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**DATE:** August 9, 2011

**RELEASE:** Immediate

**RE: Music of the Baroque Offers Single Tickets to 2011–12 Concert Season**

CHICAGO—Music of the Baroque is now selling 2011–12 season single tickets, as well as subscriptions of three or more concerts. The season, the group's 41<sup>st</sup>, opens October 2 with a program of all Music of the Baroque premieres, including the ensemble's first-ever exploration of the music of Ludwig van Beethoven. Maintaining the expanded schedule established during its current 40<sup>th</sup> season, in 2011–12 Music of the Baroque will present 19 performances of eight concert programs. All programs except the ensemble's traditional holiday brass and choral concerts in mid-December will be presented at both the 1500-seat Harris Theater in Millennium Park in downtown Chicago and at the 900-seat First United Methodist Church in Evanston. Holiday concerts will be offered at St. Michael's Church in Chicago, Grace Lutheran Church in River Forest, and Divine Word Chapel in Northbrook.

**Pianist Imogen Cooper opens season**

Music of the Baroque's 2011–12 season opens with a program of music by Mozart and Beethoven conducted by Music Director Jane Glover. Acclaimed British pianist Imogen Cooper, whose previous appearances with the ensemble have drawn critical praise and audience enthusiasm, makes her debut in Beethoven's rarely performed Choral Fantasy, Op. 80, and will also be heard in the Mozart D Minor Concerto, K. 466. The program includes Beethoven's Symphony No. 1 and *Coriolan* Overture. Concerts are Sunday evening, October 2, at First United Methodist Church in Evanston, and Monday evening, October 3, at the Harris Theater.

Principal Guest Conductor Nicholas Kraemer takes the podium in November for the first of three programs with Music of the Baroque during the season. The concerts, devoted entirely to works by J. S. Bach, include the Double Violin Concerto (BWV 1042), with Music of the Baroque concertmaster Robert

Waters and principal second violinist Sharon Polifrone as soloists, and the Second and Third Orchestral suites. British soprano Julia Doyle makes her debut with the ensemble in the *Wedding Cantata*, BWV 202. Performances are Sunday evening, November 13, at First United Methodist Church in Evanston, and Monday evening, November 14, at the Harris Theater.

Five performances of Music of the Baroque's traditional holiday brass and choral concerts take place in December. Chorus Director William Jon Gray leads the Music of the Baroque Chorus and eight-part brass ensemble in music from the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries Thursday evening, December 15, at Grace Lutheran Church in River Forest; Friday evening, December 16, at St. Michael's Church in Chicago; and at Divine Word Chapel in Northbrook Saturday afternoon and evening, December 17, and Sunday afternoon, December 18.

### **Orchestral programs begin the New Year**

Nicholas Kraemer returns to lead orchestral programs in January and February. The first, showcasing the Music of the Baroque horn section, is devoted to music by George Frideric Handel and Franz Joseph Haydn. Two Haydn symphonies, No. 31, the "Horn Signal," and No. 98, bracket a concerto for choirs of horns and oboes and an Op. 6 concerto grosso by Handel. Performances are Sunday evening, January 29, at First United Methodist Church in Evanston, and Monday evening, January 30, at the Harris Theater.

Next, Nicholas Kraemer conducts a program of baroque orchestral works from Germany, England, Italy and France. The evening includes a concerto for flute and recorder by Telemann, a concerto for four violins by Vivaldi, and music by Rameau, Corelli and Purcell. Members of the Music of the Baroque orchestra are featured as soloists in these concerts Sunday evening, February 26, at First United Methodist Church in Evanston, and Monday evening, February 27, at the Harris Theater.

### **Jane Glover conducts major works by Handel and Bach**

In March, Jane Glover leads the ensemble's first performances in more than two decades of Handel's *L'Allegro, il penseroso ed il moderato*. One of the composer's most imaginative works for the stage, *L'Allegro* sets John Milton's verse in a vivid musical dialogue between the contemplative man and the happy man. Sopranos Lisa Saffer and Elizabeth Futral, tenor Thomas Cooley, and baritone Christophèren Nomura will be heard in concerts Sunday evening, March 25, at First United Methodist Church in Evanston, and Monday evening, March 26, at the Harris Theater.

April brings the choral highlight of the season and one of the most important works in the baroque canon—Johann Sebastian Bach's Mass in B Minor. Jane Glover leads the chorus, orchestra, and soloists in concerts Sunday evening, April 22, at First United Methodist Church in Evanston, and Monday evening, April 23, at the Harris Theater. Music of the Baroque's performances of Bach's sacred masterpieces have been celebrated throughout the ensemble's history, and strong demand for tickets for these concerts is expected.

Music by four composers who played string quartets together inspires "Friends," the concluding program of the 2011–12 season. Music of the Baroque's own principal string players are featured as soloists in the Mozart Sinfonia Concertante for Violin and Viola, Haydn's C Major Cello Concerto, and a Dittersdorf concerto for double bass. A sinfonia by Johann Vanhal will also be heard. Jane Glover conducts performances Sunday evening, May 20, at First United Methodist Church in Evanston, and Monday evening, May 21, at the Harris Theater.

Music of the Baroque has experienced increased demand for tickets during its current 40<sup>th</sup> concert season. The ensemble's subscriber base has grown by 9% and single ticket sales have been strong. Subscription packages begin at three concerts for \$90, and single tickets are priced at \$30–\$75 each. Tickets for the 2011–12 season are on sale now online at [www.baroque.org](http://www.baroque.org) and by calling the Music of the Baroque box office at 312.551.1414.

A complete list of 2011–12 repertoire, performance dates, times, and venues follows. Programs, dates, times and locations are subject to change.

