



Paul Steinitz† (1909-1988)

## **LBS BACHFEST 2017 6<sup>th</sup> BACH SINGERS PRIZE**

### **ENTRY DETAILS**

(The Entry Form is a separate pdf)

**First Prize:** The LBS Bach Singers Prize - £2,500

**Runners Up:** The three runners up each receive £500

The theme is "*Bach and Luther: Masters and Servants*" as part of the national commemorations to mark 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Luther's Reformation (1517-2017). The competition forms part of the London Bach Society's 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Bachfest.

### **Immediate Past Winners**

2013 Nick Pritchard (tenor), 2015 Anna Harvey (mezzo soprano)

### **Competition period**

**30 September – 27 October 2017**

(Entries by **30 September 2017** at the latest. Each entry received will be checked and logged.)

### **Master Classes**

**Monday 23 October, from 4.00pm at St George's Hanover Square W1**

To enable them to continue the Competition experience, Master Class participants will be invited and selected from among those competition entrants who do not go forward to the Semi Final.

Please signal your willingness to participate by indicating on the relevant section of the **Entry Form**.

### **The Venues chosen for each Round have strong and historic associations with music**

**The First Round** will take place at Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley Street, London W1

**19 October** (20 Oct if necessary) *Marble Arch or Bond St tube*

**The Semi-Final** will be held in public at St. George's Church Hanover Square, London W1

**24 October at 7.00pm** *Oxford Circus tube*

**The Final** will be at The Priory Church of St Bartholomew-the-Great, West Smithfield, London EC1

**27 October at 7.15pm** *Barbican tube*

The Prizes have been generously donated by *The Hargreaves & Ball Trust* and the competition is supported by donors from among the LBS Bach Friends.

"*Bach and Luther: Masters and Servants*" series is supported by an Arts Council England "*Grants for the Arts*" Award.

*Artistic Director: Margaret Steinitz*

**The Four Finalists' reaction to the last Competition in 2015** "...we were all saying how brilliant it is for those of us who love singing Bach to have a platform to perform music we love in such a wonderful setting with a brilliant orchestra."

### **Bach Prize Administration**

London Bach Society (Prize), 73 High Street, Old Oxted, Surrey RH8 9LN

Telephone +44 (0) 1883 717372

No Fax

E-Mail lbs@lonbachsoc.demon.co.uk

Website: www.bachlive.co.uk

## LBS 6<sup>th</sup> BACH SINGERS PRIZE COMPETITION

The competition is open to postgraduate singers who are UK resident, non-UK resident, EU and non-EU residents. All non-UK resident entrants travelling to the UK to participate in the competition do so at their own expense and should acquire the appropriate visa for entry to the UK if necessary – please check this.

### Age limit for Singers

The age limitations are minimum 21 years old to maximum 33 years old at **27 October 2017**

### The Competition Timetable

**Saturday 30 September 2017**

**Friday 6 October 2017**

**Thursday 19 October 2017 from 10.00am**

**Friday 20 October 2017 from 10.00am**

**Tuesday 24 October 2017 from 7.00pm**

**Friday 27 October 2017 from 7.00pm**

### DEADLINE FOR ENTRY

**Round One individual times notified to entrants by email**

**First Round Not open to the public**

**Overspill day only if necessary**

**Semi-Final Held in public**

**The Final Held in public**

All accepted entrants will be heard in Round One and there is a preference for this to be 'live'. Entry by high quality CD is acceptable, preferably only from entrants living abroad. These must be accompanied by a signed declaration that the disc has not been edited in any way (**See Entry Form**).

All singers should be available for each Round when applying. No CD entries will be accepted for the Semi Final or Final. The results of Round One and the Semi Final will be conveyed by email as soon as possible after each round and then posted on the LBS website.

### The Jury

The Jury will be professional and chaired by **Ian Partridge CBE** (Chairman). The distinguished baroque specialist **Anthony Robson** will direct **Steinitz Bach Players** at the Final. The decision of the jury is final throughout the Competition and no feedback will be given.

### Entry Details

Please read the information through carefully, and then complete and return the Entry Form (*on separate PDF*), remembering to enclose the documents and fee required, and, if necessary, the Audition Disc and Declaration, so that we can process your entry.

1. All completed Entry Forms and biographies sent electronically **should be submitted on pdfs** and images, scan of birth certificate, passport or official document (see Note 4 below) **should be sent on jpgs**. Entry Forms, complete with enclosures and entry fee, may be submitted any time **after 24 July** until **Saturday 30 September 2017** at the latest. No entries will be accepted after the deadline.
2. All entrants will be heard either 'live' or, if necessary, on a CD/Mini disc. Please label any disc clearly with your name. **A high-quality production is required.**
3. Please supply either a scan or photocopy of your Birth Certificate or any other official document, that confirms the date and place of your birth e.g. Passport.
4. Please supply a CV that tells us about your musical and academic education, scholarships, recent performances and plans, plus a concise biography (120 words max.). Please attach a colour or black & white photograph (**jpg preferred**).
5. Please submit the names of **two** referees who will support your entry. NB: They must not be members of the Jury. The London Bach Society reserves the right to consult the referees. Both should be professional musicians of national or international standing.

