



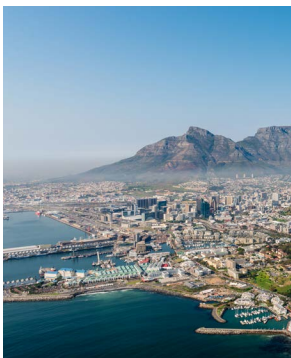
Building Bridges *and*
Transforming Lives
through the Power of
Music

July 19-30, 2024

A Performance Tour of
South Africa

PREPARED ESPECIALLY FOR:

Mr. Michael DiGiacinto
San Ramon Voices



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A Performance Tour of South Africa

Tour Itinerary

Days 1 & 2 – Friday-Saturday, July 19-20 2024 - USA to SOUTH AFRICA

Begin your journey to South Africa by boarding an international flight to Capetown, South Africa's capital and a port city on a peninsula beneath the imposing Table Mountain.

Day 3 – Sunday, July 21, 2024 - ARRIVAL CAPE TOWN

Upon your morning arrival at Cape Town International airport, take a short panoramic city tour. You'll see highlights of the city before stopping near the parliament building to visit the company gardens and the St. Georges Cathedral, seat of the Archbishop of Cape Town. Go to the V & A Waterfront to check in to your hotel. Dinner at The Clipper Restaurant and overnight in the 4* Commodore Hotel.

Day 4 – Monday, July 22, 2024 - CAPE TOWN / CAPE PENINSULA

This morning after breakfast at your hotel, you'll depart by coach to Cape Point National Park. Ascend to the top of Cape Point by funicular to view the meeting of the 2 oceans. Take the funicular back down and depart by coach to continue to Simon's Town Naval base and visit the Penguin Colony named "The Boulders." Continue via coastal scenic drive to Hout Bay for a traditional lunch of fish and chips at a local restaurant. Arrive and enjoy a lunch of traditional fish and chips on the harbor. At Hout Bay, you'll board a boat to take you to the Seal Colony at Duiker Island, home to a squad of blubbery cape fur seals. Capture photos of the doe-eyed pups and their slick and slippery parents barking out warnings. The glass-bottomed boats offer a convenient porthole through which to see the seals zipping past underwater. Back at the harbor meet with the local Hout Bay Ingoma Choir for a late afternoon/evening concert here. Dinner will be at the Stonebreakers Restaurant just down the road from the hotel. Overnight in Cape Town.

Day 5 – Tuesday, July 23, 2024 - CAPE TOWN / ROBBERN ISLAND / V&A WATERFRONT

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel then walk to the pier and board the ferry for Robben Island for a guided tour. Robben Island is the location where the late president and Nobel laureate Nelson Mandela was held captive for 27 years during the apartheid era. Today it is a World Heritage Site and museum, and a poignant reminder to the newly democratic South Africa of the price paid for freedom. Visit the infamous Maximum-Security Prison guided by a former political prisoner. There will also be a guided bus tour of the island. Back at the waterfront you have some time at leisure to get your own lunch and enjoy many shops and other entertainment. A visit to the Two Oceans Aquarium is also included this afternoon. In the early evening freshen up and travel to the Gold Restaurant for dinner and a selection of various dishes from Africa with some live traditional African music and other entertainment. Overnight in Cape Town.

Day 6 – Wednesday, July 24, 2024 - CAPE TOWN / TABLE MOUNTAIN / PAARL

After breakfast at your hotel, bring your concert attire to take the short drive to Table Mountain where you'll ascend to the top by cable car. The main feature of Table Mountain is the level plateau approximately 3 kilometers from side to side, edged by impressive cliffs. The plateau, flanked by Devil's Peak to the east and by Lion's Head to the west, forms a dramatic backdrop to Cape Town. This broad sweep of mountainous heights, together with Signal Hill, forms the natural amphitheater of the City Bowl and Table Bay Harbor. From here continue by coach to the winelands area. The Spice Route Paarl is a popular tourist destination located in the city of Paarl, South Africa. (Check vendors for operating hours on this day.) The name Spice Route dates back to the historical mariners who used to trade Eastern spices to Europe along the "Spice Route" for spice trade in the



Tour Itinerary (continued)

15th century. The Estate gives visitors the opportunity to explore local foods, beverages, and goods that are produced in a traditional manner supporting the local community while spreading the taste and spirit of South Africa out to the world. Enjoy some free time for lunch on your own there. Travel to Durbanville High School and meet your fellow choirs - Durbanville High School Choir, Harry Gwala High School Choir, and Zulani Youth Choir. The afternoon is planned with workshops exchanging your cultures and rehearsing 1 joint mass concert piece. Early evening light dinner followed by a concert performance by each choir. Overnight in Cape Town.

