

MIDAM INTERNATIONAL INC.
Peter Tiboris, Founder, General Director & Music Director
John Rutter CBE, Conductor Laureate
presents

Presenting MidAmerica Productions' 41st season

GUEST CONDUCTOR
CLARK JOSEPH

MINISTER OF MUSIC & WORSHIP ARTS, ST. JOHN CHURCH
(GRAND PRAIRIE, TX)

CONDUCTING
GOSPEL WORKS SELECTED BY CLARK JOSEPH

PRAISE YE THE LORD BY TRINI MASSIE
WE'VE COME TO PRAISE THE LORD BY CLARK JOSEPH
MADE TO WORSHIP BY MYRON WILLIAMS
I CAN'T THANK HIM ENOUGH BY JAMES BIGNON
HOLD ON BY D. COREY SHIPLEY



The Eleventh Annual great and grand American choral series in Italy

FLORENCE, ITALY

Wednesday, June 4, 2025

Residency Dates: Friday, May 30, 2025 - Sunday, June 8, 2025

Choral Registration Participation Deadline: November 15 - December 1, 2024
Early Registration Credit for Land Residency Packages: July 1, 2024
"Changing Lives Through The Power of Performance"

MidAm
International, Inc.

www.midamerica-music.com
www.peteriboris.com

For more information, contact C.J. Harden, Director of Program Development,
at (212) 239-0205 or at charden@midamerica-music.com

Presented By

International, Inc.

Peter Tiboris, Founder, General Director & Music Director

42nd Anniversary Season

THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL GREAT AND GRAND AMERICAN CHORAL SERIES IN ITALY FLORENCE • VERONA • VENICE • LAKE GARDA

Friday, May 30 - Sunday, June 8, 2025

ORCHESTRA DA CAMERA FIORENTINA GIUSEPPE LANZETTA, MUSIC DIRECTOR & DISTINGUISHED SOLOISTS



BASILICA DI SANTA CROCE, FLORENCE
MONDAY, JUNE 2 • WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2025

Openings for four distinguished guest conductors and their 80-voice choirs to perform with Orchestra da Camera Fiorentina on June 2 featuring all visiting choirs.

SANT'ANASTASIA, VERONA
THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2025

Featuring 20 to 25-minute solo a cappella performance in Sant'Anastasia scheduled for visiting choirs under their own conductors.



Specially designed tours and events in Florence, Verona, Venice, and Lake Garda included, all with licensed guides.

**MidAm
International, Inc.**

www.midamerica-music.com
www.petertiboris.com

For more information, contact C.J. Harden, Director of Program Development, at (212) 239-0205 ext.6 or at charden@midamerica-music.com
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: November 15 - December 1, 2024
Subject to revision. Published: September 15, 2023

THE 2025 GREAT AMERICAN CHORAL SERIES IN ITALY

Itinerary

Day1–Friday, May30, 2025–Florence

- **Arrive** in Florence. MidAm International, Inc. staff and staff from our designated travel agent will meet you at the airport and transfer you to **FH Grand Hotel Mediterraneo** (<https://www.hotelmediterraneofirenze.com/>), **Hotel Adriatico** (<http://www.hoteladriatico.it/en/>), **Hotel Glance** (<http://www.glancehotelflorence.com/en/>), **Hotel Adler** (<http://www.hoteladlercavalieri.com/>), **Hotel Baglioni** (<https://www.hotelbaglioni.it/en/>), or similar for check-in. (A decision as to hotel assignments will be made by February 1, 2025.)
- 7 PM - 8 PM: **Organizational meeting** at Caffè Gilli and Caffè Pawszowski with MidAm staff. Order food on own.

Day2–Saturday, May31, 2025–Florence

- Breakfast
- 9:30 AM - 12 PM: Chorus rehearsal in residency hotel.
- 12:30 PM: Lunch on own.
- 2 PM - 5 PM: **FirstTour**: A guided general tour of Santa Maria Novella Church, Academy of Fine Arts, and Duomo Complex; entrance fee, professional guide, personal broadcast microphones, and hearing devices are all included.

TourDescription:SantaMariaNovellaChurch–AcademyofFineArts–DuomoComplex

Santa Maria Novella ranks just behind Santa Croce as Florence's second-most important Church. The mother church of the city's Dominican order was founded in 1246. The façade and the interior are outstanding; the latter is home to a trio of captivating fresco cycles and some of the most influential paintings of the early Renaissance.

The first fresco cycle lies in Cappella Strozzi. Sponsored by the banker Filippo Strozzi (1489), the paintings by Filippino Lippi feature episodes from the life of Strozzi's namesake.

