



September 2015  
Edition 10

## B-A-C-H - STAGE NEWS & SOUNDS

### Leonard Fullard – A Bach Pioneer

Dear friends and Bach enthusiasts,

Many years ago a kind soul introduced me to *Leonard Fullard*, Director of Music at **Christ Church South Yarra** by donating a set of material for the **22<sup>nd</sup> Melbourne Bach Festival** in 1971. *Leonard Fullard* founded the Bach Festival in 1950, held annually until his death in 1988. Occasionally I still meet people who have fond memories of these events and I share their admiration of a pioneer in Early Music, especially music of J.S.Bach, in those early post-war years in Melbourne.



The program in 1971 covered seven events, beginning with an Organ & Harpsichord Recital by *Leonard Fullard* himself, followed by a lecture recital with organ works of four different schools and the mighty St. Matthew Passion in two parts, from 4:30 – 6:00 and 7:30 – 9:30 pm on Saturday 9 October 1971. Involved were the Oriana Madrigal Choir, The Dorian Singers and the Oriana Chamber Orchestra. The text was all English, with some chorales sung by the congregation.

The following week saw an Evensong with Cantata BWV 61, a choral, violin and harpsichord recital, a free lunchtime organ recital and on the last day Brandenburg Concerti & Cantatas.

On behalf of The Australian Bach Society I am delighted to welcome you to our first concert at this historic venue, Christ Church South Yarra, with the fabulous ensemble **Australian Baroque Brass**.

*Hans Schroeder*

President Australian Bach Society Inc.

#### Please Welcome:

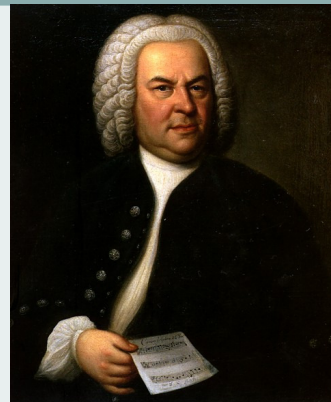
#### Australian Baroque Brass in Melbourne

Australia's foremost baroque trumpet player **John Foster** (Sydney) and his Ensemble will perform works by J.S.Bach, C.P.E. Bach, G.P. Telemann and J. Penzel.

Saturday 10 October 2015, 7:00 pm Christ Church South Yarra, cnr Toorak Rd/Punt Rd

Tickets: \$ 35, \$ 25 (concession) and \$ 15 (students/children)

Bookings: [www.trybooking.com/HYYO](http://www.trybooking.com/HYYO) or at the door



#### Australian Bach Society Inc

Founded in 2011 as an initiative of the German Lutheran Trinity Church East Melbourne.

Our **mission** is to cultivate and disseminate a local appreciation of the music of J.S. Bach, his family and contemporaries, as well as sacred/classical music in general by arranging performances, lectures and other activities.



#### Information & Contact

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## The Mozart Connection

Mozart, during his first and only visit to Leipzig remarked enthusiastically after listening to J.S. Bach's motet 'Singet dem Herrn ein neues Lied: *'Now, there is something one can learn from.'* And so he did!

On Sunday 20 September 3:00 pm at St Johns Southgate **Melbourne Musicians** will perform '**Bach & Mozart**', including Mozart/Bach – Five Fugues, K.405 and Mozart – Adagio and Fugue in C minor K.546

We have asked **Frank Pam**, Artistic Director, about the relationship between the two geniuses.

After Bach's death his music was almost forgotten. His memory was kept alive only in Leipzig and a few other little pockets of reverent admiration. In April 1782 Mozart wrote to his father: *"Every Sunday at 12 I go to Baron van Swieten (President of the Court Commission Studies in Vienna) and there we play nothing but Händel and Bach. I am just building up a collection of Bach fugues – by Sebastian as well"*

One of the most important phases in Mozart's creative development begins with these Sunday afternoons in van Swieten's home. Alfred Einstein writes: "For Mozart the encounter with these compositions resulted in a revolution and a crisis in his creative activity. He was too great and fine a musician not to feel deeply and painfully the conflict produced when his habit of thinking in terms of *gallant* and 'learned' music was shaken by the encounter with a living polyphonic style and other fundamental elements of Bach's music.'

Mozart began by copying out and rearranging some of Bach's works, went on by composing fugues in Bach's style, and from there gradually blended that style into his own in a more and more personal way. For example he arranged Five Four-Part Fugues from Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier for Two Violins, Viola and Basso. (K.405). This was followed by a period of fugue writing for various instrumental and vocal media, in Bach's style.