Day 7 – Thursday, July 25, 2024 - CAPE TOWN / JOHANNESBURG / PRETORIA

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel before checking out and transferring to the Cape Town Airport for a 2-hour flight to Johannesburg. From the airport you'll take an hour's drive to Pretoria. Arrive at the City Lodge Lynnwood Hotel and check in. You'll have some time for lunch on your own at a shopping mall across the road from the hotel. Change into concert dress and depart for Menlo Park High School for an afternoon workshop followed by a joint concert of both choirs. Dinner is at a local restaurant. Overnight in Pretoria.

Day 8 – Friday, July 26, 2024 - PRETORIA / AFRIKAANS GIRLS HIGH CONCERT

This morning you'll enjoy a guided sightseeing tour. Visit the Union Buildings, home to the office of the President, for a nice photo opportunity with a massive statue of Nelson Mandela. From there drive by the house of Paul Kruger, Church Square, and other buildings of interest. Continue to visit the Freedom Park, established on the cornerstones of human dignity, rights and freedom that reflect the sacrificial achievements of South Africa as a nation. From there travel to the Menlyn Park Mall to enjoy a buffet lunch at one of the restaurants. Take the short drive back to the City Lodge Lynnwood Hotel. You'll change into concert dress and travel to the Afrikaans Girls High School for warm-up and sound check. Perform an evening joint concert with the Choir at the school. Enjoy a selection of pizzas and a soft drink with the host choir after the concert. This evening is at leisure to spend around your hotel and overnight. Overnight in Pretoria.

Day 9 – Saturday, July 27, 2024 - PRETORIA / SOWETO EXCURSION

After breakfast at the hotel you'll depart by coach at 9:00 am for ±1 hour drive to Soweto. Travel to the University of Johannesburg Soweto campus and meet with the Mzansi Youth Choir. There will be a 2-hour workshop with a cultural exchange and some choreography related to African music. Lunch will be in packs delivered at midday followed by a joint performance of the workshop choral pieces. Travel to the Hector Peterson memorial for a photo stop. It commemorates the role of the country's students in the struggle against apartheid and in particular the role played by the school children who took part in the Soweto protests of 1976. Many of them were shot by the apartheid police while protesting against the sub-standard of education in black schools in South Africa. Afterwards, visit the Mandela House, the residence where Nelson Mandela lived from 1946-1962. Get a glimpse of the Mandela family's life during the oppressive years of apartheid as visit this historical museum. Return to Pretoria for dinner at a local restaurant and overnight.

Day 10 – Sunday, July 28, 2024 - PRETORIA / PILANESBERG

Check out and depart to Pilanesberg National Park and Game Reserve in North-West Province. Pilanesberg National Park was formed by volcanic eruptions and its primary geological feature is the Pilanesberg Alkaline Ring Complex. Enclosed by three concentric rings of hills that rise from the surrounding plains like a bubble, Pilanesberg is one of the largest volcanic alkaline complexes in the world. You'll stop for lunch on your own. Check in at the lodge and then in the late afternoon depart on a sunset safari to see nocturnal wildlife such as the hyena, cheetah, sable, lions, African elephants, and giraffes. Return to the lodge for a special dinner of local specialties. Overnight at Bakubung Bush Lodge.



