



Founder
Paul Steinitz † OBE, D. Mus
(1909-1988)

President
Sir David Tang KBE

Artistic Director
Margaret Steinitz

Our Purpose

“Bach for Life”

The **London Bach Society** is a charitable company whose purpose is to foster and promote the understanding and appreciation of the music of **Johann Sebastian Bach**, his family and antecedents, and composers who have been inspired by Bach from the late 18th century to the present day. This includes the role British musicians and composers have played, especially those involved in the British Bach revival of the 19th & 20th centuries and Bach's influence upon our musical environment today.

The title of our Development Campaign and Strategic Plan (2012-18) is “*Bach for Life*”
The Society's charity registration number is **1082788**.

The Bach Story is not merely confined to his life and times. We are all certain to turn to the composer's music at some point in our lives, whether we know he wrote that *'memorable piece'* or not. With the substantial 20th century revival of Bach's vast corpus of works, especially played in period style on instruments with which the composer would have been familiar in particular – a revival in which the London Bach Society has played a seminal role in the UK – there is further scope for development in the 21st century as new discoveries about the composer's life are made and there are new audiences to reach.

The LBS is now in its seventh decade of serving the community and is performance-driven. Our mission is to stimulate, to challenge and inform, to create opportunity and to fire the imagination. We aim to provide the key that opens the door to Bach's life and music, especially to the younger generation, creating a bridge between the centuries, finding the common ground and the link with the music of today that is inspired by the composer – a modern London Bach Society.

The educational dimension

Cultural education is an important consideration when planning and promoting our annual programme of work and it is our long-term aim to develop the LBS to be a Centre for Bach performance and study.

The 18-30 Bach Club, master classes, performance Prize competitions, workshops and lectures sit easily alongside concerts and recitals by leading artists at the annual autumn Bachfest to form a cohesive series presented in the festival spirit. They enable us to provide an important entrée for young people, create opportunities for them to get involved and enjoy the concert experience. The educational programmes also cater for those who wish to enhance their knowledge, examine Bach's life and work in its social and historical context and explore new avenues in the light of the latest in modern Bach scholarship.

Our annual programme of work – what we do – is described on the following page

Our Website

www.bachlive.co.uk



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Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England No: 3895782. Registered Charity No: 1082788.
VAT No: 208 7083 65



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Performances, Publications, Archive, Library & Chamber Organ Network of Support

- **Bachfest:** An annual series of public events on a given theme. The series is usually presented between 31 October and 10 November. Founded in 1990 to take the Society's work forward into a new century, the series is a mix of public recitals and concerts, lectures, master classes and community events (e.g. Singing Days) that also provide a substantial educational dimension. **The 18-30 Bach Club** meets during Bachfest. The series will also reflect our four special areas of interest. These influence the programming:

The 'live' Bach experience
The creation of opportunity, especially for young musicians
Cultural Education and Lifelong Learning – Bach in Context
Audience Development and Young People

Major Events Ahead:

The 25th anniversary Bachfest is in 2015; LBS 70th anniversary is in 2016

- **Steinitz Bach Players** is the Society's professional, period instrument orchestra. It was founded in 1968 and is resident at Bachfest. The orchestra accepts commissioned engagements and, to provide for flexibility and create opportunities in its musical direction, there is no permanent conductor.
- **Bach Notes:** A printed Journal published in March/September or both. The articles not only promote the London Bach Society, but also reflect what else is going on in the Bach world and beyond. It is distributed free. **E-Bach Notes:** This is a bi-monthly supplement to the published Journal that gives the latest LBS news, plus details of some interesting concerts and Bach events taking place elsewhere. Sent by email.
- **LBS Bach Orchestral Library:** The Society owns a large library of Bach orchestral material. All except the major works are made available for public use and loaned to organisations nationwide. The revenue derived is used to replace worn out sets and add new ones.
- **Peter Collins pipe continuo organ:** A gift from a former Chairman, Paul Steinitz devised the specifications and the instrument was custom-built in 1988. The organ is available for hire, used by professional orchestras and period instrument groups, conservatoires, BBC, and derives additional income for the Society. Regularly updated by Peter Collins and maintained by Malcolm Greenhalgh, the organ can be tuned to four different pitches A=392, A=415, A=440 and A=460/465, making it an ideal instrument for playing a variety of repertoire from Purcell to the present day.
- **LBS Archive:** The Society has an Archive of its past achievements, programmes and other papers. The Library of books and scores owned by the Society's founder, Dr. Paul Steinitz, is held in Trust, to which some of his surviving papers and other memorabilia will be added in time.
- **LBS Network of Support:** The Society is financially supported in a variety of different ways, from Gift Aid donations by the **LBS Bach Friends, Public Grants, and Grants from Charitable Trusts** to **private philanthropy** and **individual major donations**. Our fund-raising is on going and as part of our "*Bach for Life*" Development Campaign we shall be having an active fund-raising drive in the run-up to and during the Society's 70th anniversary in 2016 to provide for the future.

19 March 2015

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