



RETURN TO DRESDEN
Concert Tour to Berlin, Leipzig, Dresden, Wroclaw, Prague
June 17-28, 2018

An Optional Tour Extension to Vienna, Austria
June 28 – July 2, 2018

Concert Tour Conductor:
Maestro Dennis Houser
Prescott Chorale

Featuring Missa in D minor by Johann Adolph Hasse &
Selected short works including spirituals from American History

For information and reservations

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Return to Dresden

From all of us in the Prescott Chorale welcome to our **Return to Dresden** tour. Let me explain: In the fall of 2016 the Prescott Chorale performed the **Missa in d Minor**, composed in 1751 by Johann Adolph Hasse. This work was lost to the music world, until the efforts of Dr. David Wilson, Professor Emeritus of the USC Thornton School of Music brought it back to life.

Dr. Wilson discovered the Hasse work during his doctoral research and journeyed to Dresden, then part of East Germany, in 1969 to try and uncover the original manuscript. He was captivated by the beauty of the music and the story of the loss of the body of Hasse's work. The world of choral music owes Dr. Wilson a distinct debt of gratitude for his work in not only recovering the **Mass in d Minor** but also in re-creating it to be performed many times over.

The Prescott Chorale will perform the Hasse **Missa in d Minor** in the city in which it was composed and debuted in 1751. We are inviting you to join us, and the talented orchestra which will meet us in Berlin.

In addition, we will be performing at St. Thomas Church, in Leipzig, where Johann Sebastian Bach is interred. As you may have guessed, Bach was a major influence on Hasse as Hasse was on Haydn, Mozart and many others. We are delighted to perform in Berlin, Dresden, Wroclaw, and Prague.

You can be part of this history making tour, taking Hasse's **Mass in d Minor** to its city of origin. Who knows when the opportunity may present itself, so don't delay. Please join us on a fabulous tour.

Dennis L. Houser
Founder and Artistic Director Prescott Chorale

Journey through some of the historical sights of Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic including:

- Established concert venues
- Awe-inspiring historical sites
- A well-designed itinerary of concerts and sightseeing
- Centrally-located, tourist-class hotels
- Authentic local cuisines
- Professional concert organization
- Professional concert promotion and publicity
- Dependable travel service

This concert tour is open to experienced individual choristers and choral ensembles. Family, friends and non-performing travelers are welcome to join the concert tour.

Land Cost per Person: \$2915

Berlin – A city that evokes a myriad of emotions! This emerging city is a fascinating composite of the old and new. The former Iron Curtain is now marked by a cobblestone path and plaques commemorating those who attempted to escape across the wall. Berlin abounds with museums that tell its story. This is the “new Berlin” ... from dust and ashes; from memorials and museums to contemporary art galleries and state of the art architecture, beautiful parks and gardens to include even a cruise on the River Spree which leisurely meanders through the very heart of this dynamic city.

Dresden - The re-birth of the splendor of Dresden following World War II can perhaps be best symbolized by the Church of Our Lady, the Frauenkirche, which arose from a heap of rubble to become a majestic monument to peace and reconciliation. Not to be outdone, Dresden's world-famous buildings include the Zwinger Palace, a masterpiece of Baroque architecture, and the imposing Saxony State Opera House, one of the world's most beautiful music theaters, designed in the Italianate High Renaissance style. Set in the Elbe Valley, a former World Heritage site, the city of Dresden will not only take your breath away but will revitalize your spirit with its majestic aura of resplendence.

Wroclaw – Beautifully located on the banks of the Odra river, Wroclaw can easily compete with cities like Vienna, Kraków and Prague in terms of postcard panoramas and cultural offerings. Marvel in such beautiful sights as the cobblestone pavers of Katedralna and Idziego streets, providing access to places like the Church of the Holy Cross, or the beautiful Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, famous for its stunning stained glass windows. If you're out and about in the evening, there's nothing more romantic than a stroll illuminated by the glow of Ostów Tumski's gas lamps, which to this day are still being hand-lit each night by the city's famous lamplighter.

Prague – the jewel in the crown of Europe! There is no contesting the fact that this vibrant city with its stunning buildings and lovely town squares is one of the world's most beautiful cities. Nicknamed, “the City of a Hundred Spires,” it is known not only for its beautiful Gothic churches, but for the historic Old

Town Square, a medieval Astronomical Clock, colorful baroque buildings, and a castle set on a hill. But not just any castle! Views from this largest ancient castle in the world include the entire city of Prague, where around every nook and cranny you will find multitude of inviting cafes and restaurants with delectable pastries and culinary delights. The sights, sounds, scenes and sensations of Prague will provide you with memories to be treasured for a lifetime.

With a career that spans over 55 years of singing, teaching and conducting, Dennis Houser is no stranger to the stage, be it here in the United States, Europe, South America or the Far East.

During the summer of 2011, he was the featured bass soloist on a concert tour of Italy with the Chorale Bel Canto. The group performed Verdi's masterpiece, *The Requiem*, under the auspices of Varna International

In addition, Maestro Houser is the Music Director of Saint Luke's Episcopal Church in Prescott and performs with the Camerata Singers, a subset of the Prescott Chorale. In the summer of 2016, Maestro Houser conducted the Prescott Chorale concerts on the choir's tour of Spain- a concert tour that was successfully arranged by Varna International.

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***VISA/MasterCard/Discover Card payments are subject to a 3% surcharge.**

Inclusions:

1. Accommodations: 10 nights lodging (double occupancy) in established, reputable 3 and/or 4-star centrally located hotels in Berlin, Dresden, Wroclaw and Prague, including breakfast each day.
2. All Ground transportation per tour itinerary, modern, a/c motor coach and driver
3. Additional meals: Welcome Dinner in Berlin and Farewell Dinner in Prague, each with one glass of wine
4. Concerts: Four public performances of Missa in D minor, by Johann Adolph Hasse, performed by the Prescott Chorale in Berlin, Dresden, Wroclaw and Prague
5. A cappella performance at *Thomaskirche*, in Leipzig.
6. Collaboration with local choirs
7. Professional orchestra and soloists for all rehearsals and concerts
8. Professional concert organization, including knowledgeable concert management staff
9. Professional concert promotion and publicity
10. Experienced tour manager
11. Extensive touring and sightseeing of the cities on tour, including guided tours in Berlin, Dresden, Wroclaw and Prague with pre-selected, professional tour guides.

12. Three-hour Prague Dinner River Cruise
13. Guided tour to Terezin (Theresienstadt), including entrance to the Ghetto Museum and the Small Fortress
14. All entrance fees

Exclusions:

1. Round-trip International Flight.
*Upon request, Varna International will provide a quote for airfare for the entire group or for individuals in the group.
2. Travel insurance. Varna International will provide travel insurance quotes upon request
3. Single occupancy in Berlin, Dresden, Wroclaw and Prague: \$800 per person
4. Optional extension to Vienna, Austria \$790 per person
Cost includes 4 nights lodging in 4-star hotel in Vienna (double occupancy), breakfasts, three-hour guided tour of Vienna with a professional tour guide, airport transfers for the group.
5. Tips and gratuities

“At Varna International, our goal is to present high quality concerts. In a continued effort to maintain our high artistic standards and accommodate the demands of the selected repertoire, we provide a network of highly-trained musicians to balance and compliment the choral and orchestral forces necessary for large-scale masterworks.”

Kalin Tchonev, CEO
Varna International

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