



**B
A
C
H
F
E
S
T**

14th October – 10 November 2017
“Bach and Luther: Masters and Servants”
www.bachlive.co.uk



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**





From the Artistic Director

Getting to the heart of Luther's influence in Bach's life and finding common ground with today

It is no coincidence that our annual Bachfest takes place around 31 October (Reformation Festival) and Martin Luther's birthday (10 November). Without the Reformer's influence, Bach's repertoire composed 200 years later undoubtedly would have been different, so this autumn period seemed a fitting 'peg' on which to hang our own inimitable brand of Bach performances, sacred and secular... there is no difference between them in the Lutheran life.

We are privileged to present the very best and I am delighted to welcome **Tenebrae & Nigel Short** in one of their celebrated Choral Workshops "*The Tenebrae Effect*" and a stellar programme of Bach's deeply spiritual yet virtuosic Motets, a Lutheran Mass, some Schütz, and two miniatures by early 20th century composer Max Reger, all to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Luther's Reformation. **Elizabeth Kenny**, one of Europe's very finest lutenists, joins us for an exquisite programme charting German lute music from Luther to Bach, and the superb musicians of **Steinitz Bach Players** offer Bach and Telemann "*at home*" and herald the orchestra's 50th anniversary next year. LBS builds on its legacy too. Our **6th Bach Singers** Prize encourages emerging artists while the **18-30 Bach Club Concert** – this year an Open Platform for young artists and audiences – never fails to surprise. In curating the series, I have endeavoured to show Luther's musical priorities are relevant in the world of today, as inspiration perhaps, but also to create enduring pleasure for listeners, performers and participants in some historic spaces.

My sincerest thanks are conveyed to Arts Council England and a host of donors and Trusts who are supporting us.

I also look forward to welcoming new friends as well as familiar faces at this, our 27th Bachfest. Enjoy!

Margaret Steinitz
Bachfest Founder

Like to be involved?
Join the volunteer **FestMakers**
and help at the concerts.
Call **01883 717372** or email
lbs@lonbachsoc.demon.co.uk

Bach with Tenebrae (I)

Saturday 14 October

Gresham Centre, Gresham St EC2 *St Paul's tube*

2.30pm-4.30pm

Choral Workshop “All that have voice...”

with members of Tenebrae

A choral community workshop in the choir's celebrated “*Tenebrae Effect*” series directed by the group's founder Nigel Short

Programme

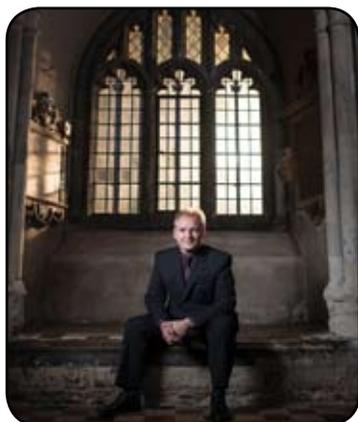
Motet “Jesu, meine Freude” BWV 227, 1st and last chorales, *Joh. Seb. Bach*

Motet “Das ist je gewißlich wahr” SWV277, *Heinrich Schütz*

Motet “Komm, Jesu, komm“ BWV 229, 1st chorus, *Joh. Seb. Bach*

A fine lutenist, flautist and singer, Luther would gather his family together every evening to sing motets, a testament to his belief that the performance of music should not only be confined to church services, but be a living, accessible presence in the community and in the home – parallels not only to be found in Bach's own life, but also in our lives today manifested particularly in the exciting upsurge of choral and community singing.

The “motet” dates from medieval times and its use was especially prominent in Luther's Germany. Bach's motets are regarded as amongst the most challenging vocal music ever written, the zenith in this form of composition, and uplifting in spirit that they inspire total immersion for audiences, yet also provide huge musical satisfaction for singers.



Admission £15. Full-time Students £5. Music provided. To book your place and tell us your voice, call **01883 717372** by **Friday 13 October** and have your card handy. Early Booking advised.

