The third Yale International Choral Festival will be held in New Haven from June 13 – 16, 2018. The Festival is a joint undertaking of the Yale School of Music, the Yale Glee Club and the Yale Alumni Chorus. And now we are excited to announce that the Yale Alumni Chorus will again participate in this triennial event, and will sponsor a singing sojourn in New Haven once again!

Maestro Douma has chosen the theme of “Sing Without Borders” for the 2018 Festival. Building on the ideals of friendship through music, and international brother/sisterhood, the 2018 Festival will extend a hand of friendship to choruses around the world, with an invitation to make music together. Sounds like a “YAC Mission Statement,” doesn’t it?

This year we have something new planned – a series of lectures by scholars and professionals which will explore cross-cultural and political issues related to the home countries of our visiting choirs. And there will be reunions with beloved singing friends from Yale and previous Yale Alumni Chorus adventures.

This is your invitation to come back to Yale and SING! Full details of this exciting musical week are reflected in this Prospectus.

TO GO DIRECTLY TO REGISTRATION CLICK HERE http://weblink.donorperfect.com/2018YICF

Attention! Added bonus activity for YAC Members! While registering for the 2018 YICF you will have the opportunity to register for the grand 20th Anniversary Celebration for YAC, to be held the day before the Choral Festival starts, on Tuesday, June 12, 2018. The anniversary celebration commences at 3:00pm with an optional rehearsal of Yale and YAC songs at the Rossi Glee Club Room at Hendrie Hall, in the new Adams Center, followed by drinks, dinner and celebration at the Omni Hotel starting at 6:30pm. The cost will be $125 per person, less for recent graduates. The fee for this event is separate and apart from the fee for the Choral Festival. If you can come to the grand 20th Anniversary Celebration, you may wish to book accommodations for Tuesday night June 12, 2018. And we hope all those attending the YAC 20th Anniversary Celebration stay in New Haven for the Choral Festival too!
The 2018 Yale International Choral Festival will have many great features:

**International cross-cultural exchange:** There will be guest choruses from around the world, participating side by side with us once again for most of the Festival from Wednesday through Saturday. Over 100 singers from noted international choral groups will be joining us (including a couple from the United States!) Here is a quick rundown of the choruses who will attend the event:

**Staccato from Mexico:** Staccato is the renowned choir of the National Autonomous University in Mexico. The choir boasts a wide and varied repertoire, focused mainly on *a cappella* music of the 20th and 21st centuries. Staccato is constantly seeking out newly written and avant-garde music, in keeping with the University’s spirit of innovation. The choir will be led by their Founder and Director, Marco Antonia Ugalde. The Yale Glee Club will be hosted by Staccato on their 2018 Tour of Mexico shortly before the Festival – so Yale will have an opportunity during the Festival to return the spirit of hospitality.

https://youtu.be/YWf8yPzlL34

**Ensemble Cantissimo from Germany:** Ensemble Cantissimo is one of the most sought-after vocal ensembles in the German-speaking world. The name speaks for itself – Cantissimo is synonymous with *a cappella* singing. The choir’s primary interest, since its founding in 1994, has been the discovery of unperformed music that lies outside the common repertoire. The choir draws singers from Germany and Switzerland, and is led by the dynamic Markus Utz, Professor of Conducting and Choral Directing at the University of the Arts in Zurich.

http://www.cantissimo.de/home/

**Tehran Vocal Ensemble from Iran:** The Festival is thrilled to present the Tehran Vocal Ensemble, founded by Milad Omranloo, which has opened a gateway into a new a capella style in Persian choral music. Inspired by European bands, this new style of choral singing is based on a group of singers each of whom assumes the role of an instrument assembled to perform as a harmonic orchestra, with matchless sound effects. The Tehran Vocal Ensemble has performed throughout the Middle East, Asia and Europe, and we are delighted to welcome them to Yale.

*Please note we are working closely with the Tehran Vocal Ensemble to help them obtain visas for travel to the US, but this is still unresolved as of this writing.

https://youtu.be/B4bQdq6kWjQ

**Young People’s Chorus of New York City:** You have already probably heard of the renowned Young People’s Chorus of New York City, led by the famed Francisco J. Nunez, Artistic Director. The “YPC” is a multi-cultural youth chorus of international stature, known for its superb virtuosity and brilliant showmanship. The group was founded by Maestro Nunez in 1988, a MacArthur Fellow, on a mission of diversity and artistic excellence, which harnesses the power of music to fulfill the potential of every child musically, academically, and socially and has established the concept of the youth chorus as a significant and often untapped instrument for making music.

