

Music of the Baroque 25 East Washington Street, Suite 823 Chicago, Illinois 60602

312.551.1415 www.baroque.org

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Contact: Karen Fishman (312) 551-1415, x22 <u>karenfishman@baroque.org</u>

OR Jennifer Glagov (312) 551-1415, x23 jenglagov@baroque.org

# MUSIC OF THE BAROQUE ANNOUNCES 2016-17 CONCERT SEASON

Telemann's Day of Judgment, the Mozart Mass in C Minor, and Alexander's Feast among featured works Many Music of the Baroque premieres to be offered

CHICAGO, MARCH 9—Music of the Baroque today announced plans for the upcoming 2016-17 concert season. The season, the group's 46<sup>th</sup>, opens October 23 and runs through May 15. Continuing to offer an expanded calendar of eight concert programs, the ensemble will present 18 performances in 2016-17. Seven of the eight programs will be offered at both the Harris Theater for Music and Dance in downtown Chicago and the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie. Four performances of Music of the Baroque's traditional holiday brass and choral concerts will take place at church venues in Chicago, River Forest, and Northbrook.

# Season opens with Handel

Music of the Baroque's 2016-17 concert season opens with George Frideric Handel's enduring ode to the "pow'r of musick," *Alexander's Feast*. Among Handel's most successful and popular works in his lifetime although rarely heard today, *Alexander's Feast* marked the composer's transition from Italian opera to English choral music. Principal Guest Conductor

Nicholas Kraemer leads Music of the Baroque's first performances in 15 years of this colorful work on Sunday evening, October 23, at the North Shore Center, and Monday evening, October 24, at the Harris Theater. The harp concerto first heard at *Alexander's Feast*'s London premiere in 1736 will also be performed.

The following month, Music Director Jane Glover makes her first of four appearances next season in an orchestral program exploring the Bach musical dynasty. Music by Johann Sebastian Bach will be heard alongside works by three of the great master's composer sons—Wilhelm Friedemann, Carl Philipp Emanuel, and Johann Christian. Performances are Sunday evening, November 20, at the North Shore Center, and Tuesday evening, November 22, at the Harris Theater.

Four performances of Music of the Baroque's holiday brass and choral concerts follow in mid-December. Early music specialist Paul Agnew, who led these concerts in 2013 to great acclaim, returns to conduct the Music of the Baroque Chorus and eight-part brass ensemble in music drawn largely from the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries on 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 on Saturday afternoon, December 17, and Sunday afternoon, December 18.

### Mozart's "Great" C Minor Mass opens the New Year

Music of the Baroque's 2016-17 concert season continues with Mozart authority

Jane Glover's return to the podium to conduct the Music of the Baroque chorus, orchestra, and soloists in two performances of Mozart's Mass in C Minor. Metropolitan and Lyric Opera star soprano Susanna Phillips will be featured in both the Mass and the motet "Exsultate, jubilate."

Beethoven's *Coriolan* Overture and the Prisoners' Chorus from *Fidelio* will also be heard.

Concerts take place at the North Shore Center on Sunday evening, January 22, and at the Harris Theater on Monday evening, January 23.

Nicholas Kraemer leads the new year's second set of concerts, a Baroque orchestral program entitled "Harmony and Invention" featuring lively works—all of them Music of the Baroque premieres—by a wide range of early composers: Handel, Locke, Vivaldi, Muffat, Rameau, and Telemann. Highlights include music from Telemann's third *Tafelmusik* suite and

Vivaldi's dazzling violin concerto "La Tempesta di Mare." Performances take place Sunday evening, February 26, at the North Shore Center, and Monday evening, February 27, at the Harris Theater.

# Music of the Baroque Chorus showcased in rarely heard Bach and Vivaldi

Music of the Baroque's acclaimed chorus director, William Jon Gray, takes the podium for a program of rarely heard sacred works by J. S. Bach, Antonio Vivaldi, and Antonio Lotti to be performed Sunday evening, March 26, at the North Shore Center, and Monday evening, March 27, at the Harris Theater. The program, entitled "Glorious Chorus" and featuring Bach's ravishing F Major Missa Brevis, also includes instrumental works by Vivaldi and Albinoni. All but one of the works being performed (the Vivaldi Magnificat) are Music of the Baroque premieres.

The celebrated British pianist Imogen Cooper returns to the Music of the Baroque concert stage to play Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 25 in C Major in performances Sunday evening, April 23, at the North Shore Center, and Monday evening, April 24, at the Harris Theater. The program, conducted by Jane Glover, who collaborates frequently with Cooper, also includes the ballet music from the opera *Idomeneo* and Haydn's "Clock" Symphony.

# Telemann's dramatic "The Day of Judgment" closes the season

The 2016-17 concert season closes with Music of the Baroque's first performances in 25 years of Georg Philipp Telemann's powerful late oratorio *The Day of Judgment*. Jane Glover leads the orchestra, chorus, and soloists in performances commemorating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of the great German Baroque composer. Concerts are Sunday evening, May 14, at the North Shore Center, and Monday evening, May 15, at the Harris Theater.

