



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

Vienna, Austria | June 22-27, 2024

Vienna Choral Festival



Artistic Director

Dr. Pearl Shangkuan
Director of Choral
Activities and Professor
of Choral Music at Calvin
University



Composer-in-
Residence

Dr. Dan Forrest
Composer & Clinician

The Setting



The Artistic Experience

Join one of the finest choral educators of our time, Dr. Pearl Shangkuan, and ensembles from across the US in Vienna, Austria to perform works by Dr. Dan Forrest scored for choir and with orchestra. A Gala Concert Performance at a renowned venue in Vienna, as well as an opportunity for a recital in St. Stephen's Cathedral will be a life-changing experience for singers from across the United States.

As Composer-in-Residence, Dan Forrest will take part in the 5-day festival experience providing personal insights into his compositions and supporting Artistic Director Dr. Pearl Shangkuan in their interpretation, as well as performing at the gala concert with the choirs. Additionally, fully balanced choirs have the opportunity for a spotlight performance during the gala concert in Austria's beautiful capital city of Vienna.

Vienna, Austria

Vienna's historic center is considered one of the most beautiful city landmarks in Europe. Three eras left their mark on the former residence of the Habsburgs: the Middle Ages with Gothic St. Stephen's Cathedral whose spire points toward heaven; the Baroque whose most important achievement is the Imperial Palace with its sumptuous cupolas; and the Ring Boulevard era of the late nineteenth century, when such splendid buildings as the Vienna State Opera and the Museum of Fine Arts were built to replace the former city walls. Music is one of Vienna's legacies. Musical prodigies including Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Joseph Haydn, Ludwig van Beethoven, Franz Schubert, Johannes Brahms, Gustav Mahler and Arnold Schoenberg have worked there. Art and culture have a long tradition in Vienna, including theatre, opera, classical music, and fine arts.



The Organizers: Perform International

“Building Bridges and Transforming Lives through the Power of Music”

Music and travel are a powerful combination. That is why Perform International has curated a team with a passion and expertise in both. We desire to bring the transformative power of international travel and performance to your program and your ensemble.

We see every trip and festival as an opportunity to celebrate the unique character of each musician while building a sense of unity and belonging through the universal language of music.

Your passion is our priority. Whether you've begun planning or are still dreaming, **our expertise will make your ideal performance and travel experience a reality.** From our first call until you return home, we will be your proactive partner, allowing you to focus on what matters most—your people and your program.

We look forward to working alongside you to create a memorable, meaningful, and cost effective tour for your choir, band, or orchestra.

Faculty



**Dr. Pearl
Shangkuan**

Artistic Director

Dr. Pearl Shangkuan is a highly sought-after conductor, lecturer and clinician who has led performances and workshops across six continents. Director of Choral Activities and Professor of Music at Calvin University in Grand Rapids, Michigan, she is also the chorus director of the Grand Rapids Symphony, a Grammy-nominated professional orchestra. Recently appointed as the Editor of Hinshaw Music, Shangkuan also has a signature choral series with earthsongs, and is the music editor of the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship choral series published by GIA. In 2014, she made her Carnegie Hall conducting debut and was an invited guest lecturer at the World Symposium for Choral Music held in Seoul, South Korea. Dr. Shangkuan has served on the jury of several international choral competitions in Europe and Asia and has led conducting masterclasses for the ACDA national conference, Chorus America conferences, the University of Michigan and the University of Illinois Choral Conducting Symposium among many institutions and organizations in the US. She has conducted numerous All State choirs, ACDA division honor choirs, and choral festivals nationally and internationally, and has headlined several ACDA state and other professional conferences. Upcoming engagements include conducting the SSAA Honor Choir at the ACDA National conference, a fourth residency conducting at Carnegie Hall, an international choral festival in Italy and other conference and festival engagements. She serves on the Board of Directors of Chorus America and has served as president of the ACDA Central Division and Michigan ACDA. She has commissioned and premiered numerous choral works and her choirs have performed at ACDA national, division and state conferences. In 2020, she received a Calvin University Award for Excellence in Teaching and previously received the Grand Rapids YWCA Arts Tribute Award. Michigan ACDA in 2013 honored her with the Maynard Klein Choral Award for “artistic excellence and lifetime leadership in choral music.”