### Entry Fee and Methods of Payment

The Entry fee is **£32 (or 35 Euros)**. Entry fees are non-refundable if no less than six days' notice is given of withdrawal, for which a medical certificate must also be produced. No exceptions will be made. Cheques should be made payable to **London Bach Society**.

Credit/Debit Cards (Visa/MasterCard/Maestro) are accepted **by telephone (+44 (0) 1883 717372)** or **online** from the **2017 Bach Singers Prize page** [www.bachlive.co.uk](http://www.bachlive.co.uk)

## COMPETITION REPERTOIRE & GENERAL INFORMATION

Entrants are encouraged to delve deeply into the repertoire. This is to be **all Joh. Seb. Bach** with **no repeat repertory (arias or recitatives)** at any stage of the competition. Excluded works are listed under 'General Note'.

### Round One

**Thursday 19 October 2017 from 10.00am at Grosvenor Chapel (Overspill day 20 Oct from 10.00m)**

The First Round comprises **one recitative (prescribed) and two contrasting Arias** of your own choice. Choose the recitative that applies to your voice from the following cantatas, chosen because each cantata features one of Luther's hymns: -

<b>Soprano</b>	<b>Cantata BWV 38 No 3 (a Battuta)</b>
<b>Alto/Countertenor</b>	<b>Cantata BWV 121 No 3</b>
<b>Tenor</b>	<b>Cantata BWV 7 No 3</b>
<b>Baritone/Bass</b>	<b>Cantata BWV 91 No 4</b>

### The Semi-Final

**Tuesday 24 October from 7.00pm in St. George's Church Hanover Square W1**

The Semi Final comprises a Recitative and an Aria from a Bach Passion (the St. Matthew, or St. John either 1724 or 1725 versions). They can be a mix e.g. recitative from St. Matthew and aria from St. John or both from St. Matthew.

### The Final

**Friday 27 October at 7.15pm in Priory Church of St Bartholomew-the-Great, EC1**

This should be a mixed programme of your own devising that should be no longer than **20 minutes**. This programme should include **one recitative of substance**.

### Orchestral Forces (The Final)

The professional orchestral forces for the Final will be: -

**up to two flutes including recorders**  
**up to two oboes including d'amore and/or da caccia)**  
**strings, basso continuo, organ/harpsichord**

The forces will be small scale, reflecting modern Bach scholarship.

**Note:** Please remember to consider the orchestral forces required when choosing your programme and make sure they match the forces offered above. Queries can be directed to the LBS office. This will not adversely affect how you are assessed at the Competition in any way. When answering your queries, we shall not advise you what to sing, signal approval of your programme content or choose any pieces for you.

### General Note on Repertoire, Language & Editions, Use of Copies

Singers are encouraged to explore Bach's vocal repertoire. In making their choices credit will be given for *imaginative* programming. The repertoire should be sung in the original language at every stage i.e. German or Latin, using the most authoritative edition you can find. The following works should not be included:

**Cantatas BWV 15, 53, 131, 141, 142, 143, 160, 189, 198, 200 or 203.**

You will not be marked up if you perform your programmes from memory or, conversely, marked down if you decide to use copies – choose whichever suits you.

### Accompanists & Instrumental Accompaniment

Entrants should provide their own accompanists for the First and Semi-Final Rounds. They should be of a professional standard and conversant with continuo playing technique.

### First Round (19 October 2017 or 20 Oct if necessary)

**a) 'Live' performance** A Harpsichord (A= 415 Hz) will be available **or**

**b) Entry Disc (if necessary)** Piano, harpsichord or appropriate instrumental accompaniment is acceptable and the recording should not be edited in any way – See Declaration on Entry Form for Signature.

### The Semi-Final (24 October 2017)

Semi-finalists will have a Peter Collins Pipe Continuo Organ and a Harpsichord available, pitch A=415Hz. Choose whichever suits you. Appropriate instrumental accompaniment in addition to keyboard is welcome at your own cost and organisation.

### **The Final (27 October 2017)**

The Finalists will each perform their programmes with the period instrumentalists of **Steinitz Bach Players**, directed by **Anthony Robson**. The pitch will be **A=415 Hz**.

A compulsory rehearsal for each finalist will take place from 3.00pm-6.00pm on 27 October in the historic setting of St Bartholomew-the-Great. The actual Final will begin at 7.15pm.

Finalists will be asked to introduce their programmes to the audience prior to performance and be prepared to participate in a short interview afterwards.

### **Presentation of the Prizes**

At the close of the performances, the Jury will retire to make their decision. The result of the Final will then be announced to the audience, followed by a formal presentation of the Prizes.

We hope that participating in this competition will be an enriching experience.

Good luck everyone!

**July 2017**