

## regional concerts

The festival Europa Cantat XVIII has an important regional character, which is expressed by the realisation of 25 concerts in the various provinces of Piemonte. This has been possible with the help of the Associazione Cori Piemontesi and with the cooperation of local authorities and many other local associations. Two concerts have been added to the mentioned ones, one in Valle d'Aosta and one in Liguria.

This important programme serves two main functions. The first is to promote the festival in our region by bringing songs from all parts of our country, Europe and the world to towns and villages in our region. More than forty choirs will sing, and a thousand singers will perform between July 29 and August 3, using songs, that are extraordinary means of dialogue and cultural exchange, to tell stories and transmit traditions, languages and extremely rich and varied sounds. The other aim of the concerts is to introduce our guests to Piemonte, to amaze them with the richness of culture, art, nature, food and wine of our incredible region. We realise that to sing in a concert is much more than an elevated musical moment. It is a gathering of people and a tool for mutual understanding. The famous words of Leopold Sedar Senghor have never been so appropriate:

***“Stop where you hear singing! Evil human beings have no songs”.***