The second and most important cycle, a work by Ghirlandaio, is arranged around the chancel. Commissioned by a banker, Giovanni Tornabuoni, the themes are *Life of John the Baptist* and *Life of the Virgin* (1485).



Santa Maria Novella Church

Masaccio's fresco *The Trinity* (1427) was one of the Renaissance works in which the new idea of mathematical proportion was successfully employed.

From Santa Maria Novella, you will walk through the elegant and fashionable shopping area (formerly the banking area during the Renaissance) and reach the Academy of Fine Arts. Only the Uffizi is more visited than the Galleria dell'Accademia, whose crowds are lured by the most famous Renaissance image of them all: Michelangelo's *David*.

Carved from a single piece of thin and imperfect marble by Michelangelo at the age of 26 in 1501, the statue remained in Piazza Della Signoria until 1873. Its theme of David and Goliath was chosen for its parallels with Florence's recent history, evoking the city's belated liberation and its ability to withstand more powerful foes. Apart from *David*, the gallery contains other Michelangelo works: *St. Matthew* (1506) and four *Slaves*, all unfinished and intended for the tomb of Pope Julius II.

The tour finishes at Piazza del Duomo, by the great Cathedral.



Michelangelo's David

Day3–Sunday,June1,2025–Florence

- Breakfast
- 9:30 AM - 12 PM: Chorus rehearsal in residency hotel.
- Afternoon and evening free to explore central Florence.

Day4–Monday,June2,2025–Florence

- Breakfast
- 9:30 AM - 12 PM: Orchestra, soloists and visiting conductors in rehearsal for evening concert.
- 2:30 PM - 5:30 PM: General rehearsal (tutti) in Santa Croce of visiting American choirs and their conductors, plus soloists and orchestra.
- 7:30 PM: Concert in Basilica di Santa Croce of visiting guest conductors and their 40+ voice American choirs.

Day5–Tuesday,June3,2025-Florence

- Breakfast
- 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM: Rehearsal in hotel.
- Afternoon and evening free to explore central Florence.

Day6–Wednesday,June4,2025-Florence

- Breakfast
- 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM TBA: Final chorus run-through of music if necessary.
- Lunch on own.
- 2 PM - 5 PM: General rehearsal (tutti) in Santa Croce with choruses, soloists, and orchestra.
- 8 PM: Gala Concert.



John Rutter conducts his Requiem in front of the altar at Basilica di Santa Croce in Florence



Day7–Thursday,June5,2025–Florence to Verona

- Breakfast
- 7:30 AM: Check-out of your hotel in Florence.
- 8:30 AM - 12 PM: Private coach transfer to Verona, check-in at **Hotel Tower** (www.montresorgroup.com) or similar.
- 2 PM - 5 PM: **SecondTour:** Half-day Verona City Tour; entrance fee, bus, professional guide, personal broadcast microphones, and hearing devices are all included.

TourDescription:

Refined, relaxed and romantic, Verona is northeast Italy's second most alluring historic city after Venice. It is also one of the country's most prosperous cities thanks to its position along trade routes to the north, south, east, and west. In the past it was a thriving Roman colony for the same reason, and later became a prominent city-state under the rule of the Scaligeri, its medieval overlords. Rule by Milan's Visconti and



Arena di Verona

the Venetian Republic followed, with Venice retaining control until the arrival of Napoleon. From then on, Verona remained under the yoke of Austrian rule until Italian unification.



Casa di Giulietta

Exploring the old city is straightforward and enjoyable. Museums and monuments abound, most of them within easy walking distance of one another. The Piazza Bra is home to the Verona Arena, the third largest amphitheater in the Roman world. The Piazza delle Erbe, the heart of the city in medieval times, contains the site of the original Roman forum. Sant'Anastasia, built between 1280 and 1400, stands as Verona's largest gothic church built for the Dominican Order. The Casa di Giulietta (Juliet's House), located close to the Scaligeri tombs and complete with a balcony and a statue of the famous heroine, transports visitors back into the classic tale of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. The house dates from the 13th century and the family coat of arms can still be seen on the wall. Although the balcony itself, which overlooks the courtyard, was

added in the 20th century, hundreds of people each year step out onto it and gaze below seeking their Romeos among the meandering tourists.

- 5:30 PM - 7 PM: Rehearsal in Sant'Anastasia in Verona.
- 7:30 PM: A cappella solo concert in Sant'Anastasia for those who wish to perform (each group has 20 minutes of music time), or evening free to explore. Three groups must agree to perform for this concert to occur.