Nigel Short

(Credit Chris O'Donovan)

Bach with Tenebrae II overleaf



Bach with Tenebrae (II)

Monday 30 October

7.30pm (ends 9.30pm)

ST JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE

London SW1P 3HA *Westminster tube*

“All that have voice....”.

To mark 500th Anniversary of Luther's Reformation

Tenebrae

Steinitz Bach Players

Leader Rodolfo Richter

Nigel Short *director*

Motet “Der Mensch lebt und bestehet” Op. 138 **Max Reger**

Motet “Jesu, meine Freude” BWV 227 **Joh. Seb. Bach**

Motet: “Das ist je gewißlich wahr “SWV 277 **Heinrich Schütz**

Motet “Komm, Jesu, komm” BWV 229 **Joh. Seb. Bach**

Motet “Nachtlied” Op. 138 **Max Reger**

Lutheran Mass in F BWV 233 **Joh. Seb. Bach**

Motet “Singet dem Herrn eine neues Lied” BWV 225

Joh. Seb. Bach



Tenebrae
(Credit Chris O'Donovan)

Described as “*phenomenal*”
(The Times) and
“*devastatingly beautiful*”
(Gramophone Magazine),
renowned for its passion
and precision.

Tickets £30, £25, £20,
£15

From the Box Office,
St John's Smith Square,
London SW1P 3HA

By telephone

020 7222 1061

Online www.sjss.org.uk

Booking fees per
transaction: £2.75 by
telephone/£1.75 online

Access for Disabled.

St John's Smith Square Charitable Trust

Registered Charity No: 1045390

Registered in England. Company No: 3028678

6th Bach Singers Prize Competition

19-27 October

Bach's vocal music is not only essential repertoire, but also some of the most challenging music a singer will ever perform. Here is a chance for emerging artists either studying or at the beginning of their careers to hone their skills on a public platform, created in three inspiring settings all with great musical traditions. This biennial competition is open to singers in the age-range 21-33 years at 27 October 2017. The Entry invites the singers to delve deeply into Bach's vocal music when curating their programmes and credit is given for imaginative programming.

Last Entry date: **30 September 2017**. For Details and Entry Forms: **www.bachlive.co.uk**

The Jury includes

**Ian Partridge CBE (Chairman) Stephen Roberts
Steinitz Bach Players *directed by* Anthony Robson**

Semi-Final, Tuesday 24 October at 7.00pm (ends 9.00 pm)

St George's Church Hanover Sq. W1 *Oxford Circus*

Tickets: £10, Full-time Students Free.

On sale at the door from 6.30pm

The Final, Friday 27 October at 7.15pm (ends 9.30 pm)

St. Bartholomew-the-Great West Smithfield EC1

Barbican/St Paul's

Tickets: £20, £15 *unreserved*

To Book call **01883 717372** or **online** www.bachlive.co.uk
or at the door from 6.30pm

Student FestPass £5 on sale at the door (Bring ID)

(Full-time Students only)

***Supported by the Hargreaves and Ball Trust and
LBS Bach Friends***

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."

Past Winners: Nick Pritchard (2013), Anna Harvey (2015)

Master Classes on 23 October at St George's Church Hanover Square from 4.15pm

“Heaven is at Hand”

Thursday 2 November

7.30pm (ends 9.15pm)

Wax Chandlers Hall, 6 Gresham St, EC2 St Paul's

The German Lute from Luther to Bach

Elizabeth Kenny

Renaissance and Baroque Lutes

Martin Luther decided to learn the lute in 1503. His and many other households regularly gathered to sing sacred melodies and psalms as a family group. But another way of reflecting on sacred texts was to be found under the fingertips. Luther's contemporaries Hans Gerle and Hans Neusidler turned chorale melodies into lute pieces with the same freedom and sense of ownership with which they set famous secular madrigals and chansons: singing the words in one's head while playing alone.

This programme explores the works of the players Luther admired, as well as the composers – such as Josquin – from whom they borrowed.

