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MUSIC OF THE BAROQUE ANNOUNCES 2018-19 CONCERT SEASON

Mozart's Requiem, Bach's Christmas Oratorio, pianist Angela Hewitt, and guest conductor Harry Bicket among season highlights

CHICAGO, February 26—Music of the Baroque today announced plans for the 2018-19 season, the ensemble's 48th. Music Director Jane Glover leads two major choral works, the repertoire on which the group has built its reputation: **Mozart's Requiem**, featuring internationally renowned soloists **Eric Owens** and **Amanda Majeski**, and J. S. Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*.

Orchestral programs include Vivaldi's beloved *Four Seasons* with concertmaster **Gina DiBello** as soloist, an all-Mozart program with renowned Canadian pianist **Angela Hewitt**, and "Pulpit and Playhouse," an imaginative pairing of Handel's *Dixit Dominus* and excerpts from Purcell's *The Fairy Queen*.

Joining Music of the Baroque as guest conductor is **Harry Bicket**, artistic director of The English Concert, who will direct a program entitled "The Grand Tour."

The concert will include the first Music of the Baroque performances of music by 18th-century Veronese composer Evaristo Felice Dall'Abaco, who spent most of his life working in Munich, in addition to works by Rameau, Corelli, Vivaldi, and Handel.

As Music Director Jane Glover commented, “This season has it all: glorious choral masterpieces, iconic concertos from the Baroque and early Classical periods, a trip to the great music cities of the Baroque era, the fun of Bach’s *Coffee Cantata*, and, in a program conducted by my colleague Nicholas Kraemer, a program exploring the drama inherent in all Baroque music, pairing excerpts from Purcell’s *The Fairy Queen* with Handel’s *Dixit Dominus*. I am delighted that my old friend Harry Bicket will join us for an intriguing and imaginative program based on the 18th-century Grand Tour. And personally, I can’t wait to open the season with Mozart’s sublime Requiem—every time I conduct it, I find new things in this heartrending work. I’m also thrilled to be reunited with pianist Angela Hewitt when she joins us for Mozart’s birthday,”

The 2018-19 season will open in mid-September and run through mid-May. All programs except MOB's annual holiday concerts will be performed twice—at both the Harris Theater for Music and Dance in downtown Chicago and the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie. The schedule includes two Saturday night performances at the Harris Theater and continues the matinee series at the North Shore Center.

Four performances of the holiday concerts, which this year features the theme “Baroque Christmas Around the World,” will be heard at traditional church venues in Chicago, River Forest, and Northbrook.

Executive Director Declan McGovern commented, “This new season opens doors to new audiences, but also ensures that our regular audience makes new discoveries. It’s hard to believe that after five decades, there are still composers from the Baroque period that are fresh to the Music of the Baroque stage – Harry Bicket will certainly open ears in his Grand Tour program. I’m delighted to see Music Director Jane Glover reunite with the great Canadian pianist Angela Hewitt in our annual celebration of Mozart’s birthday, and I know they will be a formidable pairing. Our concertmaster Gina DiBello will perform Vivaldi’s effervescent *Four Seasons* in an

intriguing program that principal guest conductor Nicholas Kraemer has put together, merging the seasons with music about nature and water – the fuel and rhythm of life itself. We will also have some surprises throughout the year as we strive to share this glorious period of music with an ever-growing audience.”

Amanda Majeski and Eric Owens headline season-opening Requiem; Jane Glover leads Bach’s Christmas Oratorio in November

Music of the Baroque's 2018-19 concert season opens in September with performances of **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s unparalleled Requiem**. Left unfinished at the composer’s death and immortalized in the stage play and movie *Amadeus*, the Requiem holds a special place in listeners’ hearts. Music Director Jane Glover leads our orchestra, chorus, and a roster of high-level soloists, including opera superstars Amanda Majeski and Eric Owens. In conjunction with the September release of Jane Glover’s new book, *Handel in London*, three of **Handel’s Coronation Anthems** will also be heard. Performances take place Saturday evening, September 15, at the Harris Theater, and Sunday afternoon, September 16, at the North Shore Center.

