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Cornell's Chorus and Glee Club will perform in Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong, March 11-26, 2008

ITHACA, N.Y. — The Cornell University Chorus and Glee Club will travel to mainland China and Hong Kong in March of 2008 to perform for a wide range of audiences, further building on the Cornell-China relationship that was founded more than a century ago.

Continuing a longstanding Cornell tradition of cultural exchange, the China tour will present an excellent educational opportunity for both the student singers and the university.

Led by professor Scott Tucker, the Priscilla Edwards Browning director of Choral Music, the Chorus and Glee Club are two of the oldest student-run organizations at Cornell, with extensive performing and touring experiences since 1868 and 1921, respectively.

"We are eagerly anticipating this opportunity for cultural exchange, and to strengthen the many friendships formed during Cornell University's enduring relationship with China," said Tucker.

Praised as part of America's top collegiate choirs, each of the two groups is composed of 60 students. The mixed-voice choir will feature 80 singers chosen by rigorous audition, placing them in several of China's most prestigious venues.

Collaborations with other performing groups, such as the International Festival Chorus and Orchestra, the Hong Kong Bach Choir and Orchestra, and choirs at Beida and Fudan Universities in China, will offer the Chinese audience and the Cornell students an opportunity to share a musical experience to remember.

The choir will open their tour in Beijing with a performance of Johannes Brahms's *Ein Deutsches Requiem* at the Forbidden City Concert Hall on Saturday, March 15, followed by a private concert at the Embassy of the United States in Beijing on Monday, March 17.

The group will also give several performances in Shanghai, including the Brahms *Requiem* at the Oriental Arts Center on Saturday March 22 at Fudan University, and workshops at Weiyu High School and Shanghai American School.

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The choir will sing an Easter Evensong Service, Sunday March 23 at St. John's Cathedral in Hong Kong, followed by the finale performances at Tsuen Wan Town Hall on Monday, March 24 and at the Diocesan High Schools on Tuesday, March 25.

The full repertoire for the tour includes the Brahms' *Requiem*, selections by such composers as Franz Biebl, Stephen Chatman, Augusta Read Thomas and Béla Bartók, in addition to the premiere of a specially commissioned piece by acclaimed Chinese composer Chen Yi and Cornell's Pulitzer-Prize-winning composer, Steven Stucky.

For more information on the tour schedule and ticket purchase, visit www.gleeclub.com, or www.chorus.cornell.edu.

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