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WASHINGTON BACH CONSORT ANNOUNCES UNFORGETTABLE 2025 SPRING SEASON

BAROQUE MASTERPIECES COME TO LIFE IN WASHINGTON, DC, AND ALEXANDRIA, VA

Washington, DC – January 23, 2025 – The Washington Bach Consort, under the visionary artistic leadership of **Dana Marsh**, is thrilled to share its highly anticipated 2025 spring season, featuring a stunning lineup of baroque music performed by world-class musicians. With 11 extraordinary programs presented across iconic venues in Washington, DC, and Alexandria, VA, this season promises to enchant audiences and celebrate the rich legacy of baroque music.

From the intimate settings of **The Chamber Series** at Live! at 10th & G in Washington, DC and St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Alexandria, VA to the grandeur of our **Director's Series** at National Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC, each performance offers a unique and immersive musical experience. Audiences will enjoy everything from the intricate vocal polyphony of Heinrich Schütz to the fiery passion of Bach's concertos, as well as exciting premieres and beloved masterpieces. Complementing these ticketed performances, the free Noontime Cantata Series invites the community to experience the beauty of Bach's music in an accessible and welcoming format, with performances at Church of the Epiphany and St. Mark's Capitol Hill—both metro accessible in Washington, DC. This season truly has something for every baroque music enthusiast.

“Our spring season offers an array of performances that reveal a captivating variegation of music in the baroque style—as well as a concluding Director's Series concert on classical period instruments. Whether a brilliant baroque concerto, early motet, Bach cantata, or the modern premiere of a centuries-old work, we are especially delighted to share this wondrous music with our audiences.” said Dana Marsh.

FREE Noontime Cantata Series

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at 12:10 P.M. – Church of the Epiphany, Washington, DC

Organ Prelude: *Christe, du Lamm Gottes*, BWV 619 and *O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig*, BWV 656

Cantata: *Du wahrer Gott und Davids Sohn*, BWV 23
Margot Rood, *soprano*; Kristen Dubenion-Smith, *alto*;
David Evans, *tenor*; Ross Tamaccio, *bass*; Tom Sheehan, *organist*



The Chamber Series: Vocal Polyphony – Heinrich Schütz and the German Motet

Friday, March 7, 2025, at 7 P.M. – Live! at 10th & G, Washington, DC

Saturday, March 8, 2025, at 7 P.M. – St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Alexandria, VA

Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672) is considered to be the finest German composer of the early-Baroque before J.S. Bach. This program highlights an important cross-section of his contributions to the motet form through his *Cantiones Sacrae* (1625), *Geistliche Chormusik* (1648), and *Zwölf geistliche Gesänge* (1657) in a rich tapestry of devotional polyphony.

The Director's Series: Concerti Virtuosi II – Fire and Verve!

Sunday, March 23, 2025, at 4 P.M. – National Presbyterian Church, Washington, DC

Building on the success of our 2022 concert, this electrifying performance showcases the exceptional talents of our soloists in a program of exhilarating baroque concertos of Georg Philipp Telemann, J.S. Bach, Antonio Vivaldi, and Johann Smauel Endler, delivered with passion and precision.

FREE Noontime Cantata Series

Monday, March 31, 2025, at 12:10 P.M. – St. Mark's Capitol Hill, Washington, DC

Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 12:10 P.M. – Church of the Epiphany, Washington, DC

Organ Prelude: *O Mensch, beweine deine Sünde gross*, BWV 622 and Fugue in G Minor, BWV 578

Cantata: *Am Abend aber desselbigen Sabbats*, BWV 42

Sara MacKimmie, *soprano*; Roger Isaacs, *alto*; Oliver Mercer, *tenor*; Ian Pomerantz, *bass*;
Paul Byssainthe, Jr., *organist*

The Chamber Series: Bach's Cello Suites – Meet Wade Davis

Friday, April 4, 2025, at 7 P.M. – Live! at 10th & G, Washington, DC

Saturday, April 5, 2025, at 7 P.M. – St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Alexandria, VA

Immerse yourself in the timeless beauty of J.S. Bach's cello suites. Washington Bach Consort cellist **Wade Davis** presents an intimate and dynamic performance of these celebrated works, featuring the first and third suites.