In the first of two appearances, Principal Guest Conductor **Nicholas Kraemer** leads the Music of the Baroque Orchestra in Vivaldi’s iconic **Four Seasons**, featuring concertmaster Gina DiBello as soloist. The program also features Telemann’s rarely heard *Wassermusik* and a suite of dances from Rameau’s *Platée*. Performances take place Sunday evening, November 4, at the North Shore Center, and Monday evening, November 5, at the Harris Theater.

Jane Glover returns at the end of November to direct Bach’s **Christmas Oratorio**, featuring the return of several of Music of the Baroque’s favorite soloists: soprano Yulia Van Doren, Ryan Opera Center alumna Elizabeth DeShong, and tenor Thomas Cooley. Baritone Tyler Duncan, a frequent soloist with Tafelmusik and other early music ensembles, will make his Music of the Baroque debut. Performances are

Sunday evening, November 25, at the North Shore Center, and Monday evening, November 26, at the Harris Theater.

Four performances of Music of the Baroque's **traditional Holiday Brass and Choral Concerts** follow in mid-December. Chorus Director William Jon Gray will lead the Music of the Baroque Chorus and eight-part brass ensemble in a themed program, "Baroque Christmas Around the World," featuring music from Italy, Germany, France, England, Russia, Mexico, and the United States. Concerts take place Thursday evening, December 13, at Grace Lutheran Church in River Forest; Friday evening, December 14, at St. Michael's Church in Chicago; and at Divine Word Chapel in Northbrook on Saturday afternoon, December 15, and Sunday afternoon, December 16.

The New Year begins with internationally renowned pianist Angela Hewitt; continues with guest conductor Harry Bicket

Music of the Baroque's 2018-19 concert season continues as Mozart authority Jane Glover leads a Mozart orchestral program in honor of the composer's 263rd birthday. Internationally renowned pianist **Angela Hewitt**, particularly acclaimed for her performances of Bach and Mozart, joins the orchestra for **Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 27**. Also on the program is Mozart's unique wind symphony, the "Gran Partita." Concerts are Saturday evening, January 26, at the Harris Theater, and Sunday evening, January 27, at the North Shore Center.

In March, Baroque music expert and artistic director of The English Concert **Harry Bicket** traces the musical education of young 17th- and 18th-century noblemen in a concert called "**The Grand Tour**," featuring a concerto grosso from Corelli's famous op. 6 collection (Rome), a concerto grosso by Handel written during his time in London, music by Vivaldi (Venice) and Rameau (Paris), and the Music of the Baroque premiere of music by Evaristo Felice Dall'Abaco, a Veronese composer who worked most of his life in Munich. Performances take place Sunday afternoon, March 3, at the North Shore Center, and Wednesday evening, March 6, at the Harris Theater.

Joëlle Harvey makes her Music of the Baroque debut in April

Rising young soprano **Joëlle Harvey**, who performed this season with The English Concert, New York Philharmonic, and Handel & Haydn Society, among others, and returns to the Glyndebourne Festival in the summer of 2018 for her role debut as Cleopatra in Sir David McVicar's iconic production of Handel's *Giulio Cesare*, joins Music of the Baroque for Bach's **Coffee Cantata**. Jane Glover leads the cantata plus Bach's Orchestral Suite No. 2 and Haydn's *Fire* and *Philosopher* symphonies in the whimsically titled "Hot Coffee." Performances take place Sunday afternoon, March 31, at the North Shore Center, and Monday evening, April 1, at the Harris Theater.

Season closes with Handel and Purcell

The 2018-19 concert season closes with Principal Guest Conductor Nicholas Kraemer at the podium for "**Pulpit and Playhouse**," dramatically inspired music composed for sacred and secular contexts. The program includes Handel's thrilling Dixit Dominus and Bach's impassioned Cantata 131, with featured soloists Sherezade Panthaki, Veronique Filloux, Reginald Mobley, and Christopher Edwards. Excerpts from **Henry Purcell's semi-opera *The Fairy Queen*** will also be heard. Concerts are Sunday evening, May 12, at the North Shore Center, and Monday evening, May 13, at the Harris Theater.

Subscriptions now on sale

Subscriptions for the 2018-19 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 July 16.

