

# Washington Bach Consort 2023 ANNUAL REVIEW



2023 was a great year for the Bach Consort! Some of the most memorable moments include the release of our brand new recording featuring a commissioned work by award-winning composer Trevor Weston, multiple performances at The Music Center at Strath-

more, and our continued outreach and education efforts through Bach in Your Neighborhood and Bach to School. We couldn't do it without you. The Consort thrives thanks to your generosity and support!

Marc Eisenberg, Executive Director

## Annual Single Ticket Revenue \$174K \$128K \$114K \$90K FY20 FY24

YOUR SUPPORT will ensure we continue to reach and expand our audience and offer more professional, classical music experiences.

Our subscribers are as dedicated as ever, but like many performing arts groups across the nation, we have continued to experience a large decrease in single ticket buyers. **We** continue to depend on donations to help support our programs.

#### **MYTHS CONTESTED**

Because of your support, this is the Consort's first commercial recording in well over a decade! By the end of 2023, listeners on multiple platforms streamed Myths Contested over 5,000 times. Check out what reviewers are saying!





Authenticity, beautifully written music, a rare gem from Bach and some nicely turned modernity from Weston, to which I say bravo, bravo, bravo.

-Classical Modern Music



The Consort manages Bach's contrapuntal intricacies masterfully, and the orchestra shines... particularly through the virtuosic writing for wind instruments.

—The Whole Note



The excellent periodinstrument performance by the Washington Bach Consort thoroughly captures the colors and clever conceptual elements of

> the work. —Transcentury

#### SPECIAL EXPERIENCES

#### Sisters in Harmony



This free Bach in Your Neighbor**hood** program was performed at the Ft. Reno Concert Series in July 2023 and The

Parks at Walter Reed in August 2023 to hundreds of new audience members. The program highlighted works written or inspired by 17th-century women composers and showcased four outstanding Consort musicians: soprano Amy Broadbent, violinists Risa Browder and Leslie Nero, and cellist Amy Domingues.

#### Two Cathedrals: Baroque Splendor from Mexico City



In October 2023, the **Bach Consort and Ca**thedral Choral Society joined forces at Washington National Cathedral. This performance celebrated the extraordinary Baroque music that developed after Spanish conquistadors established Mexico City and built a European- style cathedral on top of an Aztec temple.

#### Performed Handel's Messiah in its entirety at Strathmore

The Consort performed this popular oratorio during Lent, as it was first heard in London. This performance was also featured in **WETA's Songs of the Season**, along with 19 other choral groups from DC, Maryland, and Virginia.

#### Performed a sold out performance of Bach's B Minor

Closed out the season with a dynamic performance of Bach's masterwork, featuring soloists Paulina Francisco, Elijah McCormack and many others.

#### Returned to Ft. Reno Concert Series for the first time since 2015

Amy Broadbent, Amy Domingues, Risa Browder, and Leslie Nero performed works written or inspired by female composers of the 17th century in contrast to the "traditional" punk rock lineup.

#### Named Presenting Partner for the Lillian & Maurice Barbash J.S. Bach Competition.

Devoted to promoting classical music, the Barbash competition winner violinist Emmanuel Coppey, will perform with the Bach Consort fall 2024.

Featured in
"Here they come
a-caroling" in the
Washington Post

In December 2023, Michael Broduer included the Consort in his review of holiday choral music, highlighting our "stellar trio – mezzo-soprano Sylvia Leith, soprano Amy Broadbent, and bass Dashon Burton."

#### **PLANNED GIVING**

We're proud to honor the members of the 1685 Society, those who have made a planned gift through a will, revocable trust, retirement plan, or life insurance policy. Thank you for your dedication and foresight in preserving the artistic and educational goals of the Consort that will allow future generations to experience the music of J.S. Bach.

#### 1685 Society List:

Betty J. Beard† Heidi Byrnes David P. & Margaret Condit Shannon & Jim Davis Susan Dillon Sharrill Dittmann Marilyn Wong Gleysteen Neil Graham Jill E. Kent† & Mark E. Solomons Dr.† & Mrs. J. Reilly Lewis Tamera Luzzatto Helen H. McConnell Dr. Brian R. McNeill & Kathryn McKenzie E. Wayne Merry Julia O'Brien Michael Ochs Bradley & Martha Olson Laura E. Phillips† Charles Reifel & Janie Kinney Cecil "Cy" & Pearl Richardson† William T. & Sally Semple Margaret Shannon Bernice & Reynold Stelloh† Lynn Trundle Pierre & Claire Wagner Isabel T. Wallop Margaret W. Webb Dr. Elizabeth Weisburgert Sally Wells John C. Wiecking Stephen C. Wright & Thomas Woodruff

† In memoriam

Colonel Ronald Villafrancot

#### FREE EDUCATION PROGRAMS



Because of your support, the Consort reached **1,257 DC public and charter school students** throughout our **Bach to School** programs this year.

### SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE





Our most popular
Instagram post featured

### Jonathan Woody

rehearsing the bass aria "Why do the nations" from Handel's Messiah.

Between Facebook and Instagram, we reached over 200,000 people!

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Your support has helped us continue to reach and expand our audience, teach young people about classical music, and offer more professional, classical music experiences to the DC Metro area.