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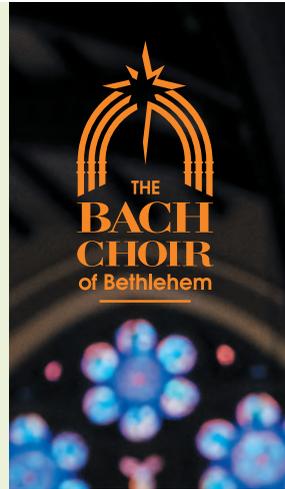
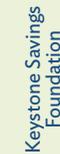
2022 BACH FESTIVAL

The Bach Choir of Bethlehem
440 Heckewelder Place
Bethlehem, PA 18018-5806



Ryan Hulvat

The Bach Choir gratefully acknowledges and thanks our sponsors. The Choir is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.



114th Bethlehem BACH FESTIVAL

May 13-14 & 20-21 • Lehigh University, Bethlehem

Bach is the beginning and end of all music.

- Max Reger



The Bach Choir of Bethlehem • Bach Festival Orchestra
GREG FUNFGELD, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

Dear Friends,



Ryan Hulvat



Ryan Hulvat

2022

114th Bethlehem Bach Festival

*A familiar journey for many;
an entirely new experience for others,
but certain to touch us all.*

You're invited to our 114th Festival, my 39th – and final – Festival as the sixth Artistic Director and Conductor of our beloved Bach Choir of Bethlehem and Bach Festival Orchestra. It is, as always, a banquet of musical richness, including Bach's monumental *Saint Matthew Passion* and *Mass in B Minor*, and Larry Lipkis' brilliant Chaconne Project, with incredibly gifted young musicians presenting their own variations on Bach's Chaconne. George Stauffer and Larry Lipkis will present engaging lectures and discussions about the music. Eliot Fisk, a cherished friend of our Festival and one of the world's greatest guitarists, is excited to play Luigi Boccherini's *Concerto in E Major* for you.

Our extraordinary soloists – Isaiah Bell, Meg Bragle, Dashon Burton, Bill Sharp, Benjamin Butterfield, Sherezade Panthaki, Dan Taylor, and Rosa Lamoreaux, will join the virtuosi of our Bach Festival Orchestra and our beloved Bach Choir. These hard-working and devoted artists give so much of themselves and wed love to artistry in the service of Bach.

Yes, this is my last Festival with you – and for that privilege I am deeply humbled and profoundly grateful. We have worked hard and been so fortunate for these 39 years and my cup of blessings overflows! I have the finest

colleagues in the world. The musicians who make up our Bach Choir Family are incredible human beings – so gifted, caring, brilliant, thoughtful, devoted. When I meet new artists or friends of The Choir, the first thing I say is “there are so many extraordinary people who are part of The Bach Choir!” – and I mean it from the bottom of my heart. I have been blessed to know them all!

At this Festival, I hope you will make a point to meet our new Executive Director, Leela Breithaupt, a wonderful and truly amazing soul. I admire her and think the world of her, and know you will too. Please offer her your warmest welcome and every encouragement in the important work she is doing!

The Bach Choir of Bethlehem is a tradition more than 120 years young! Join friends from around the country and around the world in celebrating the gift of Bach – as dynamic and inspiring now as ever! Be enriched and be part of this extraordinary community. I look forward to sharing my final Festival with you – and am grateful for your many years of support and encouragement. God bless and keep you all!

Ever grateful...

Welcome BACK!

Following a prolonged disruption that suspended our traditional Festival for two seasons, we are overjoyed to be back, as Artistic Director and Conductor Greg Funfgeld concludes his prodigious career with The Bach Choir. To celebrate almost four decades of Greg's leadership, we hope many of you will “come home” to offer him your warm wishes, and embrace this glorious music from J.S. Bach and other Baroque composers. Join us!

A Festival First: Live-streaming the *Mass in B Minor* 🎧

The end is a new beginning! As we close our 114th Festival, we'll open our performance to a world-wide audience! On Saturday, May 21, we'll live-stream the *Mass in B Minor* for the very first time, and share the glorious sounds inside Packer Church with Bach Choir patrons around the world!

Two towering choral masterpieces from Bach at our Festival: *Saint Matthew Passion* and *Mass in B Minor*.

610-866-4382 • BACH.org



Ryan Hulvat

"I have wanted to play the Boccherini/Cassado for years but the circumstances were never right. I heard Segovia play that work with Ormandy and the Philadelphia Orchestra in 1968 live in my hometown of Philadelphia... Like the voice of God."



A Bach Scholar, a Double Orchestra, Three Choirs, a Wealth of Soloists + Lively Dinner Discussion...
Festival Fridays, May 13 & 20



Hub Willson



Sherezade Panthaki



Rosa Lamoreaux



Daniel Taylor



Meg Bragle



Benjamin Butterfield



Isaiah Bell



William Sharp



Dashon Burton

Artist-in-Residence Eliot Fisk
 (Ifor Jones Chamber Music Concerts)

Eliot Fisk is known worldwide as a charismatic performer famed for his adventurous and virtuosic repertoire. After nearly 50 years before the public, he remains, as his mentor Andres Segovia once wrote, "at the top line of our artistic world." In the 2017-18 season Fisk performed his transcriptions of all six Bach *Cello Suites*. The classical guitar repertoire has been transformed through Fisk's innumerable transcriptions (including works by Bach, Scarlatti, Haydn, Mozart, Paganini, Schubert, Mendelssohn and many others). Following his own graduation in 1977, he founded the guitar department at the Yale School of Music. He is a Professor at the Universität Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, where he teaches in five languages. He is the Founder and Artistic Director of Boston GuitarFest (bostonguitarfest.org).

