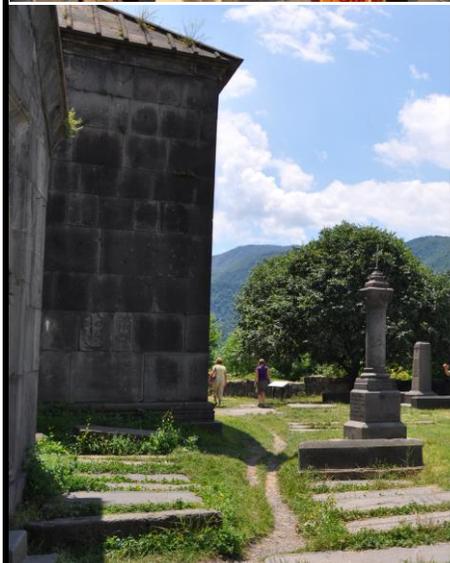


 *Classical Movements*

**CHOIR, ORCHESTRA
AND BAND TOURS TO
ARMENIA**





711 Princess Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, USA
Tel: +1 (703) 683-6040 • Fax: +1 (703) 683-6045
E-mail: info@ClassicalMovements.com
Website: www.ClassicalMovements.com

Travel Specialists for Music and Performing Groups

WHY ARMENIA WITH CLASSICAL MOVEMENTS

This small, landlocked country is one of the oldest in the world, and there is a surprising beauty in its stark rocky countryside of the Caucasus Mountains. Orchards and vineyards provide unexpected color, and historic cities and monasteries perch on scenic mountaintops or in temperate rain forests.

Highlights: Armenia's chief attractions are scenic mountainous terrain, churches, monasteries, historical sites, art and friendly people.

Main Cities: Central Yerevan is dominated by huge Soviet-style buildings with natural stone with a pale-rose tint and columns and balconies; visit the ruins of Erebuni with ancient frescoes and a nearly 3,000-year-old cuneiform inscription, establishing the date that Yerevan was founded; the Opera House which holds two theaters, one for the philharmonic and the other for opera and dance performances; Genocide Victims' Memorial, a dramatic monument called Tsitsernakaberd that commemorates the 1915 Ottoman Turkish massacres; arts-and-crafts markets; Vernisage Art Market, just off Republic Square; majestic seventh-century fortress complex of Amberd dramatically set on a promontory of Mount Aragats with sweeping views above the Ararat Valley; Day trips include Karmir-Blur, an ancient fortress of the Urartu Kingdom, as well as Garni, Geghard, Khor Virab, Noravank, Saghmossavank and others. Visit the countryside of Dilijan with spectacular mountains, forests and springs. Another must visit is Echmiadzin which dates from the sixth century BC and was the capital of the country for almost two centuries.

Shopping: Armenia is a great place to go shopping for arts and crafts. Rugs, both old and new, abound, with a variety of designs. The Vernisage Art Market, open on Saturday and Sunday, is a sight to see in and of itself. Woodwork, ceramics, stone objects, rugs and jewelry are mixed with post-Soviet paraphernalia and countless other things. Browse at the open-air food markets for spices, fruits and vegetables—and good photo opportunities. Khachkars, the stone crosses found throughout Armenia, are all unique. Instead of an image of Christ, khachkars are embellished with knotwork patterns similar to those of the Celts, geometric patterns and flowers, leaves or fruits.

Food and Drink: Armenian cooking can be rich and flavorful. Properly done, Armenian dishes are usually spiced with some combination of red pepper, basil, thyme, coriander and tarragon. Many cafes in Yerevan serve lamb and pork dishes, including khorovats (chunks of barbecued meat) and kebab (ground, barbecued meat with garlic and mint). You'll also find plenty of dolma (meat or vegetables wrapped in grape or cabbage leaves), lavash (a thin, flat bread) and goat cheese. Armenian cognac is judged among the best produced in the world, with Winston Churchill himself being a fan, and the wine industry is making a comeback. (The villages of Areni and Artashat produce the best bottles.) Tan is a salted yogurt-and-water drink. The entire country is addicted to the thick and strong Armenian coffee called surj and to herbal teas—mint (nane) and thyme (urts) are especially popular.

Neighboring Countries: Armenia is also bordered by Georgia, Iran and Azerbaijan, and is the only point of entry to Nagorno-Karabakh. A fantastic tour can be arranged to Turkey, Armenia and Georgia.

PERFORMANCES AND CULTURAL IMMERSION

Armenians love music, and they have been creating exquisite compositions for centuries. Sharakans are traditional Armenian liturgical songs, which are experiencing a revival today. Distinctive musical instruments are used to play Armenian folk songs. Sayat Nova, Komitas, and Aram Khachaturian are among Armenia's best-known musicians and composers.