Day8–Friday,June6,2025–Verona–Venice–Verona

- Breakfast
- 9 AM: Private coach departure to Venice with tour guide.
- 10:30 AM: Arrive in Venice, transfer to Private Motor boats, and start the Venice City Tour.
- **ThirdTour:** Venice City Tour; entrance fee, bus, professional guide, personal broadcast microphones, and hearing devices are all included.

TourDescription:

The world's most beautiful city rarely disappoints. "I'd rather be in Venice on a rainy day than in any other capital on a fine one," exclaimed author Herman Melville in 1857, capturing the allure of a city whose magic casts its spell year-round - whether you visit in the depths of winter, an icy mist spreading chill over the encircling lagoon, or in the shimmering, energizing heat of summer when the canals, ancient churches, and endless palaces are dappled with the shifting light of the Mediterranean sun. The city remains as close as the real world gets to a fairy tale.

Venice is divided into *sestieri*, or districts; three on either side of the Grand Canal. There is perhaps no more beautiful urban thoroughfare than the Grand Canal, the broad waterway that winds in a mesmerizing and serpentine loop through the ancient heart of Venice, by far the best introduction to the city. Wherever and however you arrive in the city, your first thought should be to board one of the lumbering *vaporetti*, or water-buses, that traverse its palace-lined length - an unforgettable odyssey of sights and sounds, and an eye-opening glimpse of daily life in Venice - before plunging straight into St. Mark's Square.

St Mark's Square is, as Napoleon famously said, "the most beautiful drawing room in Europe," which provides the setting for some of the city's foremost buildings, such as St. Mark's Basilica, the Doge's Palace, the Campanile, and the Correr Museum, whose exhibits provide a fascinating insight into Venice's long history. Afterwards, escape the crowds of St. Mark's Square for one of the city's smaller squares. Campo Santo Stefano and Campo Santa Margherita are the best to sample intimate areas of the city not yet typically crowded with tourists.



Venice

- 8 PM: Finish city tour, transfer by private motor boats for bus transfer back to Verona.
- 10 PM: Arrive at hotel in Verona.

Day9–Saturday,June7,2025–Verona–LakeGarda-Florence

- Breakfast
- 9:30 AM: Check out and load luggage on a private coach.
- 10 AM: Arrive at Sirmione. **FourthTour:** Half-day Lake Garda Tour; entrance fee, bus, professional guide, personal broadcast microphones, and hearing devices are all included.

TourDescription:

Lake Garda is Italy's largest and most scenically diverse lake. Its green and verdant southern coast extends to the hillier slopes and cliffs of its northern edges, before returning in the shadow of its mountain-backed eastern flanks. The village of Peschiera, nestled in a snug harbor and dominated by a formidable Venetian fortress, sits at the southeastern end of the lake, while the hotel Sirmione remains the most popular resort among tourists, jutting out into the lake itself from its southern shore. Boats embark here for most of the lakeside villages, and offer the most breathtaking views of the lake, villas and gardens invisible from the road. Desenzano, Garda's largest town on the southwestern coast of Lake Garda, is renowned for its famous wines. The hotel Gardone, on the western coast and once the lake's most elegant resort, marks the start of Lake Garda's most spectacular upland scenery. Riva del Garda is Lake Garda's best known resort at its northern tip.



Lake Garda

- 2 PM - 4:30 PM: Lake cruise with tour guides.
- Lunch in a restaurant in Sirmione (included in the package).
- 4 PM - 7 PM: Private coach transfer from Verona to Florence, with a stop at a highway restaurant for dinner on your own.
- 7 PM: Check-in at **Hotel Novotel** (<https://www.novotelfirenzeaeroporto.it/en>) in Florence.

Day10–Sunday,June8,2025–Departure

- Breakfast
- Check-out
- Depart by coach for Florence airport to return home.

MidAmFlorence:ResidencyCostsandPaymentSchedule

Total cost is \$3825 per person. This includes events, accommodations, transfers, and all tips, gratuity, and VAT taxes described in the day-to-day itinerary and specifically itemized on the “inclusions” page. This price does not include airfare to Florence. **Single supplement occupancy is \$4825 (\$1000 additional).** Note that single rooms are limited. Triple rooms are occasionally available and the cost per person is the same as double room occupancy, \$3825 per person. Note that all rooms are “double” size and if a third bed is put in, it may be a cot or convertible/pull-out sofa; furthermore, the room is not larger than a standard double room.

Spouses, friends, and families are welcome to be part of the residency. The same package described here applies to them as well.