https://ypc.org/
Yale Choral Artists, New Haven: The Yale Choral Artists is a professional choir recently founded by the Yale School of Music and the Yale Glee Club to enhance and enrich Yale’s strong commitment to the choral arts. The choir is a project-based ensemble comprised of leading singers from around the country and is directed by School of Music faculty member Jeffrey Douma. Current members of the Choral Artists also perform in the ranks of such acclaimed ensembles as the Trinity Wall Street Choir, Chanticleer, the Handel and Haydn Society Chorus, the Oregon Bach Festival Chorus, Voices of Ascension, Conspirare, and many others, and are also leading concert soloists, particularly in the area of early music.

http://music.yale.edu/study/degrees-programs/performing-ensembles/yale-choral-artists/

And last but not least...
The Yale Alumni Chorus
(Here shown on the steps of The Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Canada, last summer)

The opportunity to interact with these choral groups will be extensive, musical and fun. All of the choirs will participate in our Gala Saturday evening joint concert in Woolsey Hall. We will work with their conductors, and we will perform with all of them. We will join everyone for lunches and dinners, and attend their showcase concerts. We will merge our spirit of Yale Reunions with true New Haven hospitality, and have a unique and memorable time together.

A World Class Singing Experience

We are packing a TON of singing into the Festival this year, with a program that will provide a broad array of musical experiences.

Maestro Douma has chosen a major new contemporary work for our Gala Saturday Evening Concert – the young American composer Jake Runestad’s new cantata The Hope of Loving, with the New Haven String Quartet. Maestro Douma relates that the themes presented by this contemporary piece are ideal and the music is beautiful.

Click here to learn more about Jake Runestad and to listen to The Hope of Loving: http://jakerunestad.com/store/the-hope-of-loving/

Click here to learn more about the New Haven String Quartet: https://www.musichavenct.org/

We hope to undertake local community engagement singing activities, one of the highlights from the last Festival. And of course, there will be plenty of informal singing at dinners and late into the night!
The Music
The majority of our time in the Festival will be spent singing. The Yale Alumni Chorus will host the Gala Concert in Woolsey Hall on Saturday night, which will showcase our diverse traditions with three principal components:

- We will likely sing some Yale songs from the traditional Yale choral repertoire.
- We will prepare a piece with each visiting chorus and perform it with them.
- We will perform the beautiful Runestad cantata mentioned above.
- Andre de Quadros, conductor of the Manado State University Choir from the 2012 festival, will lead all the ensembles in an innovative, guided choral improvisation at the final Saturday evening concert, something he is creating just for us.

Exciting Speakers on Current Affairs in Iran, Mexico, Europe and More

We have spoken about collaborations with the choruses, and that we will also once again be collaborating deeply on this project with our co-sponsors, the Yale Glee Club and the Yale School of Music. But the Festival Program will include something new this time – a series of lectures are being planned with Yale luminaries, authors, diplomats, and choral conductors on a variety of contemporary topics, covering political and cultural issues. These lectures will include (effective as of the date of this Prospectus, but subject to change or addition):

- Concerning events in Iran – Nahid Siamdoust, author of *Soundtrack of the Revolution: The Politics of Music in Iran*, will speak on contemporary Iran.
- Ambassador Diego Gomez Pickering, Consul General of Mexico in New York City, will speak on political issues between Mexico and the United States.
- David Cameron, Yale Professor of Political Science and Director of EU Studies, will speak on European and especially German topical issues.
- Francisco Nunez, Founding Musical Director of the Young People’s Chorus of New York City and MacArthur Fellow, will speak about his innovative new Vocal Resolutions Program.

Activities
We will have our festive lunches and dinners shared with our international guests at the brand new Franklin College at Yale, a little bit of a walk up Prospect Street, but worth the stroll. We have been informed that Franklin College is outfitted with a new air-cooling system which approximates air conditioning, but in a “greener way,” so no more mid-summer classic oppressive heat like last time!

Once again, the Festival will coincide with the concerts and activities planned as part of the New Haven Festival of Arts and Ideas. Visit [https://www.artidea.org/](https://www.artidea.org/). For those family members who may not be singers themselves but love a great week of culture, this will be one of the most intensely packed weeks you could imagine!

Inclusiveness and Flexible Options

The Yale International Choral Festival champions inclusiveness and flexibility. We are keeping the base price of the experience low, and we seek out new participants. In an effort to be as inclusive and accommodating as possible, we will offer a number of flexible options:
Flexible housing: While a stay in the new Franklin College with the international choruses will maximize the campus experience and the opportunity to meet the other singers, those interested in a more personal touch (perhaps quiet!) may wish to book one of the New Haven hotels, or re-establish that friendship with that old Yale roommate who now lives in a local shoreline property!