### Subscriptions now on sale

Subscriptions for the 2016-17 concert season are on sale now at the Music of the Baroque box office, 312-551-1414. Single tickets for all concerts will go on sale August 1.

A complete list of 2016-17 season repertoire, performance dates and times, and venues is attached. Programs, dates, times, and locations are subject to change.

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# MUSIC OF THE BAROQUE 2016-17 CONCERT SEASON COMPLETE PROGRAM LISTING

#### PROGRAM #1

# The Power of Music—Alexander's Feast

Music of the Baroque Chorus and Orchestra Nicholas Kraemer, conductor William Jon Gray, chorus director Soloists to be announced

Sunday, October 23, 7:30 pm

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, Skokie

Monday, October 24, 7:30 pm

Harris Theater for Music and Dance, Chicago

HANDEL

Alexander's Feast, HWV 75 Harp Concerto in B-flat Major, op. 4, no. 6 \*

### PROGRAM # 2

# The Family Bach

Music of the Baroque Orchestra Jane Glover, conductor Mary Stolper, flute Violin soloist to be announced

# Sunday, November 20, 7:30 pm

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, Skokie

# Tuesday, November 22, 7:30 pm

Harris Theater for Music and Dance, Chicago

W. F. BACH C. P. E. BACH J. S. BACH J. C. BACH Sinfonia in D Minor, F. 65 \*

Flute Concerto in B-flat Major, Wq. 167 \* Concerto for Violin *(to be announced)* Symphony in G Minor, op. 6, no. 6

### PROGRAM#3

# **Holiday Brass and Choral Concerts**

Music of the Baroque Chorus and Brass Ensemble Paul Agnew, conductor William Jon Gray, chorus director Repertoire and soloists to be announced

Thursday, December 15, 8:00 pm

Grace Lutheran Church, River Forest

Friday, December 16, 8:00 pm

St. Michael's Church, Chicago

Saturday, December 17, 3:00 pm

Divine Word Chapel, Northbrook

Sunday, December 18, 3:00 pm

Divine Word Chapel, Northbrook

#### PROGRAM#4

# The Mass in C Minor

Music of the Baroque Chorus and Orchestra Jane Glover, conductor William Jon Gray, chorus director Susanna Phillips, soprano Additional soloists to be announced

Sunday, January 22, 7:30 pm

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, Skokie

Monday, January 23, 7:30 pm

Harris Theater for Music and Dance, Chicago

BEETHOVEN Coriolan Overture, op. 62 \*

Prisoners' Chorus from Fidelio, op. 72 \*

W. A. MOZART "Exsultate, jubilate," K. 165

Mass in C Minor, K. 427 (Great)

### PROGRAM #5

### Harmony and Invention

Music of the Baroque Orchestra Nicholas Kraemer, conductor

Sunday, February 26, 7:30 pm

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, Skokie

Monday, February 27, 7:30 pm

Harris Theater for Music and Dance, Chicago

HANDEL Concerto grosso in D Minor, op. 6, no. 10 \*

LOCKE Music from The Tempest \*

VIVALDI Violin Concerto in E-flat Major, RV 253

(La Tempesta di Mare) \*

RAMEAU Music from Zaïs \*

MUFFAT Passacaglia from Armonico Tributo No. 5 \*

TELEMANN Suite No. 3 from *Tafelmusik* \*

#### PROGRAM # 6

### Glorious Chorus—Bach & Vivaldi

Music of the Baroque Chorus and Orchestra William Jon Gray, conductor Soloists to be announced

Sunday, March 26, 7:30 pm

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, Skokie

Monday, March 27, 7:30 pm

Harris Theater for Music and Dance, Chicago

J. S. BACH "Komm, Jesu, komm," BWV 229 \*
ALBINONI Concerto in B-flat Major, op. 10, no. 1 \*

VIVALDI Magnificat in G Minor, RV 610a

Concerto grosso in G Minor, RV 578 \*

LOTTI Crucifixus à 8 \*

J. S. BACH Mass in F Major, BWV 233 \*

### PROGRAM #7

### Imogen Cooper Plays Mozart

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

Sunday, April 23, 7:30 pm

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, Skokie

Monday, April 24, 7:30 pm

Harris Theater for Music and Dance, Chicago

**MOZART** 

Ballet music from Idomeneo, K. 366

Piano Concerto No. 25 in C Major, K. 503 \*

F. J. HAYDN

Symphony No. 101 in D Major (Clock) \*

### PROGRAM #8

# The Day of Judgment

Music of the Baroque Chorus and Orchestra Jane Glover, conductor William Jon Gray, chorus director Roderick Williams, bass-baritone Additional soloists to be announced

### Sunday, May 14, 7:30 pm

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, Skokie

### Monday, May 15, 7:30 pm

Harris Theater for Music and Dance, Chicago

**TELEMANN** 

The Day of Judgment (Der Tag des Gerichts)

<sup>\*</sup> Music of the Baroque premiere