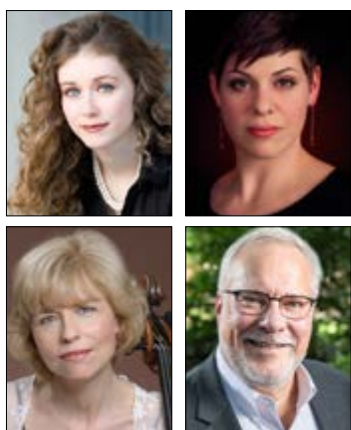


BACH at NOON

Allentown Summer Series

A Gift of Music
& Spiritual
Refreshment

BACH together



Soloists

Nola Richardson, soprano

Janna Critz, mezzo-soprano

Loretta O'Sullivan, cello

Greg Funfgeld, Artistic Director & Conductor

June 15, 2021 – PROGRAM

– Interview with Loretta O'Sullivan –

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
Second Suite for Unaccompanied Cello, BWV 1008
–Loretta O'Sullivan, cello

– Interview with Nola Richardson & Janna Critz –

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi (1710–1736)
Duets from *Stabat Mater*, No. 1 “Stabat mater dolorosa”
No. 3. “O quam tristis et afflicta”
No. 11 “Inflammatum et accensus”

Johann Sebastian Bach

- Aria from Cantata 80, No. 4 “Komm in mein Herzenshaus”
 - Aria from the *Magnificat* BWV 243, No. 9
“Esurientes implevit bonis”
- Susan Charlton & Christine Moulton, flutes

Antonio Vivaldi (1678–1741)

Duet from the *Gloria*, RV 589, No. 3 “Laudamus te”



Second Tuesdays

Next Bach Together
Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Concerts recorded
LIVE all Summer!

On The Bach Choir's YouTube channel



The June *Bach at Noon* is named in honor of Dorothy Hess Baker & her mother, Elizabeth Leith Hess, both former members of The Bach Choir of Bethlehem. The concert and the participation of featured soprano and alto soloists are made possible in part by a generous legacy gift from the Dexter F. and Dorothy H. Baker Foundation.

Johann Sebastian Bach | *Second Suite for Unaccompanied Cello, BWV 1008*

Prelude – Allemande – Courante – Sarabande – Menuet I – Menuet II – Gigue

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi | Duets from *Stabat Mater*, No. 1, 3 & 11

Stabat Mater dolorosa
juxta crucem lacrimosa,
dum pendebat Filius.

*A sorrowing mother stood
weeping beside the cross
while her son hung there.*

O quam tristis et afflicta
fuit illa benedicta,
Mater unigeniti!

*Oh, how sad and unfortunate
was that blessed mother
of an only son!*

Inflammatum et accensus
per te, Virgo, sim defensus
in die judicii.

*Though I burn and am aflame,
may I be defended by thee, O Virgin,
at the day of judgement.*

Fac me cruce custodiri,
morte Christi praemuniri
confoveri gratia.

*Let me be protected by the cross,
strengthened by the death of Christ,
thankful in his love.*

Johann Sebastian Bach | *Aria from the Cantata 80, No. 4*

Translation by H. Ellis Finger

Komm in mein Herzenshaus,
Herr Jesu, mein Verlangen!
Treib Welt und Satan aus,
und lass dein Bild in mir erneuert prangen.
Weg, schnöder Sündengraus!

*Come into the chambers of my heart,
Lord Jesus, my longing!
Drive out world and Satan,
and let your image, renewed, shine radiantly within me.
Be gone, repulsive monster of sin!*

Aria from the Magnificat, BWV 243, No.9

Translation by the Rt. Rev. Paul V. Marshall, Th.D., Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem

Esurientes implevit bonis et divites dimisit inanes.

*He has filled the hungry with good things and has sent
the rich away empty.*

Antonio Vivaldi | *Duet from the Gloria, RV 589, No.3*

Translation by the Rt. Rev. Paul V. Marshall, Th.D.

Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te.

*We praise you, we bless you,
we worship you, we glorify you.*

Nola Richardson, Soprano is making her mark as an “especially impressive” (*New York Times*) soprano. An Australian by birth, she has spent most of her life in the United States and was the 2016 winner of The Bach Choir of Bethlehem/American Bach Society Young American Singer Competition and a Carmel Bach Festival Virginia Best Adams Fellow in 2019. She has been praised for her “astounding balance and accuracy,” “crystalline diction,” and “natural-sounding ease” (*Washington Post*). Ms. Richardson’s wide repertoire spans from music of the medieval period to several world premieres, and she performs frequently throughout the United States. Some highlights of recent seasons include her debut with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra performing Bach’s Cantata 51 and Scarlatti’s *Su le Sponde del Tebro*; soloist with the Boston Pops under Keith Lockhart in “Simply Sondheim”; Handel’s *Messiah* with the Colorado Symphony; a tour to Russia, Estonia, and Latvia as soloist in Arvo Pärt’s *Passio* with the Yale Schola Cantorum; the premiere of Michael Gandolfi’s *Carroll in Numberland* (alongside soprano Dawn Upshaw) at Tanglewood; and the First Lady in Clarion Music Society’s production of *Die Zauberflöte*. Ms. Richardson’s 2018–19 season featured her debuts with Opera Lafayette, The English Concert, The Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado, and Musica Sacra. 2019–20 included “Baroque Spectacular” with the Voices of Ascension (NY), Faure’s *Requiem* and Mozart’s *Coronation Mass* with the Monmouth Civic Chorale (NY); and *The Well-Caffeinated Clavier* with the Philharmonic Baroque Orchestra, San Francisco.