Music featured by

**Hans Gerle, Hans Neusidler, Josquin des Prez,
Nicholas Vallet, Melchior Neusidler, Esias Reusner,
Silvius Leopold Weiss and Joh. Seb. Bach.**



Elizabeth Kenny

Tickets £25, £20 Unreserved

To Book Call **01883 717372** or online www.bachlive.co.uk
or at door from 6.45pm

Student FestPass £5 on sale at the door. Bring ID

(Full-time Students only)

Wine & Juice on sale in interval.

Bach Club Open Platform

Friday 3 November (ends 9.00 pm)

7.45pm

Gresham Centre, Gresham St EC2 *St Paul's tube*

“**L**ittle Paris” was how Leipzig in the economic boom of the early 18th century was known. Coffee houses sprang up forming new social arenas; new fashions and social conventions were formulated, and, with the shift in perspective, a new and exciting platform for the arts was created.

For Bach and his students, Friday night was concert night. This is the inspiration behind the LBS 18-30 Bach Club, forging a unique platform for new artists and new experience for young people informally, a bit of networking...

Past Club performers & projects include James Rhodes, Rodolfo Richter and James Johnstone, Ensemble Molière, Satoko Doi-Luck and Mirjam Munzel curators of a special series, Tabea Debus & Ke Ma at China Exchange, and a Bach-inspired work composed by Robert Peate.

Who will perform this year...?

In the footsteps of Bach, the artists and programme will be posted on www.bachlive.co.uk.

Tickets: FREE for 18-30s, £10 (Others) To Book call **01883 717372** or **online** www.bachlive.co.uk or at the door from 7.15pm

Supported by donations from LBS Bach Friends



“At Home with Bach”

Wednesday 8 November

7.30pm (ends 9.15 pm)

Wax Chandlers Hall, 6, Gresham St, EC2 St Paul's

In the first of two concerts featuring the SBP, we focus on another aspect of Lutheran family life curated by **Anthony Robson**. Music-making in the Bach family was commonplace and an integral part of their lives. We return to the intimate setting of the 18th century-style salon at Wax Chandlers Hall for a re-imagined evening of chamber music by **Bach** and his great friend the prolific composer **Georg Philipp Telemann** (1681-1767) whose 250th anniversary falls this year, a celebration of friendship.

Steinitz Bach Players Chamber Ensemble

Elizabeth Walker & Christine Garrett *flutes*

Anthony Robson *oboe & recorder*

Andrew Skidmore *cello*

Alastair Ross *harpsichord*

including

Sonata in G major for two flutes & continuo

Joh. Seb. Bach

Sonata in D minor for flute, oboe and continuo

Georg Philipp Telemann

Movements from a cello suite

Joh. Seb. Bach

Pieces for solo Harpsichord

Joh. Seb. Bach

Trio in D minor from Talefmusik II

For recorder, 2 flutes and continuo

Georg Philipp Telemann

Tickets: £20 unreserved

To Book call **01883 717372** or online www.bachlive.co.uk

Student FestPass £5 on sale at door only. Bring ID

(Full-time Students only)

Wine & Juice on sale in the interval



The Hall belongs to the ancient Worshipful Company of Wax Chandlers, which represents the candle making industry.

Bach on Luther's Birthday

Friday 10 November

7.00pm-8.15pm

Temple Church, Temple, EC4 *Temple/Blackfriars*

Steinitz Bach Players

Jane Gordon *director & solo violin*

Anthony Robson & Rachel Beckett *recorders*

Rowan Pierce *soprano*

Programme includes

Cantata "Weichet nur, betrübte Schatten" BWV 202

Brandenburg Concerto No 4 in G BWV 1049

Chorale with audience from Reformation Cantata BWV 80

An extraordinary musician at a Princely Court!

In August 1717, Bach was put on the payroll of the highly musical, but Calvinist, Prince Leopold of Anhalt-Cöthen and took up his appointment at the Princely Court in December that year. Working at Court was a significant staging post on the career-path of composers and the Lutheran Bach struck up a warm friendship with his patron despite their worshipping in different places! To close our Bachfest, we take a peek at Cöthen, pay tribute to Luther and look forward to next year and SBP's 50th celebrated at Bachfest. There's more to this orchestra than meets the eye!

