



BACHFEST  
• *Bach* •

Supported by  
The Bachfest Circle

LONDON BACH SOCIETY  
**21st BACHFEST**

*“Joh. Seb. Bach: The Composer’s Art”*  
2 - 10 November 2011  
[www.bachlive.co.uk](http://www.bachlive.co.uk)



## **“Joh. Seb. Bach: The Composer’s Art”**

**A**sk any composer, but there is nothing like a commission to get the creative juices flowing! Bach did not have to rely on opera houses or symphony orchestras; composing new works was part of his job wherever he was employed at the time or, on occasion, were an ‘offering’ to please. Therefore it could be deduced that Bach’s creative environment was different – but was it so different? Strange as it may be for us to think of him like this, but in his day Bach was, what we would call now a ‘contemporary’ composer, his weekly cantata performances ‘world premières’. Bach had his critics too and as he moved about the town he was expected to prosper good manners – in today’s language to have good PR skills. Let’s experience the fabulous music we are offering with this all in mind – Bach, the working composer and musician, not so many miles away from composers and musicians today. I think you might be quite surprised....

**Margaret Steinitz**

**Wednesday 2 November at 7.30pm**

**Wax Chandlers Hall, 6 Gresham Street,  
London EC2**

*(St. Paul’s tube)*

**Steven Devine plays Bach’s**

**Goldberg Variations BWV 988**

*(Clavier-Übung IV, published 1741)*

Steven’s highly acclaimed recording of the Goldbergs was released in June. Stephen Prichard in The Observer wrote *“He brings a scholarly authority to this pillar of the repertoire, offering in his sleeve notes many insights into Bach’s thinking behind the 30 variations, an authority he matches with a masterly technique at the keyboard, turning this into a bravura display of the harpsichordist’s art.”*

The title page of Clavier-Übung IV refers to this Aria with Divers Variations for the harpsichord as *‘Composed for Music Lovers, to refresh their Spirits, by Johann Sebastian Bach....’*

**Tickets: £22, £18. Credit Cards accepted (£1 fee)**

**From the LBS Box Office -Telephone 01883 717372**

**Mon-Fri 9.30am-5.00pm or at the door on the night from 6.45pm**

**Friday 4 November from 1.00pm**

**The Foundling Museum, 40 Brunswick Square,  
London WC1**

*(Russell Square tube)*



## **A BACH DAY**

*At Lunchtime from 1.00pm (ends c.2.00pm)*

**Rodolfo Richter** *(violin)* plays

**Bach's Sonatas for violin and harpsichord (Part 1)**

Sonata No 5 in F minor BWV 1018

Sonata No 6 in G major BWV 1019

Sonata No 3 in E major BWV 1016

*With James Johnstone (harpsichord)*

Tickets: £10 Telephone 01883 717372 Credit Cards accepted (1 fee)

*At 2.45pm (ends c.3.45pm)*

**Professor John Butt** *delivers*

## **The Bachfest Lecture**

**'The Mass in B Minor and Bach's ongoing and  
unstoppable compositional urge'**

Professor John Butt is the 2011 recipient of the RAM/Kohn Foundation Bach Prize and a contemporary Bach authority. He makes a very welcome return to deliver what is certain to be a stimulating and lively reflection of the Festival's theme.

Tickets: £10 Telephone 01883 717372. Credit Cards accepted (£1 fee)

**Special Offer:** Saver ticket 20% discount - £16 for **both** events (recital + lecture). **Admission to lecture Free for full time students** – places must be booked in advance.

*At 7.45pm (ends c.8.45pm)*

## **THE 18-30 BACH CLUB**

**Rodolfo Richter** *(violin)* plays

**Bach's Sonatas for violin and harpsichord (Part 2)**

Sonata No 1 in B minor BWV 1014

Sonata No 4 in C minor BWV 1017

Sonata No 2 in A major BWV 1015

*With James Johnstone (harpsichord)*

In the footsteps of Bach, his students and friends, the brilliant Brazilian-born violinist Rodolfo Richter shares his 'dream' with us eventually to record the entire Bach violin music in a sneak preview recital before he enters the recording studio in 2012. A cash bar will be available afterwards to relax and meet our artists

Tickets £6 for 18-30s. £15 for general public

Full-time Students FREE - places to be booked in advance

Telephone 01883 717372 Credit Cards accepted (£1 fee)

