

BACH at NOON

Allentown Summer Series

A Gift of Music
& Spiritual
Refreshment

BACH together



Soloists

Julie Bosworth, soprano

Janna Critz, mezzo-soprano

Elizabeth Field, violin

Loretta O'Sullivan, cello

Greg Funfgeld, keyboards

Artistic Director & Conductor

August 11, 2020 – PROGRAM

Antonio Vivaldi (1678–1741)

Cello Sonata in A Minor, RV 43

Claudio Monteverdi (1567–1643)

Duet from the *Vespers of 1610* –

No. 5, “Pulchra Es”

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Aria from Cantata 120 – “Heil und Segen”

George Frideric Handel (1685–1759)

Violin Sonata in D Major, Opus 1, No. 13

– Interview with the musicians –

Johann Sebastian Bach

Aria from Cantata 132 –

“Christi Glieder, ach, bedenket”

Duet from Cantata 78 – “Wir eilen”



Second Tuesdays

Next Bach Together

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Recorded LIVE!

Watch the concerts on our
YouTube channel or facebook page



The August *Bach at Noon* is supported in part by a generous endowment gift from The Reverend Ronald R. Miller, Ph.D. in memory and celebration of the life and work of Maestro James A. Simms.

TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

German translations by H. Ellis Finger

Antonio Vivaldi | *Cello Sonata in A Minor, RV 43*

Largo – Allegro – Largo – Allegro

(Noelle Casella Grand, continuo cello)

Claudio Monteverdi | Duet from the *Vespers of 1610* – No. 5 “*Pulchra Es*”

Pulchra es, amica mea,
suavis et decora filia Jerusalem.
Pulchra es, amica mea, suavis et decora sicut Jerusalem,
terribilis ut castrorum acies ordinata.
Averte oculos tuos a me, quia ipsi me avolare fecerunt.

*Thou art beautiful, my love,
a sweet and comely daughter of Jerusalem.
Thou art beautiful, my love, sweet and comely as Jerusalem,
terrible as an army arrayed for battle.
Turn thine eyes from me, for they make me flee away.*

Johann Sebastian Bach | Aria from Cantata 120 – “*Heil und Segen*”

Heil und Segen
soll und muss zu aller Zeit
sich auf unsre Obrigkeit
in erwünschter Fülle legen,
dass sich Recht und Treue müssen
miteinander freundlich küssen.

*Strength and blessing
must and shall at every moment
be laid upon our government
in desired abundance,
so that justice and allegiance shall
join together in loving embrace.*

George Friderich Handel | *Violin Sonata in D Major, Opus 1, No. 13*

Affettuoso – Allegro – Larghetto – Allegro

Johann Sebastian Bach | Aria from Cantata 132 – “*Christi Glieder, ach, bedenket*”

Christi Glieder, ach bedenket,
was der Heiland euch geschenkt
durch der Taufe reines Bad!
Bei der Blut- und Wasserquelle
werden eure Kleider helle,
die befleckt von Missetat.
Christus gab zum neuen Kleide
roten Purpur, weisse Seide,
diese sind der Christen Staat.

*Members of the body of Christ, ponder
what the Savior bestowed unto you
through the purifying bath of Baptism!
With the fountains of blood and water
your garments will become cleansed,
which were soiled through sin.
Christ gave as a new garment
crimson robes, white silk,
these are the Christians' domain.*

Johann Sebastian Bach | Duet from Cantata 78 – “*Wir eilen*”

Wir eilen mit schwachen, doch emsigen Schritten,
O Jesu, o Meister, zu helfen zu dir.
Du suchest die Kranken und Irrenden treulich.
Ach höre, wie wir
die Stimme erheben, um Hülfe zu bitten!
Es sei uns dein gnädiges Antlitz erfreulich!