A complete listing of 2018-19 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
2018-19 CONCERT SEASON**

COMPLETE PROGRAM LISTING

PROGRAM #1 MOZART REQUIEM

Saturday, September 15, 7:30 pm

Harris Theater, Chicago

Sunday, September 16, 3:00 pm

North Shore Center, Skokie

HANDEL Coronation Anthems 1, 4, and 3

MOZART Requiem

Music of the Baroque Chorus and Orchestra

Jane Glover, conductor

Amanda Majeski, soprano

Daniela Mack, mezzo-soprano

Jonas Hacker, tenor

Eric Owens, baritone

PROGRAM #2 THE FOUR SEASONS

Sunday, November 4, 7:30 pm

North Shore Center, Skokie

Monday, November 5, 7:30 pm

Harris Theater, Chicago

VIVALDI *The Four Seasons*

TELEMANN *Wassermusik*

RAMEAU Suite from *Platée*

Music of the Baroque Orchestra

Nicholas Kraemer, conductor

Gina DiBello, violin

PROGRAM #3 THE CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

Sunday, November 25, 7:30 pm

North Shore Center, Skokie

Monday, November 26, 7:30 pm

Harris Theater, Chicago

BACH Christmas Oratorio

Music of the Baroque Chorus and Orchestra

Jane Glover, conductor

Yulia Van Doren, soprano

Elizabeth DeShong, mezzo-soprano

Thomas Cooley, tenor

Tyler Duncan, baritone

PROGRAM #4 HOLIDAY BRASS & CHORAL CONCERTS

Thursday, December 13, 8:00 pm

Grace Lutheran Church, River Forest

Friday, December 14, 8:00 pm

St. Michael's Church, Chicago

Saturday, December 15, 3:00 pm

Sunday, December 16, 3:00 pm

Divine Word Chapel, Northbrook

A Baroque Christmas Around The World: the Nativity Story told through chant, motets, dialogues, psalms, instrumental dances, and traditional carols from Italy, France, Germany, England, Spain, Russia, and the United States.

Music of the Baroque Chorus and Brass Ensemble

William Jon Gray, conductor

- The program includes music by familiar composers like Monteverdi, Schutz, and Sweelinck as well as music from Russian composer Dmitry Bortniansky and more

PROGRAM #5 HEWITT PLAYS MOZART

Saturday, January 26, 7:30 pm

Harris Theater, Chicago

Sunday, January 27, 7:30 pm

North Shore Center, Skokie

MOZART Piano Concerto No. 27 in B-flat Major
 Serenade No. 10 in B-flat Major (*Gran Partita*)

Music of the Baroque Orchestra
 Jane Glover, conductor
 Angela Hewitt, piano

PROGRAM #6 THE GRAND TOUR

Sunday, March 3, 3:00 pm

North Shore Center, Skokie

Wednesday, March 6, 7:30 pm

Harris Theater, Chicago

HANDEL	Concerto grosso, op. 3, no. 2
CORELLI	Concerto grosso, op. 6, no. 4
VIVALDI/GEMINIANI	<i>La folia</i>
DALL'ABACO	Concerto in D Major, op. 5, no. 6
RAMEAU	Suite from <i>Les Boreades</i>

Music of the Baroque Orchestra
 Harry Bicket, conductor

PROGRAM #7 HOT COFFEE—BACH AND HAYDN

Sunday, March 31, 3:00pm

North Shore Center, Skokie

Monday, April 1, 7:30 pm

Harris Theater, Chicago

HAYDN Symphony No. 59 in A Major (*Fire*)

BACH Orchestral Suite No. 2

HAYDN Symphony No. 22 in E-flat Major (*The Philosopher*)

BACH *Coffee Cantata*

Music of the Baroque Orchestra

Jane Glover, conductor

Joëlle Harvey, soprano

PROGRAM #8 PULPIT AND PLAYHOUSE—BACH, HANDEL, PURCELL

Sunday, May 12, 7:30 pm

North Shore Center, Skokie

Monday, May 13, 7:30 pm

Harris Theater, Chicago

BACH Cantata 131, “Aus der Tiefen rufe ich, Herr, zu dir”

PURCELL Excerpts from *The Fairy Queen*

ALBINONI Concerto in G for 2 oboes and strings, op. 9, no. 6

HANDEL Dixit Dominus

Music of the Baroque Chorus and Orchestra

Nicholas Kraemer, conductor

Sherezade Panthaki, soprano

Veronique Filloux, soprano
Reginald Mobley, countertenor
Thomas Cooley, tenor
Christopher Edwards, baritone