

Craig Hella Johnson



AUSTRALIA
Sydney Opera House
Gala Festival Concert

Individual concerts • Extension tours

July 2018

Featuring a
Jake Runestad world premiere



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WELCOME MESSAGE



Join me in Sydney – July 2018

I know that many of you share my excitement at the prospect of singing in the Sydney Opera House – one of the world's great cultural icons.

As a part of our Gala Concert, we will sing the world premiere of a wonderful new work by Jake Runestad, composed especially for this occasion and for this gathering of choirs in Sydney! This concert will be a true 'happening' and will be a celebration of the power of choral music. There is nothing quite like coming together with choirs from around the country and around the world for an unforgettable shared musical experience.

We have added an additional day for sightseeing as well as sectional and combined rehearsals. This will pace the tour well and ensure that we are building to our performance crescendo in a relaxed manner. As Australia is in the Southern Hemisphere we are traveling into a (mild and temperate) winter conducive to the performance tour that has been designed for us.

Kangaroos and Koalas, people with a direct warm and engaging manner and an island continent distant from the rest of the world (but, as KI says, Australia is only 2 meals, 3 movies and a nap away)!

Once again I will plan a program that will be a diverse collection of pieces and one that will be well suited to the participating singers. It is always one of my favorite parts of this process-- shaping a program that fits the time, location and context and the various strengths and interests of the participating ensembles. In addition there will be opportunities for your own individual performances in Sydney and in any of the extension cities should you be touring further after the festival.

We will sing in a loving and passionate way speaking to the good in the world giving voice to that which unites humanity.

See you 'down under'

Craig Hella Johnson

Artistic Director & Conductor



Photo credits: Daniel Brod

CRAIG HELLA JOHNSON

Craig Hella Johnson brings unparalleled depth of knowledge, artistic sensitivity, and rich imagination to his programs. He has earned a reputation as one of the finest choral conductors in the United States. Beloved by audiences, lauded by critics and composers, and revered by vocal and instrumental musicians, Johnson is known for

crafting musical journeys that create deep connections between performers and listeners. Johnson is the Artistic Director and founder of Conspirare. In 2015, Johnson and Conspirare were awarded a Grammy® for Best Choral Performance for *The Sacred Spirit of Russia*. In 2013, Johnson was appointed Music Director of the Vocal Arts Ensemble in Cincinnati. Johnson is also Conductor Emeritus of the Victoria Bach Festival, where he previously served as conductor and Artistic Director from 1992-2015.

Johnson was Director of Choral Activities at the University of Texas at Austin (1990-2001) and remains an active educator, teaching and giving workshops statewide, nationally, and internationally at conferences and universities. In fall 2012 he became the first Artist in Residence at the Texas State University School of Music. As composer, arranger, and music editor, Johnson works with G. Schirmer Publishing and Alliance Music Publications; his works have sold thousands of copies.

Johnson's accomplishments have been recognized with numerous awards including Chorus America's Michael Korn Founders Award for Development of the Professional Choral Art. The Texas Legislature named him the Texas State Musician for 2013. Johnson studied at St. Olaf College, the Juilliard School, and the University of Illinois, and earned his doctorate at Yale University. Under the auspices of a National Arts Fellowship, he was a student of Helmuth Rilling at the International Bach Academy in Stuttgart, Germany.

www.craighellajohnson.com

SYDNEY FESTIVAL 2018

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

- Departure
- Cross international dateline

FRIDAY, JULY 13

- Arrive in Sydney
- Meet Klconcerts tour manager
- Introduction to Sydney including Bondi beach and Mrs Macquarie's Chair
- Arrive hotel and check in
- Dinner
- Overnight Sydney

SATURDAY, JULY 14

- Breakfast daily
- Sydney Harbour ferry to Manly. Absorb the magnificent sights of the Harbour Bridge, the Opera House and the wonder of this spectacular harbour
- Lunch in Manly (own arrangements)
- Ferry back to Sydney
- Combined rehearsal with Craig Hella Johnson
- Welcome dinner
- Overnight Sydney



PROGRAM



SUNDAY, JULY 15

- Combined rehearsal with Craig Hella Johnson
- Explore the Rocks area. Walk as the convicts did, on narrow cobblestone alleys, when they were first transported from England as prisoners
- **Exchange and/or individual concert (tbd)**
- Dinner
- Overnight Sydney