*We race with weak but eager strides,
o Jesus, o Master, to you for help.
You faithfully seek out the ill and the misguided.
O hear us as we
raise our voices to ask for help!
May your merciful countenance be joyful to us!*

SOLOISTS

Julie Bosworth, Soprano: From medieval cantigas to newly composed works, Julie Bosworth revels in versatile performance practice. In June, Julie finished recording her second album with The Broken Consort, singing original works by Emily Lau. She has been featured on live radio broadcasts by NPR, All Classical Portland, WBJC and WYPR in Baltimore, and WGBH Boston. On the operatic stage, Julie has performed with American Opera Theater, Raylynmor Opera, Opera AACC, and Peabody Opera Theater, singing such roles as Queen of the Night (*The Magic Flute*), Cleopatra (*Giulio Cesare*), Belinda (*Dido and Aeneas*), Blanche de la Force (*Dialogues of the Carmelites*), and the title role in *L'incoronazione di Poppea*. Equally at home on the concert stage, she has appeared as a soloist with American Bach Soloists, Tempesta di Mare, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, the Indianapolis Early Music Festival, Mountainside Baroque, the Tucson Desert Song Festival, Baltimore Choral Arts Society, and The Bach Choir of Bethlehem. Julie is a core member of the critically acclaimed chamber group The Broken Consort, an exuberant and experimental medieval and new music ensemble. Furthermore, she has sung extensively with The Peabody Consort, Hesperus, Third Practice, Les Canards Chantants, The Bridge Ensemble, The New Consort, and Zenith Ensemble. Julie holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Millikin University and a Master of Music degree in Voice Performance and Early Music from The Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University. She is a chorister at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., and resides in Baltimore.

Janna Critz, Mezzo-Soprano, has been acclaimed for having "summoned up sonorities that were rich, warm, dark, and comforting" (*San Francisco Examiner*) and for her "elegance of technique" and "vivid vocalism" (*Baltimore Sun*). Ms. Critz is a rising artist within the early music, operatic, and concert arena. With her specialization in Baroque repertoire, Ms. Critz has been recognized for her versatility of style and subtle nuance. One of four recipients of the 2015 Carmel Bach Festival Virginia Best Adams Fellowship, and winner of the 2014 biennial Bethlehem Bach Vocal Competition, Critz has already begun to establish her skill in Baroque performance practice. In January of 2014 she founded Bel pianto, a Baroque ensemble that presents Italian, French, and German vocal music from the early 17th- to mid-18th centuries. For two consecutive years, Critz has been a featured soloist with the American Bach Soloists Festival and Academy performing works such as J. S. Bach's *Mass in B Minor*, Alessandro Scarlatti's *Marc'Antonio e Cleopatra*, and Heinrich Biber's *Missa Salisburgensis*. Most recent performances include the Vivaldi *Magnificat*, The Sorceress from Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, and selected works by Claudio Monteverdi featuring *Lamento della Ninfa* and *Presso un fiume tranquillo*. In 2013 Critz made her solo debut with the Richmond Symphony Orchestra in their production of Mozart's *Requiem*, and in 2012 was the alto soloist for *Voices of Light*, a modern oratorio, by Richard Einhorn with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Marin Alsop. Critz will be joining The Bach Choir of Bethlehem as a soloist on their European tour including a performance at Bachfest in Leipzig, Germany in June, 2021.

Elizabeth Field, Violin, has served as concert master of The Bach Choir of Bethlehem since 2001. She enjoys an active career as a chamber musician and soloist on period and modern instruments. She has served as guest concertmaster of the Washington Bach Consort, National Philharmonic, Opera Lafayette, and Choral Arts Society. Ms. Field founded the period instrument group, the Vivaldi Project in 2007 and directs the Modern Early Music Institute (historical performance practice for modern players). She also plays with numerous chamber groups, including Hesperus, Harmonious Blacksmith, and the Four Nations Ensemble, as well as with her mixed modern and period instrument chamber group, ArcoVoce. A former member of Brandywine Baroque, Ms. Field was also a founding member of the Van Swieten Quartet. As a Baroque violinist, she has recorded for the Hungaroton, Naxos, and Dorian labels. Ms. Field collaborated on a DVD with fortepianist Malcolm Bilson, exploring the historical performance practice of 18th-century violin and piano repertoire. As a modern violinist, she performs frequently with the Washington National Opera and, along with her husband, Uri Wassertzug, is a member of the Novella Chamber Players. Ms. Field studied modern training violin performance with Oscar Shumsky and Joseph Silverstein. From 1982-1991, she performed and recorded for Deutsche Grammophon with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and also performed with leading New York ensembles such as the St. Luke's Ensemble, Brooklyn Philharmonic and New York City Opera. In 2015, she was the Alan and Wendy Pesky Artist-in-Residence at Lafayette College in Easton.