Tickets also on sale at the door for all events

**Saturday 5 November at 11.00am** (Ends c. 5.00pm)

**The Foundling Museum, 40 Brunswick Square,  
London WC1**

(Russell Square tube)

**A Bach Singing Day – Mass in B minor BWV 232  
with Tim Brown**

*Director of the Zürcher Sing-Akademie, Zürich and English Voices*

Tim's Singing Days have been a feature of Bachfests and attracted large numbers. In the 'presence' of Bach's great contemporary Handel, we re-visit and rehearse the most performed of all his choral works, the most challenging to sing and one which remains a cause for heated debate even 263 years after its compilation in 1748/49.

**Fee £20 Telephone 01883 717372 to book your place. Please bring a vocal score**

**Thursday 10 November from 6.30pm** (ends c.9.30pm)

**St John's, Smith Square, London SW1P 3HA**

(General Manager: Paul Davies)

(Westminster tube)

**At 6.30pm**

**Sir Nicholas Kenyon**

Nicholas Kenyon's 'Faber Pocket Guide to Bach' published earlier this year is a rich compilation borne out of a lifelong passion for the composer's music, an affection that infuses every page. In conversation with **Margaret Steinitz**, Nicholas Kenyon talks about changing Bach performance and compares Bach's working environment with that of a composer today. Was it so different? What place will Bach's music have in our lives in the future?"

**Admission Free with concert ticket details below**

**At 7.30pm**

**Joh. Seb. Bach The Composer's Art**

Cantata "Christus, der ist mein Leben" BWV 95

Violin Concerto in E major BWV 1042

Cantata "Liebster Gott, wann werd' ich sterben" BWV 8

Mass in G major BWV 236

**Charlotte Mobbs (sop) Robin Blaze (countertenor) Nicholas Mulroy (tenor)**

**Giles Underwood (bass-baritone) Rodolfo Richter (violin)**

**Steinitz Bach Players, Anthony Robson (director)**

**Tickets £27, £22, £15, £10 (concessions £10 NUS).**

**Booking opens 3 October**

**By Telephone: 020 7222 1061 Online [www.sjss.org.uk](http://www.sjss.org.uk)**

**By Post** Please enclose sae

**Debit/Credit Cards:** MasterCard, Visa & Maestro accepted.

**Booking fees per transaction:** £2 by telephone/£1.50 online.

**Advance Booking:** The Box Office is open for advance booking from 10.00am-5.00pm weekdays.

Smith Square bar and restaurant in the Crypt is open from 5.30pm

**020 7222 2779.**

St. John's Smith Square Charitable Trust, registered charity no: 1045390.

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# MUSICIANS GALLERY

Full Gallery on [www.bachlive.co.uk](http://www.bachlive.co.uk)



Steven Devine – (2 Nov)



Rodolfo Richter  
– (4/10 Nov)



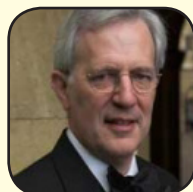
John Butt  
– (4 Nov)



Sir Nicholas Kenyon  
– (10 Nov)



Anthony Robson  
– (10 Nov)



Tim Brown  
– (5 Nov)

## “Bach for Life”

“For the past eighty years I have started each day in the same manner. It is not a mechanical routine but something essential to my daily life. I go to the piano, and I play two preludes and fugues of Bach. I cannot think of doing otherwise. It is a sort of benediction on the house. But that is not its only meaning for me. It is a rediscovery of the world of which I have the joy of being a part. It fills me with awareness of the wonder of life, with a feeling of the incredible marvel of being a human being. The music is never the same for me, never. Each day it is something new, fantastic and unbelievable. That is Bach, like nature, a miracle.”

*The Legendary Pablo Casals – cellist*

Why not join us? - Memberships from £25  
Call 01883 717372  
[www.bachlive.co.uk/membership](http://www.bachlive.co.uk/membership)



• Founder •  
Dr. Paul Steinitz

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Philippa Brownsword

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The Management reserves the right to change artists and alter programmes as necessary.

LBS Box Office will not exchange or give refunds in respect of any tickets.

Latecomers will not be admitted until a suitable break in the concert.

The scheduled end timings are given for guidance only.

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