The Director's Series: Mozart Requiem & Joseph Bologne Violin Concerto

Sunday, April 27, 2025, at 4 P.M. – National Presbyterian Church, Washington, DC

Celebrate the brilliance of Joseph Bologne, the Chevalier de Saint-Georges, with his Violin Concerto in G major, performed by concertmaster **Andrew Fouts**. The program concludes with Mozart's iconic *Requiem*—a stirring tribute to the classics of Paris and Vienna.

The Chamber Series: A Song of Dedication – Baroque Splendor in Portuguese Jewish Amsterdam—350th Anniversary

Friday, May 2, 2025, at 7 P.M. – Live! at 10th & G, Washington, DC

Saturday, May 3, 2025, at 7 P.M. – St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Alexandria, VA

Marking the 350th anniversary of the Portuguese Israelite Synagogue of Amsterdam, this program led by bass-baritone **Ian Pomerantz** and soprano **Lev dePaolo**, features the North American premiere of *Shir Hanukat Beth Hamiqdash* in celebration of the synagogue's historic inauguration.

Tickets and Information

Tickets for the 2025 spring season are now on sale. For more information about individual concerts and season subscriptions, visit bachconsort.org or contact the Washington Bach Consort at 202.429.2121.

WASHINGTON BACH CONSORT

Founded in 1977 by the late Dr. J. Reilly Lewis, and since 2018 headed by Dr. Dana Marsh, the Washington Bach Consort is a nationally preeminent vocal and period-instrument ensemble based in Washington, DC. While the group is especially renowned for its historically informed performances of 18th-century music on period instruments, the entire breadth of its offerings spans the 14th to the 19th centuries. The Consort has also made regular appearances alongside

prestigious groups such as the National Symphony Orchestra, the Post-Classical Ensemble, Washington Performing Arts, and the Washington Cathedral Choral Society.

In May 2019, the Council of the District of Columbia honored the Washington Bach Consort in recognition of the 30th anniversary of the group's free classical-music performances through the popular Noontime Cantata Series. Recordings and printed programs of these performances are now archived in the permanent collection of the Library of Congress. The Council's 2019 proclamation acknowledged the Consort's commitment to enriching the lives of audiences through making Bach's music accessible to the widest possible range of listeners. Emphasizing the transformative power of music, all educational outreach programs (reaching 3,000 D.C. public school students) are given free of charge. The impact has been consistently evident in evaluations from DC teachers, who praise the ensemble's role in providing one of the few live classical music education experiences available to their students. Noteworthy ensemble recordings include Bach's complete motets, magnificats by both J.S. and C.P.E. Bach, the first American recording of the F major and G minor masses, an album of solo cantatas featuring opera luminary Elizabeth Futral, and most recently in 2022, the album "Myths Contested," which has received effusive critical acclaim from numerous media platforms.

The Washington Bach Consort has been nationally recognized for the visionary excellence of its work: in 2020, an SMU DataArts study identified the Consort as the nation's 8th highest-performing arts organization and 2nd highest-performing music organization, among thousands of nonprofits. In 2023, Spur Local (formerly the Catalogue for Philanthropy) continued its tradition of recognizing the Bach Consort as one of the best small nonprofits in greater Washington since 2004.

In October 2023, the Bach Consort released its first album in more than 15 years. *Myths Contested*, on the Acis label, offers both an historical and a modern-day look at perspectives and values that society connects to music. It features Consort musicians performing Bach's *The Contest between Phoebus and Pan* and Trevor Weston's *A New Song*, a Consort commission that had its world premiere in 2022.

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