Flexible meal plan: Lunches and dinners will all be with the other groups at the Franklin College Dining Hall. Since our participants will be staying all over the greater New Haven area, we have elected to have our YAC participants enjoy “breakfast on your own,” unless, of course, you elect to stay in the dorms at Franklin College, in which case you will be provided breakfast in the Franklin College Dining Hall.

Optional activities: There will be a dazzling array of activities each day, from educational to social to cultural and of course, choral. While we will have plenty of structured time for the entire group, there will be other parts of the day to sample lectures, museums, outreach activities, concerts, and collaborative events with the visiting choruses.

Schedule of Events

Below is some sense of how it will all go down, day by day (please note that the schedule continues to evolve, and is subject to change).

Tuesday, June 12 – Pre-Festival 20th Anniversary Celebration for YAC Members
Activities begin at 3:00pm

Day 1: Wednesday, June 13
8:30-11:30am: YAC Rehearsal 1
Lunch
12:30-1:30pm: Talk 1: Germany/EU (Cameron)
2:00-5:00pm: YAC rehearsal 2
Dinner
8:00pm: Concert 1: Ensemble Cantissimo

Day 2: Thursday, June 14
8:30 -11:30am - YAC Rehearsal 3
Lunch
12:30 -1:30pm – Talk 2: Mexico/immigration (Pickering)
Dinner
8:00pm – Concert 2 Staccato

Day 3: Friday June 15
Lunch
12:30 -1:30pm – Talk 3: YPC vocal resolutions (Nunez)
2:00-4:00pm – YAC rehearsal 4
5:30 - 6:30pm – Talk 4: Politics and culture in Iran (Siamdoust)
Dinner
8:00pm – Concert 3: Tehran Vocal Ensemble

Day 4: Saturday June 16
9:00am -12:00pm – Dress rehearsal for Gala Concert, all ensembles
Lunch
2:00pm – Concert 4: YCA/YPC
6:00pm – Gala Concert, YAC and visiting choirs
8:00pm – YICF Gala Dinner
Registration Process

Pretty cool, right? So how do you sign up? Registration is being handled completely via the Yale Alumni Chorus website and can be accessed at the following link http://weblink.donorperfect.com/2018YICF.

Here are the steps:

Choose your program. The program fee is $775 for singers ($600 for non-singers) and $350 for recent college graduate singers (classes 2007 to 2018). The fee includes your participation, music, the Saturday evening Gala Dinner, tickets to all Festival concerts and lectures, and all lunches and dinners.

Choose your housing option. The options are:

Stay in Franklin College starting on 6/12 for $91/night single, or $79/night for a double. The cost of your stay at Franklin includes breakfast each morning beginning 6/13.

Stay at the Omni New Haven Hotel ($219/night), The Study at Yale ($189/night), or the Courtyard by Marriott ($169/night). We have room blocks at each of these. If you are interested in this option, please contact the hotel directly to make your reservation and indicate you are part of the Yale Alumni Chorus group; hotel reservations will not go through the Yale Alumni Chorus registration site.

Stay at your own home or a friend's home. No charge, just the obligation to be at morning rehearsals on time!

In your registration you will have the opportunity to make a donation to the Yale Alumni Chorus Foundation. All contributions allow us to support the participation of the visiting choirs as well as the festival itself. We realize that this past year many demands have been made on all of your pocketbooks, and many of you have been so generous, but your contributions would be greatly appreciated.

There are several reasons to register for this RIGHT AWAY!! First, we have only a limited number of slots for this event and will fulfill them on a first-come first-served basis. Second, in case your plans change, there is a cancellation provision. You can cancel up until May 1 and receive all monies back except for $200. (After that time, there is no refund.) Third, as with past Yale Alumni Chorus experiences, a portion of the fee may be tax deductible. So don’t wait! Go to http://weblink.donorperfect.com/2018YICF to register now!

Many thanks for your consideration. We hope that you will be able to join us for this incredibly exciting program!

Yours in Song,

Mark Alberta ’72
Henry Chan ’07
John Darrow ’69
Producers, Yale International Choral Festival

Key Dates:

January 31: Registration Opens
By April 15: Rehearsal materials will be distributed
May 1: Cancellation date (no refunds after this date)
May 5: Optional Rehearsal in New York City
June 12: Yale Alumni Chorus 20th Anniversary Celebration
June 13-16: Yale International Choral Festival