Deposit payment due dates. All monies are to be paid to St. John Church Unleashed:

	6/1/2024	11/15/2024	3/15/2025	4/15/2025
Double	956.25	956.25	956.25	956.25
Single	1206.25	1206.25	1206.25	1206.25

Suggested saving guide based on start date of 3/1/24 and end date of 4/1/2025

	<u>Per person amt</u>	Weekly	Bi weekly	Twice a month	Monthly
Double	3,825.00	70.83	136.61	147.12	294.23
Single	4,825.00	89.35	172.32	185.58	371.15

ALL DEPOSITS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE WHEN RECEIVED AND THIS APPLIES TO ANY INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP WHO HAS MADE ANY PAYMENTS. In addition, should an individual cancel participation, deposits are non-transferable to the group's unpaid balance (substitutions for canceled persons are permissible).

About ETIAS Italy for U.S. Citizens – new entry requirement for travel to Europe

The ETIAS Italy visa waiver will be available from 2025. As a U.S. citizen, **you will need ETIAS to visit Italy** and other European Schengen countries. It takes just a few minutes to complete the ETIAS for Italy application. You can **apply online from the U.S.** from your mobile phone, computer, or another device.

What Is the EU ETIAS for U.S. Citizens?

ETIAS is an electronic travel authorization, also known as a visa waiver, for Europe. The system is currently under development— it will be operational from 2025.

As a U.S. citizen, **you will need ETIAS** to visit European Schengen countries on vacation or business trips.

To get your ETIAS, you have to fill out an **online application form** with basic details. You'll also answer a few safety-related questions to verify you are eligible for visa-free travel to Europe.

Source: <https://www.etiaseu.com/>

Land Package Inclusions (for each residency package):

Performance & Artistic Administration:

1. Two major public performances at Santa Croce in Florence on June 2 and June 4, 2025. The first one on June 2 will feature visiting guest conductors and their 80+ voice choirs with Orchestra da Camera Fiorentina; the second concert on June 4 will combine all of the choirs in a major oratorio with Orchestra da Camera Fiorentina and world-class soloists.
2. One a cappella concert in Verona on June 5 (for those choirs who elect to perform under their own directors). A minimum of three groups must agree to do the a cappella solo performance before it can go forward.
3. National and international press coverage.
4. Concert photographs of the Florence concert sent to each director by Aug. 1, 2025.
5. Complimentary YouTube link of multi-camera video will be sent to each director of their concert (pending approval of the Orchestra da Camera Fiorentina musicians' union).
6. Publicity, management, and audience development of your concert in Florence.
7. Complimentary concert poster given to each participant at the conclusion of the tour.

LODGING/GROUND TRANSPORTATION/BOARD:

8. Six (6) nights in Florence, double occupancy at one of the following or similar: *FH Grand Hotel Mediterraneo* (<https://www.hotelmediterraneofirenze.com/>), Hotel Adriatico (<http://www.hoteladriatico.it/en/>), Hotel Glance (<http://www.glancehotelflorence.com/en/>), Hotel Adler (<http://www.hoteladlercavalieri.com/>), Hotel Baglioni (<https://www.hotelbaglioni.it/en/>); two (2) nights in Verona, double occupancy at Hotel Tower (www.montresorgroup.com); one (1) night in Hotel Novotel (<https://www.novotelfirenzeaeroporto.it/en/>) in Florence. Single occupancy is **\$4375** (\$900 additional) when singles are available. Triples are in limited supply, and the cost is still \$3475 per person.
9. Package includes all local taxes, gratuities, and Value Added Tax (VAT).
10. MidAm International, Inc. personnel on site in the hotel during your residency.
11. Nine (9) breakfasts.
12. Final lunch in a restaurant in Sirmione (June 7).
13. Bus transfer from Florence to Verona (June 5), from Verona to Venice and back, from Verona hotel to Lake Garda, and from Lake Garda to Florence (June 7).
14. Bus transfers to all tours, rehearsals, and concerts, as needed. Airport transfers will be available on May 30 upon arrival, and June 8 for departure, to and from the Florence airport.
15. English-speaking guides.
16. Escorts on buses from all locations.
17. Bonus dollar credits and savings off of the final invoice; see page 13.
18. Assistance with purchasing international flight tickets to and from Florence when requested.

SIX TOURS (see description in itinerary—Entrance fee, bus (if necessary), professional guide, personal broadcast microphones, and hearing devices are all included.):

19. First Tour: Santa Maria Novella Church, Academy of Fine Arts, and Duomo Complex (Florence);
20. Second Tour: Verona City tour (Verona);
21. Third Tour: Venice City tour (Venice);
22. Fourth Tour: Lake Garda and lake cruise (Lake Garda).

Land Package Exclusions:

1. Your round-trip airfare to Florence.
2. All lunches and dinners (except the final lunch on June 7).
3. Purchase of your choral music