Loretta O'Sullivan, Cello, "an agile, eloquent player" (*New York Times*) has played with many of this country's leading ensembles and orchestras. On period instruments these include the Four Nations Ensemble, Opera Lafayette, Alberfoyle Baroque, Clarion Music Society, Aston Magna, the Haydn Baryton Trio, the Washington Bach Consort, Helicon, and Trinity Baroque Orchestra. In concert and recording, she has given memorable performances of Bach, Biber, and Britten for solo cello, concertos of Vivaldi and Porpora, obbligato cello arias of Bach, Caldara and Handel, and chamber music of classical and romantic composers. Most recently, she recorded the complete Op. 5 sonatas of Francesco Geminiani with the Four Nations Ensemble for Orchid Classics, as well as Pietro Locatelli *Sonata in A Major for Violin and Obbligato Cello*, and Joseph Bodin de Boismortier *Cello Sonata in G Major* for the ensemble's Concise Dictionary of Music. As principal cellist of Opera Lafayette, she has performed at the Kennedy Center and the Rose Theater in New York City, and recorded for Naxos. Her work on modern instruments in period style includes principal cello with The Bach Choir of Bethlehem. She frequently plays with the Orchestra of St. Luke's in New York City.

THE BACH CHOIR OF BETHLEHEM

THE OLDEST AMERICAN BACH CHOIR, The Bach Choir of Bethlehem gave the first complete American performances of Bach's *Mass in B Minor* in 1900 and *Christmas Oratorio* in 1901. Since its founding in 1898, the now-famous Choir has been attracting thousands of visitors from across the United States and beyond to the annual Bethlehem Bach Festival in Pennsylvania. Since 1983, under Greg Funfgeld's direction, the 85 dedicated volunteer singers of The Bach Choir of Bethlehem, performing with the Bach Festival Orchestra and distinguished soloists, have received international acclaim. Programming has expanded to 40 concerts and educational programs per year for an audience of more than 22,000. Venues have included the Herkulesaal at Munich's Royal Residence and the Thomaskirche, Bach's church in Leipzig, as part of the 1995 Germany tour; The Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall as part of The Choir's Centennial Celebration in 1998-2000; the BBC Proms in London's Royal Albert Hall as part of an eight-concert tour of the United Kingdom in 2003; and Severance Hall, Cleveland, for the 75th anniversary of the Baldwin-Wallace Bach Festival in 2007. In September 2011, The Bach Choir represented the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in a 10th anniversary musical observance of 9/11 in New York City, giving concerts in Saint Paul's Chapel and Trinity Church, Wall Street. In 2013, The Choir performed Mendelssohn's *Elijah* at Strathmore in the Washington D.C. area, and in 2014, the new opera *Young Meister Bach* for the 250th anniversary of the German Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. In June 2021, The Bach Choir will be featured in a performance in the Thomaskirche, as part of Leipzig's famous Bachfest, with additional concerts in Dresden, Herrnhut, and Prague.

The Choir has released 11 recordings on the Dorian and Analekta labels including most recently *Saint John Passion* (2012), *A Child's Christmas in Bethlehem* (2013), *Bach's Cantata 21* (2018), and *Handel's Ode for Saint Cecilia's Day* (2018). The Choir has been featured on National Public Radio's Performance Today and Prairie Home Companion, Deutsche Radio, the BBC World Service, CBS Sunday Morning, and the Emmy award-winning PBS documentary on The Choir, *Make a Joyful Noise*. The Choir has been recognized for its outstanding educational outreach programs (*Bach at Noon*, *Bach to School*, and interdisciplinary Family Concerts) by annual awards from the National Endowment for the Arts (2011-2019). The J.S. Bach Foundation in Switzerland named The Bach Choir of Bethlehem as the first American recipient of its annual award to a single Bach organization, recognizing The Bach Choir's outstanding work in Bach performance and education for young people (2012). *Mr. Bach Comes to Call*, a film based on the acclaimed Classical Kids CD, was co-produced by The Bach Choir of Bethlehem and is distributed internationally by the Children's Group. In July 2018, our affiliated Bel Canto Youth Chorus, currently celebrating its 27th year under the direction of founder Joy Hirokawa, officially merged with The Bach Choir of Bethlehem. Both organizations are looking to increase their impact in training the next generation of choral singers and cultivating a life-long passion for the choral arts. **For more information visit The Bach Choir's website - BACH.org.**

Concerts presented VIRTUALLY on YouTube and Facebook!

