________

□ I would like to discuss a Pre or Post- Festival extension for our ensemble with a Classic Performances representative. Please contact me directly at ________________________________
Classic Performances
BY CORPORATE TRAVEL

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