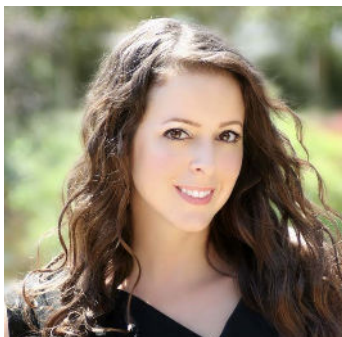




Building Bridges *and* Transforming Lives *through the* Power of Music

London, England | June 24-29, 2025

The Music of Ola Gjeilo



Artistic Director

Dr. Irene Messoloras
Director of Choral
Activities, University of
California, Irvine



Composer-in-
Residence &
Concert Pianist

Ola Gjeilo
Composer & Pianist

The Setting



The Artistic Experience

Artistic Director Dr. Irene Messoloras will lead an immersive musical experience into the choral music of Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo. Mr. Gjeilo will serve as the Composer-in-Residence and Concert Pianist for this unique event. He will share his ideas, thoughts, and insights about the different compositions as the combined choir prepares for a gala concert in one of London's many amazing concert venues. As an accomplished pianist, Ola Gjeilo will improvise over his own published choral pieces which is a trademark of his collaborations.

London, England

Arguably, the world's most famous city, London hardly needs an introduction. It is the capital of England and the United Kingdom with history stretching back to Roman times. At its center stand the imposing Houses of Parliament, the iconic 'Big Ben' clock tower and Westminster Abbey, site of British monarch coronations. Across the Thames River, the London Eye observation wheel provides panoramic views of the South Bank cultural complex, and the entire city. As both a magnet for the great performers and a creative melting pot, London has been one of the great cities of music for several centuries. Vaughan Williams wrote a 'London' Symphony. Haydn composed 12 of them while living in London. Elgar celebrated London's earthy vigor in his Cockaigne Overture. And Holst commemorated Hammersmith in an exquisite minor masterpiece for wind band.



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. Irene
Messoloras**

Artistic Director

Dedicated to inspiring musicians and audiences through a determined passion for musical excellence, **Dr. Irene Messoloras** maintains an active career as a highly sought music educator, conductor, clinician, and adjudicator. Her ensembles have delivered meaningful and inspirational performances across the United States and on the international stage in both Europe and in Asia. Dr. Messoloras serves as Director of Choral Activities at the University of California, Irvine. She conducts the University Chamber Singers, University Concert Choir, and teaches courses in conducting. Before coming to Irvine, Dr. Messoloras served as Director of Choral Activities at the University of La Verne, she was the Chair of the Fine Arts Department and head of Choral Activities at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, and served as the Director of Choral Activities at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington. Messoloras' collegiate ensembles have performed in over 20 international tours. Under her direction, ensembles have performed at state and national NAfME conferences, performed in national commercial campaigns, and produced professional music videos and recordings. Additionally, Dr. Irene Messoloras serves as the conductor for the award-winning Hour of Power Choir in the weekly international Christian television program "Hour of Power with Bobby Schuller." Made up of some of the most accomplished professional singers in Southern California, the choir regularly sings new music, and has toured extensively throughout Germany and the Netherlands. Most recently the choir performed at the American Choral Directors Association National Conference in Cincinnati in February 2023, and at the virtual conference in 2021.



Ola Gjeilo

*Composer-in-Residence
& Concert Pianist*

Ola Gjeilo is one of the most frequently performed composers in the choral world. An accomplished pianist, improvisations over his own published choral pieces have become a trademark of his collaborations. Although Norwegian by birth, it is perhaps Ola's adopted country of America that has influenced the composer's distinctive sound world the most, evolving a style that is often described as cinematic and evocative, with a lush, harmonious sound. Ola grew up in a musically eclectic home listening to classical, jazz, pop and folk, a broad background he later incorporated into his classical composition studies at The Julliard School, the Royal College of Music in London, and currently as a New York City-based freelance composer. He is especially inspired by the improvisational art of film composer Thomas Newman, jazz legends Keith Jarrett and Pat Metheny, glass artist Dale Chihuly and architect Frank Gehry. Ola is an exclusive Decca Classics artist, and his Decca albums include *Ola Gjeilo* and *Winter Songs*, also featuring Tenebrae, Voces8 and the Choir of Royal Holloway, as well as the solo piano albums *Night & Dawn*.





June 24-29, 2025

The Music of Ola Gjeilo

Tour Itinerary

Day 1 - Tuesday, June 24, 2025 - Departure USA

Take an overnight flight from the U.S. to London, England.

Day 2 - Wednesday, June 25, 2025 - Arrival London / Welcome Dinner

Arrive in London. Time permitting take a tour of the city's center and the financial district with your tour manager. Welcome dinner and overnight in London.

Day 3 - Thursday, June 26, 2025 - Rehearsals & City Sightseeing

Start the morning with a first rehearsal followed by a guided city sightseeing tour. Tonight Dr. Messoloras and Ola Gjeilo will lead a second rehearsal with all singers. Overnight in London.

Day 4 - Friday, June 27, 2025 - Changing of the Guard, Evensong & Rehearsal

Today starts with a visit to the City of Westminster to view the Changing of the Guards. The afternoon is at leisure before attending an Evensong Service in London followed by another rehearsal. Overnight in London.

Day 5 - Saturday, June 28, 2025 - Dress Rehearsals & Gala Concert

Relax this morning in preparation for tonight's gala concert. This afternoon, dress rehearsal in the festival concert venue followed by dinner. Tonight, Irene Messoloras will lead the massed chorus in an unforgettable performance featuring the Music of Ola Gjeilo with the composer as the concert pianist. Overnight in London.

Day 6 - Sunday, June 29, 2025 - Depart London / Start Post Festival Tour Programs

Transfer to the airport in London to begin your journey back to the U.S. or start your customized post festival tour.

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

Extend your stay in London by another three nights and take day excursions to Shakespeare's hometown of Stratford-upon-Avon and the ancient monument of Stonehenge. Return each evening to London to maximize the convenience of staying in the same hotel for the entire duration of your visit.

Tour C

After visiting London, travel north to Scotland's capital city of Edinburgh. En-route spend a night in York to visit the majestic York Minster and view one of the largest collections of stained-glass windows in the world. Three nights in Edinburgh offer the opportunity to visit Edinburgh Castle, St. Giles' Cathedral, and plenty of time to enjoy the city's history, culture, and culinary delights. An optional evening concert for balanced choirs can be organized by Perform International.