

American Celebration of Music in

Vietnam

An exclusive concert series for performance ensembles



Music Celebrations International
Concert Tours With Integrity



An Exclusive Concert Series

Vietnam is opening wide its doors to Western ideas, culture, and business. Visitors, particularly from Western cultures, are overwhelmed by the sublime beauty of Vietnam's ambiance. The Red River Delta in the north, the Mekong Delta in the south, and almost the entire coastal strip are a patchwork of brilliant green rice paddies tended by women in conical hats. The country is outlined by glorious beaches, while inland there are soaring mountains, stunning monuments and unique architecture. Vietnam offers an opportunity to see a country of traditional charm and rare beauty rapidly opening up to the outside world.

The influence of Mahayana Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism, that were conciliated and Vietnamese, contributed to the development of the Vietnamese society and culture. Traditional Vietnamese music is a diverse mix of native and foreign influences. The greatest influence on traditional music was from the music of China, but later on there was a smaller influence from the music of Champa (previously southern and central Vietnam), which the Vietnamese found intriguing.

No other place on earth possesses such an intensity of beauty and strangeness, nor has a longer, richer historical legacy, and few other nations are likely to be as important in the 21st century. Vietnam's culture remains exotic, despite rapid modernization and growing Western influences.

It is now possible to travel to most of the interesting places in Vietnam in a style not dreamed of ten years ago, or barely possible five years ago. Vietnam travel is a mobile feast of sights and sensations, new and old.

The interest by the Vietnamese in Western culture is such that an

American orchestra, choir or concert band can captivate a large and enthusiastic audience no matter where it performs. Imagine your musical group performing in the Hanoi Opera House, an ancient city square, at a major Vietnamese music conservatory, a cultural center auditorium, or sharing cultures through musical exchanges with local Vietnamese musicians!



Sample Itinerary

HANOI / HALONG BAY / HAI PHONG

DAY ONE: ARRIVE

Depart via scheduled airline service to Hanoi, Vietnam. Enjoy full meal and beverage service and in-flight entertainment during this trans-Pacific overnight flight. Cross the International Date Line during this flight

DAY TWO: HANOI

Arrive at Hanoi. Meet your MCI Vietnamese Tour Manager, who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motor coach for a transfer to the hotel. Along the way to the hotel, we will enjoy a brief orientation tour of Hoan Kiem Lake, the French Quarter and Old Quarter of Hanoi, time permitting

This evening we will attend a Water Puppets performance at the Municipal Water Puppets Theater and a Welcome Dinner at a local restaurant

DAY THREE: HANOI

Following breakfast at the hotel, we will enjoy a city tour with visits to the Temple of Literature, Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and Presidential Palace, Ho Chi Minh Stilt House, One Pillar Pagoda and the famous "Hanoi Hilton" prison

We will have lunch at a local restaurant in Hanoi

The afternoon will be spent at our leisure and prepare for this evening performance

Evening Concert at Hanoi Opera House

DAY FOUR: HANOI / HALONG BAY

This morning will start with breakfast in the hotel, followed by hotel checkout

We will then visit a high school or college class (providing that school is in session) and will participate in a cultural exchange and enjoy lunch with the students

We will then drive north to the Bac Ninh Province where we will visit a local village and enjoy a traditional performance at the Communal House. We will then continue to travel along the Red River Delta, arriving in Halong Bay in the late afternoon

DAY FIVE: HALONG BAY

After breakfast, we will spend most of the day discovering Halong Bay by private boat. The 6-hour cruise will pass many beautiful islands and will stop at one of the most gorgeous caves on the bay. We will swim (weather permitting) in the gulf of Tonkin, of the South China Sea. Lunch will be served on the cruise

We will return to the mainland in the afternoon

Evening performance at Theatre in Ha Long City

DAY SIX: HANOI / HAI PHONG

Our day will begin with breakfast at the hotel. We will then check out of the hotel and depart for a 90-minute drive to Hai Phong City, the third largest city in Vietnam

Upon our arrival in Hai Phong, we will check into our hotel and have a brief tour of the city

We will have some time to relax in the afternoon

Evening performance at the Hai Phong City Theater

DAY SEVEN: HAI PHONG / NINH BINH / HANOI

We will start the day with breakfast at the hotel. We will then leave Hai Phong for Ninh Binh, a 4-hour drive

Once in Ninh Binh we will visit rice fields, caves via boat, and a temple in the local village

We will drive back to Hanoi in the late afternoon

DAY EIGHT: HANOI

In the morning we will visit the Old Quarter of Hanoi and a local market, where we will have an hour to spend shopping

In the afternoon we will visit the Hanoi University
Evening performance at Hanoi University

DAY NINE: DEPART FOR HOME

Breakfast will be served upon awakening. Transfer to Hanoi's International Airport for return flight

Arrive home in the evening of the same day





"I have only the highest praise for the folks at Music Celebrations. I have travelled four times with them and every trip has been impeccably prepared. You will find your concerts to be well organized and that their long-standing reputation throughout the world will give you access to wonderful venues. As many of our tours have required a great deal of customization, I can attest first hand to their flexibility. We have considered every tour with them a resounding success and I would not hesitate to offer my highest recommendation on their behalf. "

Dan Monek,
Marietta College
Ohio

Standard Performance Tours in Vietnam

Tour 1 7 Nights / 9 Days

3 nights in Hanoi, 2 nights in Halong Bay, 1 night in Hai Phong

Tour 2 7 Nights / 9 Days

5 nights in Saigon, 1 night in Can Tho, 1 night in Mui Ne

Tour 3 8 Nights / 10 Days

2 nights in Hanoi, 2 nights in Halong Bay, 1 night in Mui Ne, 3 nights in Saigon

Tour 4 8 Nights / 10 Days

2 nights in Hanoi, 2 nights in Halong Bay, 2 nights in Hue, 2 nights in Saigon

Tour 5 10 Nights / 12 Days

2 nights in Hanoi, 2 nights in Halong Bay, 2 nights in Hue, 1 night in Hoi An, 3 nights in Saigon

These and all other Standard Tours may be viewed on our website at www.musiccelebrations.com. Fully-customized tours may also be created to meet your specific needs and interests.



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