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.

Loretta O’Sullivan, Cello, has been acclaimed for her “scrupulous musicianship...gorgeous sound and stylistic acuity” (*Washington Post*), and is known for her incandescent presence. She is engaged in an international career of broad scope including performances at Carnegie Hall, Royal Albert Hall, Gewandhaus, La Fenice, the Kennedy Center, and Strathmore. Highlights include performances of Handel’s *Messiah* with the Rogue Symphony Orchestra; Rameau opera with Opera Lafayette in Washington D.C. and Met Museum New York City; Bach’s *Saint John Passion* at Strathmore; French baroque cantatas in Philadelphia with Tempesta di Mare; live film scores for Hollywood’s silent movies for Early Music Columbus; and with her newest venture, OpenPage Ensemble, commissioning and performing works of 20th- and 21st-century composers. Her orchestral credits include the Atlanta, Dallas, and Cincinnati Symphony Orchestras, the Smithsonian Chamber Orchestra, and the National Philharmonic.

Watch Us Sing!



Virtual Premiere: Tuesday, June 22nd at 7pm

A story of survival, endurance, resilience, strength, dignity, bravery, and hope.

Register for the premiere: bach.org/belcanto

Please support the expenses for the film production through your donations – Bach.org/youth-donations/. Thank you!

THE BACH CHOIR OF BETHLEHEM



Christmas Concert recording in Nazareth, PA 2020.

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.

The Choir has released 11 recordings on the Dorian and Analekta labels including most recently *Bach's Cantata 21* (2018), *Handel's Ode for Saint Cecilia's Day* (2018), *A Child's Christmas in Bethlehem* (2013), and *Saint John Passion* (2012). 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*. It 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 (2011-2020). 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](http://TheBachChoir.org).

Our June *Bach at Noon* Donation Challenge from Helen Tilgner

"I am hoping others will give a gift to help The Choir meet my \$1000 challenge, in support of this wonderful concert. I ran across The Bach Choir of Bethlehem website quite by accident earlier this year & was captivated by the *Bach at Noon* concerts & the *Moment of Comfort*. Listening to Dashon Burton perform in the *March* concert was like spending time with an old friend. I first heard him sing at a *Messiah* concert in December 2012 & remember being mesmerized by his exquisite voice. His ability to deliver the feelings behind the music he sings is simply brilliant. I'm grateful The Bach Choir of Bethlehem is offering these concerts online, bringing comfort to all who attend. What a wonderful outreach in this difficult time! I've never had the pleasure of attending a live Bach Choir of Bethlehem concert & look forward to the day when that becomes possible."

This month, every *Bach at Noon* contribution we receive will be matched, up to \$1000!

Please consider joining Helen Tilgner and make a donation to share your appreciation of our *Bach at Noon* concerts. **Give by phone!** Text BNOON to 44-321 or online at bach.org/general-donations.



2021-2022 SEASON

With great anticipation, we look forward to all the beautiful concerts to come!

Throughout the year, we will celebrate and honor Greg Funfgeld, as he presents his final season as Artistic Director & Conductor of The Choir. Our community will reconnect with great joy, and experience the inspiration and comfort found in Bach's music like never before. Join us!

Bach at Noon Second Tuesdays | 12:10 – 1 PM

- Saint John's Lutheran Church, Downtown Allentown, PA
2021 June 8 | July 13 | August 10
- Central Moravian Church, Historic Downtown Bethlehem, PA
2021 September 14 | October 12 | November 9
2022 January 11 | February 8 | March 8 | April 12

Christmas Concerts *Bach Christmas Oratorio* Parts 1, 2 & 3

- Saturday December 11, 2021 at 8pm | First Presbyterian Church of Allentown
- Sunday December 12, 2021 at 4pm | First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

Greg Funfgeld Family Concert *Dancing with Bach*

A Bach Choir collaboration with the Dance Department of Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts

- Sunday February 27, 2022 at 3pm | Zoellner Arts Center, Lehigh University

Spring Concert *Durufle Requiem* | *Handel Messiah Part Two*

- Sunday March 27, 2022 at 4pm | First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

GALA Save the Date!

A very special Gala announcement coming this summer!

- April 30, 2022 at 8pm | Central Moravian Church, Bethlehem, PA

114th Bethlehem Bach Festival

- May 13-14 & May 20-21, 2022 | Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

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



Jephson Educational Trust

Keystone Savings Foundation

Presser Foundation



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 31st 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, Twitter and Instagram.   
Watch us on YouTube. 

Thank you to Helen Tilgner for this month's Challenge Gift. Will you help us reach it? Your free will contributions support The Choir's Community programs like *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
- To donate by phone, text BNOON to 44-321.

Bach at Noon Broadcast

Bach at Noon concerts are 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 and Arthur Mead Martin.

Broadcast dates are on our website.

Bach at Noon 2020-2021 Bethlehem Schedule

2021	2022
September 14	January 11
October 12	February 8
November 9	March 8
	April 12



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 15 July 13 August 10

610-866-4382 | BACH.org