

**Something Different for the Holidays: Bach Collegium San Diego
presents “Gaudete! Motets and Carols: Old and New”
on December 16 & 17, 2011**

“If I ever miss another [Bach Collegium SD concert] it will because I am out of town or dead.” – David Gregson, OperaWest.com

SAN DIEGO– [Bach Collegium San Diego](#) (BCSD) presents a new and different program of vocal music for the holidays: seasonal motets and carols featuring the music of Sheppard, Byrd, Tavener, Howells, and more.

This is BCSD’s first solo holiday program and will be performed entirely *a cappella* (without instrumental accompaniment). The program represents music from 16th century chant all the way up to 21st century motets, making it stand out from traditional programming but still perfect for the holidays.

Performances will be on Friday, December 16, at St. James-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church in La Jolla, and Saturday, December 17, 2011, at St. Andrew’s-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church in Pacific Beach. Both performances will be preceded by an informal discussion on the music beginning promptly at 6.45pm.

Music director Ruben Valenzuela says he has designed the sequence of selections to create the expectation of Christmas, carrying through the theme of the Advent, a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. The program of mostly English composers includes two San Diego premieres: the Robert Parsons *Magnificat* and portions of John Sheppard’s *Missa Cantate*.

“Our December concerts will be an opportunity to hear your favorite carols alongside lesser known but ‘must hear’ works,” said Valenzuela. “You will not want to miss the sonic vocal explosion of Robert Parson’s ‘Magnificat’ and John Tavener’s ‘Annunciation,’ two works written almost 400 years apart and heard for the first time in San Diego.”

[Click here to see a short video introduction to this program.](#)

GAUDETE! MOTETS AND CAROLS: OLD AND NEW

Friday, December 16, 2011: St James by-the Sea Episcopal Church, La Jolla, 7:30pm
Saturday, December 17, 2011: St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Pacific Beach, 7:30pm

Program:

Anonymous: Rorate caeli desuper
Byrd: Vigilate
Wilby: Echo Carol
Tavener: Annunciation
Pettman: Gabriel’s Message (Basque carol)
Parsons: Magnificat

Anonymous: Hodie Christus natus est
Howells: Here is the Little Door
Sheppard: Gloria in ExcelsisDeo (from Missa Cantate)
Tavener: The Lamb
Pearsall: In dulci jubilo
Whitacre: Lux aurumque
Tallis: O nata lux de lumine
Weelkes: Gloria in excelsis Deo

Open Sing: Sunday, November 20 at 3pm
St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Pacific Beach
\$10 General, \$5 Students

Music provided • PDFs may be downloaded in advance from www.bachcollegiumsd.org
Admission at the door only

Details and tickets can be found at the [BCSD website](#).

The 2011-12 season will continue with:

J.S. BACH: THE ART OF FUGUE

Bach's Art of Fugue as an exemplification of the nature of life, culminating with arias from the Bach Cantatas addressing the human passion of Joy, Temptation, Grief, and Hope. Accompanying the music will be dancers choreographed by Yolande Snaith, Head of UCSD's Theatre and Dance Department.

Friday, February 3, 2012: The University of California San Diego, 7:30pm

Saturday, February 4, 2012: Performing Arts Center, Cuyamaca College, 7:30pm

Guest Director: Rodolfo Richter

J.S. BACH: ST JOHN PASSION

The Bach Collegium San Diego returns with its annual performance of this masterpiece.

This year's performance with full chorus and soloists will explore the 1725 version.

Friday, April 13, 2012: St James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, La Jolla, 7:30pm

Saturday, April 14, 2012: St John's Episcopal Cathedral, Los Angeles, 7:30pm

Evangelist: Aaron Sheehan; Soprano: Anne-Marie Dicce; Alto: Angela Young Smucker;

Tenor: Derek Chester; Bass: Mischa Bouvier

Open Sing: Sunday, March 25 at 3pm

Venue: TBA

\$10 General, \$5 Students

Music Provided

Admission at the door only

MUSICK FOR AN ENGLISH CORONATION

A reconstruction of the music heard at the splendid occasion at Westminster Abbey in 1727. Music will include Handel's "Zadok the Priest" and other ceremonial music by Henry Purcell, John Blow, Thomas Tallis, and Orlando Gibbons.

Friday, June 8, 2012: St James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, La Jolla, 7:30pm

Sunday, June 10, 2012: All Souls' Episcopal Church, Point Loma, 7:30pm

Open Sing: Sunday, May 27 at 3pm

Venue: To be determined

\$10 General, \$5 Students

Music Provided

Admission at the door only

All dates, times, venues, and artists may be subject to change.

PRE-CONCERT DISCUSSIONS

Each concert this year will be preceded at 6:45pm by a round-table discussion between selected performers and audience members, providing an opportunity to discuss the various topics related to the forthcoming concert.

DETAILS AND TICKETS

Tickets to individual concerts are \$25 or \$40. Senior/Student Discount: \$20

Rush tickets may be purchased at the door for \$10 if any seats are still available (student ID required).

For more information and to purchase tickets please visit the [BCSD website](#).

ABOUT BCSD

The Bach Collegium San Diego was founded in 2003 by Ruben Valenzuela with the purpose of enriching San Diego's music community with historically informed performances of the Renaissance, Baroque, and in particular the vocal works of J.S. Bach. Its members bring longstanding experience from such ensembles as the Academy of Ancient Music (UK), American Bach Soloists, Festival Ensemble Stuttgart, and the Philharmonia Chorale. During its first eight seasons, the ensemble has earned an impressive reputation, captivating diverse audiences with its unique style and highly expressive and provocative approach to the Renaissance and Baroque repertoire and beyond. The ensemble regularly participates in an international tour to Mexico City with performances at the Festival Internacional del Órgano Barroco. BCSD has brought many historically informed first performances to San Diego for the first time. Such works include Handel's Theodora and Messiah, Bach's St. John Passion and B minor Mass, and Monteverdi's 1610 Vespers.

For detailed bios and a list of ensemble performers please [visit the website](#).

[Bach Collegium San Diego](#)

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Bach Collegium San Diego Inc. is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization.

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