711 Princess Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, USA
Tel: +1 (703) 683-6040 • Fax: +1 (703) 683-6045
E-mail: info@ClassicalMovements.com
Website: www.ClassicalMovements.com

Travel Specialists for Music and Performing Groups

The Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra performs at the refurbished city Opera House. In addition, several chamber ensembles are highly regarded for their musicianship, including the National Chamber Orchestra of Armenia and the Serenade Orchestra. Classical music can also be heard at one of several smaller venues, including the Yerevan Komitas State Conservatory and the Chamber Orchestra Hall. The Sayat Nova Conservatory helps polish future generations of Armenian musicians.

Concert venues include cultural centers, universities, concert halls, music schools and churches. Outreach, cultural exchanges, collaborations and joint concerts are available with local youth orchestras, adult choirs and youth choirs. There are also several music festivals. Workshops with local conductors are possible.

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Classical Movements arranged an historic tour for the Yale Alumni Chorus to Turkey, Georgia and Armenia. The Yale Alumni Chorus collaborated with numerous local musicians in Armenia, including a concert with the Little Singers of Armenia, the Armenian State Philharmonic Orchestra and Paros Chamber Choir with soloist Yeghishe Manucharian. Before that we arranged on behalf of the Library of Congress a large delegation of Armenians to the USA back in 1994.

TESTIMONIALS

Martin Jean – Director [Yale Institute of Sacred Music]

"I couldn't have imagined more successful and meaningful events in these two very different venues than what we had, and, of course, we owe you all very much indeed... Thanks to all of you. The work you do really means so much to peoples' lives and students' education. I know you went above and beyond here, and believe me, we will not forget your collaborative generosity."

Jeffrey Smith, Artistic Director [Philadelphia Boys Choir and Chorale]

"Classical Movements has to be the best concert touring company in the business. They are completely professional and at the same time very personal, culminating in the highest quality tour with much attention given to the specific needs of the group. The staff is careful to find out exactly what the clients want and to always meet those needs. They are very clear in their communication about your expectations and their expectations. When we use a concert tour company, we always use Classical Movements, and as long as they maintain their high standards we will never use anyone else."

Beth Kellar-Long - Operations Manager [Minnesota Orchestra]

"I just wanted to officially thank you for all of your work on our tour. It went very smoothly and we've received lots of compliments. Osmo [Vänskä] announced that it was the best tour, logistically, that he had ever been a part of. Thank you for all of your hard work."

Bill Weber [Yale Alumni Chorus]

"Just a note to say what a terrific job I think you did on the recent YAC tour. Quiet, unassuming, dependable, thorough and consistently effective. All of that and a real pleasure to deal with, too. Congratulations and thank you for all that you did to make the tour such a success. It was a real pleasure to meet you."



711 Princess Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, USA
Tel: +1 (703) 683-6040 • Fax: +1 (703) 683-6045
E-mail: info@ClassicalMovements.com
Website: www.ClassicalMovements.com

Travel Specialists for Music and Performing Groups

Ed Greenberg [Yale Alumni Chorus]

“We thought you did a wonderful job steering our large group of singers and non-singers through three countries during two jam-packed weeks.”

Debra L. Kraft, Executive Director [Choral Arts Society of Washington]

“Thank you all for your fine work in creating an artistically successful and personally meaningful tour for the Choral Arts Society. I am grateful for your commitment to the excellent quality of the tour and constant care for the chorus while on tour. I also recognize your deep passion for music, your knowledge of the business and appreciate your long heartfelt history with Choral Arts.”

Anne Tomlinson, Artistic Director [Los Angeles Children’s Chorus]

“Thank you so much for all you did to make LACC's tour to Scandinavia and the Baltics so successful. We had a terrific experience and much of this is due to your extensive and effective work on our behalf.”

Dr. Mikhail Shtangrud, Choral Director [The Colburn School]

“Thank you for the wonderfully planned and operated tour. The choir and the parents had a fantastic experience. Our performance venues were outstanding, each a full house. The friendship concerts and outreach encounters were truly meaningful, age-appropriate, as well as fun. Special thanks go to our tour guides (who) provided a wealth of information about their cities, as well as kept us all on enjoying ourselves and on time.”

PRESS

A Limited Selection

“Classical Movements founder Neeta Helms delivers musicians and singers all over the world with the precision of a Steinway piano tuner.”

The Washington Post, Tom Heath, September 15, 2013

“Classical Movements is the go-to company for ensembles planning concert tours.”

Baltimore Sun, Tim Smith, June 29, 2012

“Deputy Chief of US Mission Kent Logsdon thanked Classical Movements for organizing such an amazing concert tour...”

Georgia Messenger, June 28, 2011

“The Yale Alumni Chorus (YAC) decided to discover the musical treasures of the Silk Road in Turkey, Georgia and Armenia.”

Georgia Messenger, Salome Modebadze, June 28, 2011

“Neeta Helms, president of Classical Movements, which works with major orchestras as well as tours by youth orchestras and choirs, says 2009 looks to be its busiest year ever.”

Philadelphia Inquirer, David Patrick Stearns, February 6, 2009

“For comfort and safety a comprehensive tour package run by an experienced company such as [Classical Movements] is the way to go.”

McCall's, April 1998