Tickets: £25, £20, £15 *unreserved*

To book call **01883 717372** or **online** www.bachlive.co.uk

Student FestPass £5 on sale at door only. Bring ID

(Full-time Students only)

Post-concert supper and details – see website



Jane Gordon

Rowan Pierce
(Credit: Jen Hart)



PASSIONATE ABOUT BACH? Why not join LBS Bach Friends?

Bach's music touches all our lives at some time or another, music that expresses what we 'ordinary mortals' find difficult to say in words. Quite simply, Bach's music speaks to all humanity regardless, yet he too took inspiration from others and enjoyed musical camaraderie with illustrious patrons, devoted friends and enthusiastic students. It is this spirit that we try to bring to our annual Bachfests today, the central focus of our musical activity.

If you have enjoyed our 27th Bachfest, we invite you to become a Bach Friend to help support LBS work today and tomorrow, and make things happen.

Bach Friends

- Help us to bring high-quality artists to our platform
- Support top quality educational work (workshops, classes, Prizes) and help create opportunity
- Support the work of the Society all year round
- Enable us to plan ahead with confidence, to develop our activities and reach more people

Every Bach Friendship makes a difference

Leipzig Friends £1,000

Cöthen Friends £500

Weimar Friends £250

Eisenach Friends £100

Friends £50

Young Bach Friend £20

For more information and to join online

**go to our website: www.bachlive.co.uk or call us on
01883 717372**

From a Bach Friend

"It was a great privilege to sing for twenty years in the LBS amateur choir and be part of Paul Steinitz's great pioneering performance work, and my wife Francesca and I are so pleased, as long-term Friends, to be able to support the LBS's indefatigable work in carrying Paul's legacy on and forward today at BachFest and other events.

Philip Caine



Founded by
Paul Steinitz (1909-1988)

Under the patronage of

HE the German Ambassador Dr Peter Ammon

President Sir David Tang KBE
Vice President Rupert Fraser
Hon. Patrons Dame Janet Baker CH, DBE
Dr Peter Hurford OBE
Michael Laird
Tess Miller
Ian Partridge CBE
Simon Standage

Patrons Lord Armstrong of Ilminster GCB
Sir David Lumsden

Council Members Richard Jones (Chairman), Shaun Glanville,
Rupert Fraser, Margit Hosseini, Inge-Lise Mackaay,
Peter Smail

Artistic Director Margaret Steinitz

Orchestra Manager Philippa Brownsword

Access for the disabled at all venues



Like LBS on Facebook



Follow us on twitter www.twitter.com/bachlive



Registered Office

LBS, 73 High Street, Old Oxted, Surrey RH8 9LN

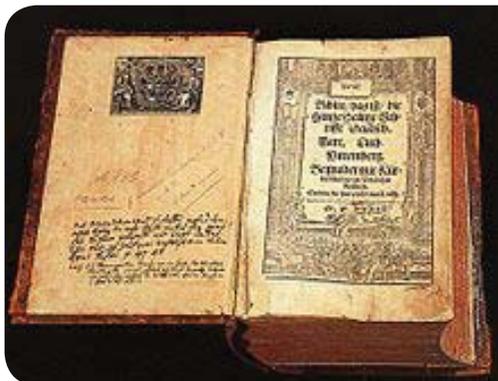
Telephone +44 (0) 1883 717372

E-mail: lbs@lonbachsoc.demon.co.uk www.bachlive.co.uk

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.

The LBS is a Company Limited by Guarantee with Charitable Status. Registered in England. Company No: 3895782. Charity No: 1082788. VAT No: 208 7083 65

The Directors of the Company and Charity Trustees are the Council Members listed above.



Luther's Bible



Luther's Hymn "Ein feste Burg"



Martin Luther and Family

Bach Notes – Autumn 2017

The London Bach Society's Journal published 1 September.
Read articles and features about LBS, Bachfest Artists and News items
from the world of Bach. Pick up a copy at Festival events or download from
www.bachlive.co.uk

Bachfest 2018
c.31 October-10 November