Tour Itinerary (continued)

Day 11 – Monday, July 29, 2024 - PILANSBERG / LESEDI CULTURAL VILLAGE / SANDTON

After breakfast at the lodge, depart by coach to the Lesedi Cultural Village. On arrival your group will enjoy a interactive African Drumming demonstration. Each person will get their own drum and learn the skills and fun of African drumming. You'll also attend a multi-visual theatre presentation on the history and origin of the people of Africa. Guests are divided into smaller groups and taken on a guided tour of our five homesteads – Zulu, Xhosa, Basotho, Ndebele and Pedi. Meet back together for the Traditional Dance Boma for The Giant Ingoma - a song and dance of all five villages. The dance culminates in communal dancing with the guests around the fire. A Pan African Feast is served for lunch in the Nyama Choma restaurant with delicacies from North, East and South Africa. After lunch continue to Sandton to check in at your hotel before spending the rest of the day at leisure around the hotel shopping centers and the Nelson Mandela Square. Overnight at the Da Vinci Hotel & Suites, Sandton.

Day 12 – Tuesday, July 30, 2024 - JOHANNESBURG / USA

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel. Check out and travel by coach to The Carnivore restaurant for your farewell lunch. The Carnivore's unique "all you can eat" dining concept offers game and domestic meat dishes as well as a selection of vegetarian and vegan meals. Travel to the OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg and check in for your flight home.



What others are saying about Perform International

DR. AMANDA QUIST

“An amazing tour. Thank you Perform International for giving us such an unforgettable experience. Touring through England and France with Frost Chorale is everything I hoped it would be and of course, more. Our tour manager Patrick Dhyand Fargier made it all happen- so grateful to him!”

*Dr. Amanda Quist
Director of Choral Activities
Frost School of Music at the University of Miami*



ROBYN LANA

“It is always a joy and honor to collaborate with Perform International, the finest international tour company. They are masters at finding the balance between learning, performing, seeing, experiencing, and collaborating. Every international tour we have done with them has had healthy and abundantly appreciative audiences (if not standing room only), beautiful venues, and time performing with locals. You experience the country with great depth. You return a bit tired but not overly exhausted, and 100% fulfilled. PI, it was a great honor to lead the festival in Maynooth and Dublin. Thank you for your confidence in me and for your outstanding professionalism, even monitoring flight delays in case you were needed. You stand by your clinicians and your clients. Thank you from me and the Cincinnati Youth Choir.”

*Robyn Lana
Founder & Managing Artistic Director
Cincinnati Children’s Choir*



DR. PEARL SHANGKUAN

I kept hearing from my singers – how much they enjoyed singing to such a full and appreciative crowd. I could go on and on about the festival, just know it was an experience that I will cherish for a long time to come. PI’s commitment to and follow through in giving all participants a truly rich artistic experience makes it a company after my own heart!

*Dr. Pearl Shangkuan
Director of Choral Activities, Calvin College, Grand Rapids MI*



What others are saying about Perform International continued...

DR. SHANE LYNCH

I have led many international tours in the past, with varying levels of dissatisfaction with each tour. At the heart of my disappointment was the fact that on every previous tour, the performing time--the most important part of the tour for my choirs--always seemed like an afterthought... Not so with our tour with Perform International. This trip was far and away the best international tour I have taken as a conductor; from the venues to the enthusiastic audiences to the support personnel, PI did a fantastic job. I plan on using them for all of my international travel from now on.

*Dr. Shane Lynch
Director of Choral Studies, Washington and Lee University*



DR. JONATHAN BABCOCK

“PERFORM INTERNATIONAL is a customer-focused organization that provides informed and responsible personnel to create a fantastic performance and exchange tour.

PERFORM INTERNATIONAL went above and beyond our expectations in every aspect; accommodations, exchange opportunities and pre-concert publicity.”

PERFORM INTERNATIONAL provided us with a wonderful team of tour guides, drivers and coordinators. Their expertise and professionalism far exceeded our expectations.”

*Jonathan Babcock D.M.A.
Associate Director of Choral Activities, Texas State University*



DR. ANTON ARMSTRONG

“I am happy to endorse my colleague and friend Dr. Gene Peterson. I believe that he is a person of integrity and class. His alliance with PERFORM INTERNATIONAL will ensure a fine experience in performance and cultural exchange, connecting people to people through the universal language of music.”

*Dr. Anton Armstrong
Conductor, The St. Olaf Choir*

