



Building Bridges *and* Transforming Lives *through the* Power of Music

SAN JOSÉ, COSTA RICA | June 23-27, 2021

Pura Vida Costa Rica

A Festival for Women's and Treble Voices

Choirs-in-Residence: Coro Cantate & Coro Intermezzo



Artistic Director

Dr. Andrea Ramsey
Composer, Conductor



Guest Conductor

Ms. María Guinand
Conductor, Professor

The Setting



The Artistic Experience

Join Women's and Treble choral ensembles from across the U.S. under the direction of Dr. Andrea Ramsey and Maria Guinand, guest Conductor for a choral festival of International song and friendship. Collaborating with well-known Women and Youth choirs from Costa Rica and culminating in a gala concert at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre in **San José**, this festival tour will challenge and engage the hearts and minds of every participant and create profound memories to last a lifetime. Additionally, individual performance opportunities are available while in Costa Rica during the optional pre or post festival touring programs to Arenal or Tamarindo.

Costa Rica

Costa Rica is rich in so many ways, in its history, in its cultural offerings and as a leader in ecology and ecological tourism. Many of Costa Rica's music traditions date back to colonial times when the Spanish brought European rhythms to the country's shores. Over time Spanish beats harmonized with indigenous tempi to create folkloric music unique to Costa Rica. The country boasts many outstanding choral ensembles including the national symphony chorus, many children's choirs, as well as very good school, university, and community choirs. Through Costa Rica's attention to the environment and its development of internationally-recognized ecological science, thousands upon thousands of tourists flock to Costa Rica to enjoy its natural resources, its beaches, its rain forests, its rivers and mountains.



The Organizers: Perform International

"Building Bridges and Transforming Lives through the Power of Music"

Boldly informed by the belief that music inherently speaks as an expression of the human spirit beyond borders and in all cultures, Perform International seeks to empower music directors and ensembles to realize meaningful and life-changing immersion experiences and performances around the world.

- We empower music directors, music ensembles and individual musicians to share and grow in their artistic expression and understanding of people and cultures.
- We design and create rewarding performances as well as educational and cultural immersion opportunities by building and maintaining relationships with domestic and international musicians and music education organizations.
- We partner with concert venues, publicity teams, airlines, hotels, and tour guides to plan and implement operational methods that enhance rather than distract from the artistic experience.
- We provide meaningful and life-changing performance tour experiences that are personal, thoughtful, and efficient in the processes of conceptual artistic and educational development.

Faculty



**Dr. Andrea
Ramsey**

Artistic Director

Dr. Andrea Ramsey holds an appointment in choral music education at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio where she teaches choral methods, undergraduate conducting, and conducts the University Chorus. A native Arkansan, Andrea has thirteen years of teaching experience with children's, public school, and university choruses. She received her Ph.D. in Music Education from Michigan State University where she was a University Distinguished Fellow and her M. M. in Choral Conducting from The University of Kansas. Enjoying regular guest conducting and presenting opportunities, Dr. Ramsey looks forward to presenting and conducting engagements this year in Canada, New Jersey, New York, Michigan, Mississippi, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Arkansas, North Carolina, Minnesota, and West Virginia.

An ASCAP award-winning composer, Dr. Ramsey composes for a wide range of voices and ability levels and has over 60 works in press with publishers such as Hal Leonard, Boosey & Hawkes, Alliance, Santa Barbara, Walton, Colla Voce, and Carl Fischer. She is composer-in-residence to the Allegro Choirs of Kansas City where she has twice toured abroad with the choirs to Italy, Austria, and the Czech Republic.



**Ms. María
Guinand**

Guest Conductor

The Venezuelan choral conductor, María Guinand, was formed as a choral conductor under the tutelage of Alberto Grau. She had her musical studies in Venezuela and England, where he obtained her Bachelor of Music degree in 1976 and her Master of Music degree in 1982 at the University of Bristol. She studied choral and orchestral conducting with Helmuth Rilling and interpretation of Gregorian Chant with Luigi Agustoni (Switzerland) and Johannes Berchmans Goeschl (Germany).

María Guinand is choral director, university professor and director of many choral projects at national and international levels. She has developed an intense teaching activity in the areas of music theory, analysis, history and aesthetics of music, harmony and choral conducting. She has held important positions in national and international choral organizations, and is continuing to deliver workshops, conferences and conduct concerts of symphonic and choral repertoire Latin coral invited.





June 23-27, 2021

Pura Vida Costa Rica

Tour Itinerary

Wednesday, June 23, 2021 - USA to Costa Rica

You will arrive to the beauty of Costa Rica and be greeted by your festival hosts at the Juan Santamaria International Airport. Your short drive to the hotel will be followed by check-in. There will be a rehearsal with your Artistic Director and Guest Conductor this afternoon. Enjoy a festive welcome dinner and traditional folk show of Costa Rica with the other participating choirs.

Thursday, June 24, 2021 - San José

Morning rehearsals followed by a city Tour of San Jose. The city is distinguished by its Spanish colonial buildings, like the ornate, neoclassical National Theatre of Costa Rica overlooking downtown's Plaza de la Cultura, a popular gathering spot. The choirs may sing informally at the Cathedral. Lunch on own followed by afternoon rehearsals. Dinner and overnight in San José.

Friday, June 25, 2021 - Sarchi and Zarcero

Morning visit to Sarchi and Zarcero. A key artisan town in Costa Rica, Sarchi is best known for the vibrant and pretty oxcarts that are handcrafted here. In the northern hill of San Ramon lies the scenic town of Zarcero. It offers picturesque views of the surrounding coffee plantations. Lunch on own. Afternoon rehearsals followed by an evening get together at the Instituto Costarricense Pro Música Coral. This is a Non-Profit Organization dedicated to Music. The groups will have the opportunity to share music with the members of Coro Cantate (Youth Women's Choir) and Coro Intermezzo and enjoy a Costa Rican night full of culture, friends and music.

Saturday, June 26, 2021 - Cartago

Breakfast followed by an excursion to Cartago to visit the Basílica de Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles. Lunch on own followed by afternoon dress rehearsal. Gala concert at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre. Farewell dinner together with the U.S. and local Costa Rican choirs.

Sunday, June 27, 2021 - Depart San José / Start Post Festival Tour Programs

Transfer to the airport for return flight home to the U.S. or continue on your post festival tour.

Pre/Post Festival Tour Programs

Optional pre- and post-tours for groups of 20 and more passengers are available including additional individual performance opportunities for balanced ensembles. All of PI's pre/post tours are fully customized to each choir's specific needs. Following are some examples:

Tour B - June 27-29, 2021, Post-Festival Extension to Tamarindo

Tamarindo is the most developed beach on the Nicoya Peninsula and one of the Costa Rica's best known surf spots. The surfer mecca in the bay of Tamarindo offers all kinds of tourist services, along with some of Costa Rica's best restaurants.

Tour C - June 27-July 1, 2021, Post-Festival Extension to Arenal & Tamarindo

Often simply referred to as "La Fortuna," the town is the gateway to the magnificent Arenal Volcano. Tamarindo is the most developed beach on the Nicoya Peninsula and one of the Costa Rica's best known surf spots. The surfer mecca in the bay of Tamarindo offers all kinds of tourist services, along with some of Costa Rica's best restaurants.