BACH
together

Mozart

Bach

BACH at NOON
Tuesday, September 8

Duo No. 2 in B-flat Major, KV 424
- Elizabeth Field, violin; Uri Wassertzug, viola

Cantata 51 – Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen
- Sherezade Panthaki, soprano; Rob Skoniczin, trumpet

Bach's music returns to Bethlehem! All new concerts, presented virtually - all recorded live at Central Moravian Church. Join us on YouTube and Facebook!

A Season of Grace Gifts & Abundance

Bach at Noon ■ **Second Tuesdays 12:10-1pm**

Central Moravian Church ■ Historic Downtown Bethlehem, PA

Fall concerts presented **virtually online; no audience present.**

2020 – September 8, October 13, November 10  

2021 – January 12, February 9, March 9, April 13

St. John's Lutheran Church ■ Downtown Allentown, PA

2021 - June 8, July 13, August 10

Virtual Christmas Concert ■ **Opening Up Our Hearts – Music and Inspiration of Christmas**

Featuring members of The Bach Choir of Bethlehem,
Bach Festival Orchestra and The Bel Canto Youth Chorus
Sunday December 13, 2020 at 4pm • Details to follow

Greg Funfgeld Family Concert ■ **Including Benjamin Britten – Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra**

Sunday, February 28, 2021 at 3 pm ■ Zoellner Arts Center

Choral Workshop & Performance ■ **Bel Canto Youth Chorus**

March, 2020

Spring Concert ■ **Durufié – Requiem and Handel – Messiah, Part Two**

Sunday March 21, 2021 at 4:00 pm ■ First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

Spring Concert ■ **Bel Canto Youth Chorus**

Saturday May 1, 2021

113th Bach Festival

May 14-15 & May 21-22, 2021



2020-2021
SEASON

GALA EVENT UPDATE

Due to Covid 19, the Gala event with Yo-Yo Ma scheduled for October 16 is in the process of being re-scheduled, with a new date to be announced.



**ENCORE!!
REPLAY!!**
Watch anytime
on our YouTube
channel!



BACH
together



The Bach Choir of Bethlehem gratefully acknowledges our *Bach at Noon* corporate & foundation sponsors.



Jephson Educational Trust

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THE CENTURY FUND



The Bach Choir is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and The Pennsylvania Council on the Arts



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Allentown was founded in 1855 as the first English-speaking Lutheran church in the predominantly immigrant German city. This forward-looking spirit has marked the history of the congregation. The current eighty-foot high cathedral was constructed amid the Great Depression in the 1930s following a unanimous decision by the congregation "to perpetuate its mission in the present location, believing that the voice of the Gospel is needed in the heart of every great city." With the conviction that beauty inspires meaningful worship, the architecture and the entire undertaking blended the religious and the aesthetic. The stained-glass windows, for example, are the creation of Nichola D'Ascenzo whose work is also displayed at the National Cathedral in Washington DC and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in NYC. Matching the visual splendor of the church has been its long tradition of excellent music. The 5000-pipe Ernest M. Skinner organ with 4 manuals and more than 80 stops is one of the most outstanding instruments in the region. The Arts at St. John's, in its 30th year, is pleased to host as part of its series The Bach Choir of Bethlehem.

For further information about The Bach Choir of Bethlehem:

- Visit Bach.org for upcoming concert and ticket information, to join our mailing list or to order CDs and other Bach Choir merchandise.
- Consider becoming a Guarantor with The Choir: learn more at the website or by calling 610-866-4382 extension 113
- Follow us on facebook and twitter    

Free-will offerings to help support *Bach at Noon*.

Please donate online at BACH.org or send your contribution to:
The Bach Choir of Bethlehem
440 Heckewelder Place • Bethlehem, PA 18018

Bach at Noon Broadcast

Bach at Noon concerts will be broadcast on WWFM, a long-time media sponsor. This year's broadcasts are made possible by the generous support of John L. and Carol Daniel, Edith Lauderdale, Arthur Mead Martin and Anthony R. Thompson and Vickie Ziegler Thompson.

Watch for broadcast dates on our website.

Bach at Noon 2020-2021 Bethlehem Schedule

2020	2021
September 8	January 12
October 13	February 9
November 10	March 9
	April 13



Special thanks to:

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Bradley T. Carroll, Pastor
Eric G. Gombert, Cantor
David Umla, Chairperson,
Arts at St. John's

John C. Baker, audio engineer
Bill George, videographer

The Guarantors of The Bach Choir for their continuing support.

Bach at Noon Together Allentown 2021:

June 8 July 13 August 10

610-866-4382 | BACH.org