MONDAY, JULY 16

- Sectional rehearsals
- Free time to explore Sydney
- Combined rehearsal with Craig Hella Johnson at the Sydney Opera House
- Dinner
- Overnight Sydney

TUESDAY, JULY 17

- Combined rehearsal with Craig Hella Johnson
- **Gala Concert at Sydney Opera House under the direction of Craig Hella Johnson**
- Dinner
- Overnight Sydney

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

- Transfer to airport and return home
OR continue to tour Australia and New Zealand

*** Itinerary subject to change.*

*** Confirmation of performances is dependent upon early receipt of performance information: biographies, pictures, recordings and repertoire*





GOLD COAST & BRISBANE EXTENSION

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

- Fly to Brisbane airport
- Arrive at hotel on the Gold Coast
- Afternoon of city sights including visiting Southbank Parklands and enjoying the view of the city from Mt. Coot-tha
- Check in
- Dinner
- Overnight Gold Coast

THURSDAY, JULY 19

- Experience Australian animals and the famous Rainbow Lorikeet feeding at Currumbin Sanctuary
- Explore the Gold Coast
- Dinner
- Overnight Gold Coast

FRIDAY, JULY 20

- Explore Brisbane
- **Optional individual concert**
- Dinner
- Overnight Gold Coast

SATURDAY, JULY 21

- Transfer to airport and return home

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CAIRNS EXTENSION

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

- Fly to Cairns airport
 - Travel by coach to hotel
 - Check in
 - Dinner
 - Overnight Cairns
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THURSDAY, JULY 19

- Sail for a day on Australia's Great Barrier Reef, the earth's largest living organism and the only living entity that can be seen from space. Be submerged in a world of coral, brightly colored fish and a seabed teeming with life
- Lunch on board
- Return to Cairns
- Dinner on own
- Overnight Cairns

FRIDAY, JULY 20

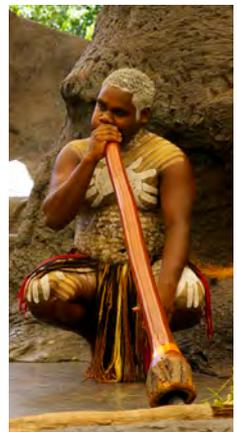
- Visit the wildlife park to walk with Australia's animals
- Glide across the Rainforest canopy via Skyrail - a gondola cableway that travels over rainforest canopy from the mountain's top to sea level
- Naturalist guided tour through the rainforest on an amphibious army duck
- Transfer to the Aboriginal Cultural Park to come face to face with Aboriginal culture. Learn about the unique 50,000 year history of the people
- Try to have a boomerang return, throw a spear and learn to play the didgeridoo
- Dinner
- Overnight Cairns

SATURDAY, JULY 21

- Transfer to airport and return home

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PROGRAM



AUCKLAND & ROTORUA EXTENSION

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

- Fly to Auckland airport
- Introduction to Auckland
- Check in
- Dinner
- Overnight Auckland

THURSDAY, JULY 19

- City sightseeing
- **Optional individual concert**
- Dinner
- Overnight Auckland

FRIDAY, JULY 20

- Travel by coach to Rotorua
- Arrive hotel and check in
- Experience Maori culture, their song and dance and traditions
- Enjoy an authentic Maori hangi dinner
- Overnight Rotorua

PROGRAM

SATURDAY, JULY 21

- Visit the Maori Arts and Crafts Institute and experience the Whakarewarewa Thermal Park seeing bubbling mud pools and majesty of the shooting geysers
- Transfer to Auckland airport for your return flight home

*** Itinerary subject to change.*

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PRODUCERS

For over 35 years, **Klconcerts** (Kingsway International) has provided choirs and instrumental ensembles with affordable and unforgettable international and domestic custom tours and festivals. Klconcerts combines unique destinations, awe-inspiring venues, warm audiences with renowned composers, educators, conductors and musicians. Together with our talented local concert tour organizers we facilitate a deep sharing of culture...the essence of performance travel.



www.youtube.com/KlconcertsVideos

Performance travel has always presented challenges requiring a myriad of details to combine in order for life changing magical musical moments to occur. This has never been truer than today. KI looks to partner with you in managing these challenges in new and creative ways.

Our recent clients have shared their views on our tours – have a look at www.Klconcerts.com/testimonials



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