



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

Rome, Italy | June 25-July 1, 2024

Verdi Requiem in Rome

*At the Basilica of St. Paul Outside
the Walls*



Artistic Director

Dr. Joseph Modica

Director of the School
of Performing Arts & the
Conservatory of Music at the
University of Redlands

The Setting



The Artistic Experience

Artistic Director Dr. Joseph Modica invites you to join him in Rome, Italy for a 5-night residency, culminating in a gala concert of the Verdi Requiem with full orchestra. Rome is a perfect setting for a choral festival because of its rich musical and artistic culture. Through the ages Rome has played a major role in Western art and examples of its architectural grandeur are visible everywhere you look. Music has also historically been one of the cultural markers of Italian national and ethnic identity and holds an important position in society and in politics. This program is a total immersion experience into Italian culture from music to architecture, history, food, and language and will challenge and engage the hearts and minds of every participant and create profound memories to last a lifetime.

The Venue: The Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls

The Papal Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls, founded 17 centuries ago, is one of Rome's four major papal basilicas, along with the basilicas of Saint John in the Lateran, Saint Peter's, and Saint Mary Major, as well as one of the Seven Pilgrim Churches of Rome. The basilica was built above the tomb of St. Paul in Rome. Until the new construction of St. Peter's Basilica this has not only been the largest but also the most beautiful of the Roman churches, with a rich decoration of mosaics and fresco paintings. In the 5th century, Prudentius described it as a "Golden Dome." The custom of displaying portraits of the Popes in medallions above the pillars comes from that period. The Basilica hosts many prominent musical events annually and will be a memorable setting for the gala concert of Verdi's Requiem.



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. Joseph
Modica**

Artistic Director

Joseph Modica is Director of the School of Performing Arts and the Conservatory of Music at the University of Redlands, Director of Music at the First Presbyterian Church of Redlands, and Artistic Director of the Inland Master Chorale. Dr. Modica earned a Bachelor of Music degree in conducting from Chapman University, a Master of Music degree from California State University Long Beach, and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Music from the University of Southern California. He has studied conducting with William Hall, William Dehning, Larry Livingston, Jonathan Talberg, Lynn Bielefeld and Magen Solomon. He has participated in masterclasses with Vance George and Rodney Eichenberger, in addition to a summer workshop in Varna, Bulgaria. Dr. Modica has studied voice with Louis Lebherz, Patrick Goeser, Margaret Dehning, Marvellee Cariaga, and Peter Lightfoot.

Dr. Modica was the conductor for the national tour with Il Volo, conducting concerts in 15 cities across the United States, in venues such as Radio City Music Hall, Kimmel Center in Philadelphia, Microsoft Theatre in Los Angeles, The Civic Opera House of Chicago with the Lyric Opera Orchestra, and Atlanta Symphony Hall with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Modica prepared choruses for “Video Games Live” in Anaheim, CA, Pete Townshend’s Classic Quadrophenia, for Josh Groban, 30 Seconds from Mars, Sarah Brightman, Cage the Elephant and others, and he contracted and prepared choruses across the country for the National Tour of “Star Wars – In Concert.” He also prepared the chorus for the American Ballet Theatre production of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” which was aired on PBS, and released on DVD as part of the Great Performances series.

Dr. Modica spent 19 years as the Conductor of the Festival Choir at the Idyllwild Summer Arts Camp where he conducted Handel’s Messiah, Durufle Requiem, Lauridsen’s Lux Aeterna, Bach’s Magnificat, Bernstein’s Chichester Psalms, Carmina Burana by Carl Orff, and Dona Nobis Pacem by Vaughan Williams. He has also taught at the Summer Fine Arts Camp at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, where his duties included conducting the concert choir, middle school choir, jazz choir, private voice lessons, and conducting the musical.

Dr. Modica taught high school choir for ten years. He is formerly the Director of Choral Activities at Mater Dei High School, and he taught for five years at Redlands East Valley High School. His choirs consistently received superior ratings at festivals and competitions and have been heard at two CMEA Conferences. The University of Redlands Bel Canto performed at the 2016 ACDA Western Division Convention, and the 2017 CASMEC conference in San Jose. Dr. Modica is active in many professional organizations such as ACDA, MENC, and SCVA, and enjoys serving as a clinician and adjudicator throughout the United States.

Choirs under Dr. Modica’s direction have toured in Austria, Italy, Australia, Hawaii, New York, Washington D.C., Washington and Oregon, Florida, and the Bahamas. In 2014 and 2015 he conducted performances of Verdi Requiem at Blessed Sacrament Church and Christ Cathedral. In 2013, he conducted Mozart’s Requiem in Carnegie Hall. His choirs have sung High Mass at Basilica San Marco in Venice and Basilica San Pietro in Rome, and have been fortunate enough to sing for Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI.





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Tour Itinerary

Tuesday, June 25, 2024 - Departure USA

The journey to Italy begins by boarding an international flight.

Wednesday, June 26, 2024 - Arrival Rome

Upon arrival, meet with your Tour Manager and transfer by bus the city center. Visit Piazza Navona, the Pantheon, Spanish Steps and Trevi Fountain. Check-in to your hotel. Dinner and overnight in Rome.

Thursday, June 27, 2024 - Sightseeing & Rehearsal

Breakfast at your hotel followed by a sightseeing tour of Ancient Rome, including a visit to the Colosseum. Afternoon rehearsal at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. Private afterhours visit to the Vatican Museums this evening. Dinner on own and overnight in Rome.

Friday, June 28, 2024 - Sightseeing & Rehearsal

Free morning at leisure in Rome. An optional tour to Ostia Antica will be offered at additional cost. Afternoon rehearsal at St. Paul Outside the Walls. Dinner on own and overnight in Rome.

Saturday, June 29, 2024 - Dress Rehearsal & Gala Concert

Free day to explore Rome on your own. Afternoon dress rehearsal. Gala concert of the Verdi Requiem at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. Dinner and overnight in Rome.

Sunday, June 30, 2024 - St. Peter's Square & Free Day

Participation in the Angelus Prayer on St. Peter's Square. Afternoon excursion to Ostia Antica to visit the ancient excavations. Farewell dinner in Rome. Overnight in Rome.

Monday, July 1, 2024 - Depart Rome / Start Post Festival Tour Programs

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

Pre/Post Festival Tour Programs

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 is an example:

Tour B - July 1-5, 2024

This program includes two nights in Florence and 2 nights in Venice. Enjoy a guided tour of Florence's Academia, home to Michelangelo's David, and the city's magnificent Duomo. Also travel through the heart of Tuscany to visit Siena. Spend the final two nights in Venice area and visit St. Mark's Cathedral. Individual concert performance opportunities are available in Florence and Venice.