MUSIC OF THE BAROQUE 2011–12 CONCERT SEASON

PROGRAM #1

**Glover Conducts Mozart...and Beethoven!**

Music of the Baroque Chorus and Orchestra  
Jane Glover, conductor  
Imogen Cooper, piano

Sunday, **October 2**, 7:30 PM  
First United Methodist Church  
516 Church Street, Evanston

Monday, **October 3**, 7:30 PM  
Harris Theater  
205 East Randolph  
Chicago (Millennium Park)

W. A. Mozart    Piano Concerto No. 20 in D Minor, K. 466  
Beethoven      *Coriolan* Overture  
                    Choral Fantasy, Op. 80  
                    Symphony No. 1 in C Major

Sponsor: Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation  
Media Sponsor: WFMT 98.7

Tickets: \$30–\$75

PROGRAM #2

**Kraemer Conducts Bach**

Music of the Baroque Orchestra  
Nicholas Kraemer, conductor  
Julia Doyle, soprano  
Mary Stolper, flute  
Robert Waters, violin  
Sharon Polifrone, violin

Sunday, **November 13**, 7:30 PM  
First United Methodist Church  
516 Church Street, Evanston

Monday, **November 14**, 7:30 PM  
Harris Theater  
205 East Randolph  
Chicago (Millennium Park)

J. S. Bach        Orchestral Suite No. 2 in B Minor, BWV 1067  
                    Cantata No. 202, "Weichet nur, betrübte Schatten" (*Wedding*), BWV 202  
                    Concerto for 2 Violins in D Minor, BWV 1043  
                    Orchestral Suite No. 3 in D Major, BWV 1068

Tickets: \$30–\$75

PROGRAM #3

**Holiday Brass and Choral Concerts**

Music of the Baroque Chorus and Brass Ensemble  
William Jon Gray, conductor

Thursday, **December 15**, 8 PM  
Grace Lutheran Church  
7300 West Division Street  
River Forest

Friday, **December 16**, 8 PM  
St. Michael's Church  
1633 North Cleveland Avenue  
Chicago (Old Town)

Saturday, **December 17**, 3 PM & 8 PM  
Sunday, **December 18**, 3 PM  
Divine Word Chapel  
2001 North Waukegan Road  
Northbrook

Tickets: \$40–\$75

PROGRAM #4

**Handel & Haydn**

Music of the Baroque Orchestra  
Nicholas Kraemer, conductor

Sunday, **January 29**, 7:30 PM  
First United Methodist Church  
516 Church Street, Evanston

Monday, **January 30**, 7:30 PM  
Harris Theater  
205 East Randolph  
Chicago (Millennium Park)

Handel            Concerto a due cori in F Major (*Judas Maccabaeus*), HWV 334  
                    Concerto grosso in D Major, Op. 6, No. 5, HWV 325  
F. J. Haydn      Symphony No. 31 in D Major (*Horn Signal*)  
                    Symphony No. 98 in B-flat Major

Tickets: \$30–\$75

PROGRAM #5  
**Baroque Journey**

Music of the Baroque Orchestra  
Nicholas Kraemer, conductor  
Robert Waters, violin  
Sharon Polifrone, violin  
Kevin Case, violin  
Kathleen Brauer, violin

Sunday, **February 26**, 7:30 PM  
First United Methodist Church  
516 Church Street, Evanston

Monday, **February 27**, 7:30 PM  
Harris Theater  
205 East Randolph  
Chicago (Millennium Park)

Telemann	Concerto for Flute and Recorder
Vivaldi	Concerto for 4 Violins and Cello in B Minor
Rameau	Suite from <i>Dardanus</i>
Purcell	Pavan and Fantasia on a Ground for 3 Violins
Corelli	Concerto grosso in B-flat Major, Op. 6, No. 11

Tickets: \$30–\$75

PROGRAM #6  
**Mirth & Melancholy**

Music of the Baroque Chorus and Orchestra  
Jane Glover, conductor  
Lisa Saffer, soprano  
Elizabeth Futral, soprano  
Thomas Cooley, tenor  
Christòpheren Nomura, baritone

Sunday, **March 25**, 7:30 PM  
First United Methodist Church  
516 Church Street, Evanston

Monday, **March 26**, 7:30 PM  
Harris Theater  
205 East Randolph  
Chicago (Millennium Park)

Handel	<i>L'Allegro, il penseroso ed il moderato</i>
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PROGRAM #7

**The Mass in B Minor**

Music of the Baroque Chorus and Orchestra

Jane Glover, conductor

Yulia Van Doren, soprano

Krisztina Szabó, mezzo-soprano

Lawrence Wiliford, tenor

Stephen Powell, baritone

Sunday, **April 22**, 7:30 PM

First United Methodist Church

516 Church Street, Evanston

Monday, **April 23**, 7:30 PM

Harris Theater

205 East Randolph

Chicago (Millennium Park)

J. S. Bach

Mass in B Minor, BWV 232

PROGRAM #8

**Friends**

Music of the Baroque Orchestra

Jane Glover, conductor

Robert Waters, violin

Robert Chase, viola

Barbara Haffner, cello

Collins Trier, double bass

Sunday, **May 20**, 7:30 PM

First United Methodist Church

516 Church Street, Evanston

Monday, **May 21**, 7:30 PM

Harris Theater

205 East Randolph

Chicago (Millennium Park)

Vanhal

Sinfonia in G Minor

F. J. Haydn

Cello Concerto No. 1 in C Major

Dittersdorf

Double Bass Concerto in E Major

W. A. Mozart

Sinfonia Concertante in E-flat Major, K. 364

Tickets: \$30–\$75