



WASHINGTON BACH CONSORT

The Nation's Premier Baroque Chorus and Orchestra

J. REILLY LEWIS, MUSIC DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release

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WASHINGTON BACH CONSORT AND ESTEEMED MUSIC DIRECTOR J. REILLY LEWIS CONCLUDE 31ST SEASON WITH ALL HANDEL PROGRAM AT MUSIC CENTER AT STRATHMORE

**CELEBRATE SPRING WITH THE WASHINGTON BACH CONSORT
AT THE BELGIAN AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE - MAY 18, 2009**

FREE NOONTIME CANTATA SERIES CONTINUES IN MAY!!!

Washington— The Consort's 31st season concludes with a grand finale at the Music Center at Strathmore as the Consort orchestra and chorus pay tribute to Bach's contemporary, George Frideric Handel. This spectacular all-Handel program "In Praise of Music" commemorates the 250th anniversary of the composer's death with a large-scale performance of five of his most beloved works, including the *Water Music: Suite no. 2*, the recently discovered *Gloria*, two of his festive *Coronation Anthems* and the majestic *Ode for St. Cecilia's Day*. In Praise of Music will be performed at 3pm on May 3, 2009 at the Music Center at Strathmore. It will include renowned soloists, soprano Dominique Labelle and tenor Stephen Ng.

Single tickets to "In Praise of Music" are currently available. For tickets and information, contact the Strathmore box office at 301.581.5100 or visit www.strathmore.org.

Join us at the Belgian Ambassador's Residence for a spring celebration to benefit the Washington Bach Consort. The event will take place May 18, 2009 at 6:30pm and will include an intimate reception and concert as well as special remarks from Senator John D. Rockefeller IV. Tickets are limited and are \$250 per person. Please call Janey Moskowitz at 202.429.2121 for more information, to reserve tickets or inquire about corporate sponsorship.

The popular **Noontime Cantata Series** continues in May. This free-of-charge concert will be given at the **Church of the Epiphany**, located at **13th & G Streets, NW, Washington, DC**, ½ block from the **Metro Center** metro station on **Tuesday, May 5, 2009**. The performance includes *J.S. Bach's Prelude & Fugue in G Minor, BWV 541* performed by organist Scott Dettra and *J.S. Bach's Ich hatte viel Bekummernis, BWV 21* performed by soprano, Jennifer Ellis Kampani, tenor Robert Petillo and bass Steven Combs.

Founded in 1977, 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. Bach 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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In Praise of Music
Sunday, May 3, 3:00 p.m.
Music Center at Strathmore
5301 Tuckerman Lane
North Bethesda, MD 20852
Tickets: \$20, \$35, \$45, \$55
301.581.5100
www.strathmore.org

Washington Bach Consort Spring Celebration
Belgian Ambassador's Residence
Tickets are limited! \$250 per guest (limit 2)
202.429.2121
www.bachconsort.org

J.S. Bach's Prelude & Fugue in G Minor, BWV 541
Ich hatte viel Bekummernis, BWV 21
Tuesday, May 5, 2009, 12:10 p.m.
Church of the Epiphany
13th & G Streets NW, Washington, DC
Free Admission

More Information

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