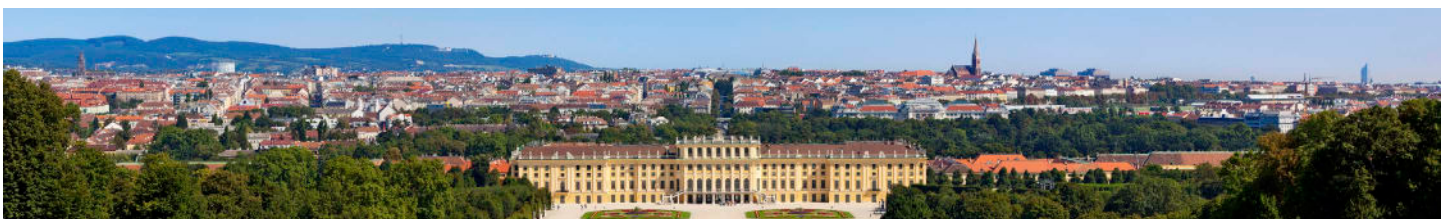
Dr. Dan Forrest

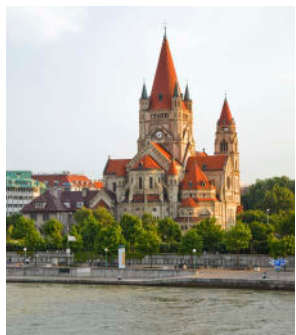
Composer-in-Residence

Dr. Dan Forrest has been described as having “an undoubted gift for writing beautiful music... that is truly magical” (NY Concert Review), with works hailed as “magnificent, very cleverly constructed sound sculpture” (Classical Voice), and “superb writing...full of spine-tingling moments” (Salt Lake Tribune). His music has sold millions of copies, has received numerous awards and distinctions, and has become well established in the repertoire of choirs around the world via festivals, recordings, radio/TV broadcasts, and premieres in prominent international venues.

Dan’s choral compositions (published by Beckenhorst Press, The Music of Dan Forrest, and Hinshaw Music) range from small choral works to extended multi-movement works for chorus and orchestra. His major work *Requiem for the Living* (2013) has become standard choral/orchestral repertoire with nearly 1000 performances from ensembles around the world. His *Jubilate Deo* (2016) is following a similar trajectory, and his more recent major works *LUX: The Dawn From On High* (2018) and *the breath of life* (2020) have also received similar critical acclaim.

Dan holds a doctorate in composition and a master’s degree in piano performance, and served for several years as a professor and department head (music theory and composition) in higher education. He currently serves as Editor at Beckenhorst Press, Chair of the American Choral Director’s Association Composition Initiatives Committee, and Artist-In-Residence at Mitchell Road Presbyterian Church (Greenville, SC). Details about Dan and his work can be found at www.danforrest.com.





June 22-27, 2024

Vienna Choral Festival

Tour Itinerary

Day 1 - Saturday, June 22, 2024 - Departure USA

The journey to Austria begins by boarding an international flight to Vienna.

Day 2 - Sunday, June 23, 2024 - Arrival Vienna

Upon arrival take a panoramic tour of Vienna, time permitting. Dinner and overnight in Vienna.

Day 3 - Monday, June 24, 2024 - Vienna Rehearsals & Sightseeing

Morning rehearsals will be followed by afternoon sightseeing and evening rehearsals. Dinner and overnight in Vienna.

Day 4 - Tuesday, June 25, 2024 - Vienna Rehearsals & Sightseeing

Morning rehearsals followed by a 30-minute lunchtime concert in St. Stephen's Cathedral. Afternoon sightseeing and evening rehearsals. Dinner and overnight in Vienna.

Day 5 - Wednesday, June 26, 2024 - Gala Concert

Free morning for choirs. Dress rehearsal and evening gala concert in Vienna. Dinner and overnight in Vienna.

Day 6 - Thursday, June 27, 2024 - Depart Vienna / Start Post Festival Tour Programs

Morning transfer to Vienna airport for your return flight to the USA or start your post festival tour program.

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 - Extension to Budapest

Enjoy two days post festival in Budapest and enjoy a Danube River cruise and visits to many of the sights this delightful city has to offer like Fisherman's Bastion and Matyas Templon.

Tour C - Extension to Salzburg and the Salzkammergut area

Leaving Vienna, drive west to the Salzkammergut area, named "European Capital of Culture 2024." This extension tour will also include a visit to the musical city of Salzburg, birthplace of Mozart and home of the world famous "Salzburg Festival."

Tour D - Extension to Wachau Valley and Prague

Enjoy one day in the Wachau Valley that stretches along the Danube River between Melk and Krems. Leaving the Vienna area, you'll travel to Prague for two days and visit the famous Prague Castle, St. Vitus Cathedral, and many of the other sights this delightful city has to offer.