



WASHINGTON BACH CONSORT

The Nation's Premier Baroque Chorus and Orchestra
J. REILLY LEWIS, MUSIC DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release
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BACH TO MOVE AUDIENCES IN SEASON FINALE! **NOONTIME CANTATA SERIES CONCLUDES** **30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION GALA TO HONOR J. REILLY LEWIS**

Washington—The Washington Bach Consort will conclude its 30th anniversary season with a performance of J.S. Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* on **Sunday, May 11 at 3:00 p.m.** at the **Music Center at Strathmore**, located at **5301 Tuckerman Lane, Bethesda, MD**. Widely considered the most moving piece of music ever written, this work is much more than the story of Jesus Christ as told by Matthew, it is the story of man. Maestro J. Reilly Lewis leads the Consort's award-winning chorus, a double orchestra, and an all-star cast, including **Rufus Müller** (Evangelist), **Craig Phillips** (Christus), **Christine Brandes**, **Mary Ellen Nesi**, **Frederick Urrey** and **Peter Harvey**, to bring the anniversary season to a magical and unforgettable close. Ticket prices start at \$20 and may be obtained through Strathmore's ticket office at **301.581.5100** or www.strathmore.org.

The popular **Noontime Cantata Series** returns **Tuesday, May 6** with a performance of **Cantata 71, *Gott ist mein König***, preceded by the **Tocatta in E Major, BWV 566** performed by Scott Dettra. The free-of-charge concert will be given at the **Church of the Epiphany**, located at **13th & G Streets, NW, Washington, DC**, just across the street from the **Metro Center** metro station.

Join the Washington Bach Consort in honoring founding music director, J. Reilly Lewis at the **30th Anniversary Celebration Gala**. The benefit will take place **Monday, May 19 at 6:30 p.m.** and will include a reception, brief concert and a seated dinner all in the exquisite **Sydney Harman Hall**, Harman Center for the Arts, located at **610 F Street, NW, Washington, DC**. Tickets are \$350. Please call **202.730.4174** for more information, to reserve a table or inquire about a corporate sponsorship.

Founded in 1977 by J. Reilly Lewis, the Washington Bach Consort is a professional chorus and orchestra noted for its performance of 18th-century music on period instruments. It has appeared at numerous festivals and has made three critically acclaimed European tours. Recordings include the Bach's complete motets, the *Magnificats* of both J.S. and C.P.E. Bach, the first American recording of the *F Major and G minor Masses*, and three solo soprano cantatas featuring opera superstar Elizabeth Futral. The Consort recently completed Bach's entire 215-cantata cycle. In association with this monumental achievement, the Library of Congress has welcomed the Washington Bach Consort performance recording and concert program archives into its permanent collection.

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Washington Bach Consort May Performances

St. Matthew Passion

Sunday, May 11 at 3:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda, MD

Tickets: \$20, \$35, \$45, \$55

301.581.5100

www.strathmore.org

May Noontime Cantata

Tuesday, May 6 at 12:10 p.m.

Church of the Epiphany

1317 G Street NW, Washington, DC

No tickets required: free and open to the public

30th Anniversary Celebration Gala

Monday, May 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Harman Center for the Arts

Sydney Harman Hall

Sixth and F Streets NW, Washington, DC

Tickets: \$350

202.730.4174

More Information

**Washington Bach Consort
1220 19th Street NW, Ste. 300**

Washington, DC

202.429.2121

www.bachconsort.org