114th Festival Soloists

- Sherezade Panthaki, soprano
- Rosa Lamoreaux, soprano
- Daniel Taylor, counter-tenor (*Saint Matthew Passion*)
- Meg Bragle, alto (*Mass in B Minor*)
- Benjamin Butterfield, tenor (Evangelist, *Saint Matthew Passion*)
- Isaiah Bell, tenor
- William Sharp, baritone (*Jesus, Saint Matthew Passion*)
- Dashon Burton, bass-baritone



Matthew Blum



Stan Barough



• **2pm The Barnette Distinguished Scholar Lecture**
Dr. George Stauffer – *Great Expectations: Bach in Leipzig*

🚌 Room 145, Zoellner Arts Center, Lehigh University • FREE Lecture, no tickets required

It's a pleasure to welcome back Dr. Stauffer, Distinguished Professor of Music History and Dean Emeritus of the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University. Educated at Dartmouth College, Bryn Mawr College, and Columbia University, he is well known for his writings on the music and culture of the Baroque Era and the life and works of Johann Sebastian Bach, in particular. Professor Stauffer is presently at work on the volume *Why Bach Matters*, to be published by Yale University Press.

• **4pm Part 1 & 8pm Part 2 • *Saint Matthew Passion***

🚌 Packer Memorial Church, Lehigh University (single ticket; Part 1 & 2)

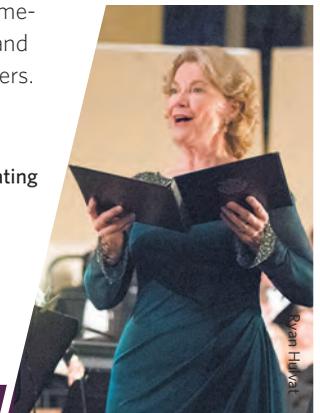
Friday's *Saint Matthew Passion* is cosmic and operatic in its scope, yet moments of stunning intimacy shock listeners with their equal power and beauty. From an opening chorus making use of all of the forces, with choirs crying back and forth in dialogue, while The Bel Canto Youth Chorus crowns the whole with the great chorale, "O Lamb of God," to the hovering trio of wind instruments accompanying a tearful soprano in the time-stopping aria, "Aus liebe," this work of extraordinary complexity and power goes straight from Bach's heart and mind to those of listeners.

• **5:45pm Dinner Discussion • Dr. Larry Lipkis**

🚌 Butz Lobby, Zoellner Arts Center • Registration required, limited seating

Dr. Lipkis is Professor of Music and Composer-in-Residence at Moravian University. Join us for dinner between Parts 1 & 2 of the *Saint Matthew Passion*. Delicious food & lively discussion!

🚌 Shuttle service is provided to and from these venues.



Ryan Hulse

Dona nobis pacem.
Give us Peace.

Roberta Testi



Ryan Hubert

Festival Saturdays, May 14 & 21

10:30am Ifor Jones Chamber Music Concert Bach Festival Orchestra & Eliot Fisk

🚌 Zoellner Arts Center, Lehigh University

- *Concerto in E Major for Guitar and Orchestra* by Luigi Boccherini
- Bach's *Trio Sonata No. 5 in C Major, BWV 529* with Charlotte Mattax Moersch
- Bach's Chaconne project: Selected and mentored by Dr. Larry Lipkis, talented young musicians will perform variations they have composed over the chord progressions heard in Bach's famous *Chaconne in D Minor*, played by the Bach Festival Orchestra.

12:30pm Festival Luncheon

🚌 Butz Lobby, Zoellner Arts Center • Tickets required, limited seating

Open to the public, the luncheon includes conversation with one of our Festival soloists. Members of the Heritage Society and Guarantors in the top 3 giving circles (\$750+) are our guests.

🚌 Shuttle service is provided to and from these venues.

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Photography on these pages by Theo Anderson, except where noted.



Festival Saturdays

2pm Bach Chorale Sing



What a moment we'll share as we gather to sing Bach Chorales together with Greg Funfgeld and members of The Choir, accompanied by Main Street Brass. On the lawn near Packer Church (indoors in inclement weather.)

2:30pm Part 1 & 4:30pm Part 2 *Mass in B Minor*

🚌 Packer Memorial Church, Lehigh University (single ticket; Part 1 & 2)
The Choir has performed Bach's magnificent *Mass in B Minor* for more than a century. Absent from Bethlehem for the past two years, we recognize more than ever before the treasure this tradition represents for so many. Some have missed the comfort and peace it offers from year to year; others will begin to embrace the power of the music for the first time as it fills Packer Church. This year's performances will be poignant for many reasons. **Join us for the final Festival with Conductor Funfgeld as he leads his beloved Choir and Orchestra in this monumental composition.**

📡 May 21 - option to view *Mass* via LIVE-STREAM