One of Mozart's most successful essays in fugue texture from this time is a four-part fugue in C minor, K.426, written in December 1783 for two pianos. In June 1788 he arranged it for strings and added an introductory Adagio. This piece is the Adagio and Fugue in C minor, K 546. It was written on the same day as the famous C major piano sonata, K.545 and at the same time as the last three great symphonies, K.543, 550 and 551 (the "Jupiter", which concludes with a great fugue.) The solemn Adagio, strongly marked by a powerful and lofty rhythm, plumbs the depths of remote keys within the short span of 52 bars and offers a gripping contrast to the resolute and energetic fugue. The fugue is based on a theme reminiscent of Bach's Musical Offering. Mozart appears to have been haunted by the theme and returned to it in the very last months of his life for the fugal Kyrie of his Requiem (K.626).

For more information and bookings: [www.melbournemusicians.com](http://www.melbournemusicians.com) The concert opens with **J.S. Bach's 'Wedding Cantata' BWV 202** with brilliant soprano *Elena Xanthoudakis* – an event not to be missed!



## Ensemble Nobiles Grand Tour Australia March 2015— Photos and Comments



German Church Melbourne



Sydney Harbour



The Chapter House Melbourne



St. Peter's College Brisbane

*I was very happy with the concert - it was easily the most musically superior concert we've held.*

*I really enjoyed hearing these popular German pieces, sung with so much natural musicianship, refinement and sheer pleasure in the text. I hope they return to Australia.*

*The concert was absolutely sublime... Pin drop performance.*

*I wanted to say how fantastic they were .*

**CDs** are still available for \$ 25 each. Info : Hans Schroeder  
0425 802 046

Eine Deutsche Messe (A German Mass)

Bis willekommen (Be welcome) - Runner-up **A-cappella Oscar in USA**

## Please Welcome from Sydney: Australian Baroque Brass

Renowned as one of Australia's finest early music ensembles, the Australian Baroque Brass will appear in Melbourne in a concert on **Saturday 10 October 2015**, 7:00 pm at Christ Church South Yarra.



**Australian Baroque Brass** (ABB) is extremely proud and excited to present its premiere concert for the Australian Bach Society in the beautiful church of Christ Church South Yarra. Lead by artistic director *John Foster* (Baroque Trumpet), this concert will showcase the extraordinary music of J.S.Bach, his sons, and contemporaries performed on period brass instruments, organ, timpani and with the delightful voice of special guest *Anna Sandström* (Soprano).

In addition to the superb repertoire selected for this program the audience will be treated to two Australian premiere performances. Firstly, with a performance of a newly discovered work by *Georg Philipp Telemann* for two trumpets. Telemann's 'Concerto in D für 2 trompetten (TWV deest) was only rediscovered in the library of Rostock University in 2001 and only published in its current edition in 2010. A copy of this music was presented as a gift to *John Foster* during his 2011 European tour.

Australian Baroque Brass is also proud to present the world class talents of *David Drury* (Organ) performing some much loved master works by J.S.Bach. The Prelude & Fugue in G major BWV 541 is one of Bach's most popular organ works. A reason for this could be the immediate impact of rhythm and joyous figuration in arpeggio & scale and the virtuosic pedal passages. The inspired development of the thematic material is immensely pleasing for both player and listener. The fugue is presented in a stately manner, but ends up reaffirming the Prelude with its triumphant conclusion.

The Chorale-Prelude on 'Wachet auf' is one of a set of organ preludes from a collection known as the 'Schübler Chorales'. These were published by *Schübler* in Bach's lifetime and are almost all transcriptions from his cantata-

tas. The programmed work is one of the great hymns of the season of Advent, known in the English church as 'Sleepers awake!'. It is however, gentle and perfectly transparent in construction being mostly in 2 parts with the chorale appearing as a clear third voice in phrases at regular intervals.

The concert will culminate by displaying the beautiful combination of the baroque trumpet and the soprano voice, in a performance of *J.S.Bach's* much loved 'church' Cantata 51 (BWV51 Leipzig 1730). However in this concert for the first time, Australian Baroque Brass will perform a rare edition of this work by *Wilhelm Friedemann Bach* (1710 – 1784) penned in 1750, in which W.F. Bach adds another trumpet and timpani part to the work by his father to create an even more spectacular and splendid work. Cantata BWV 51 (in five movements) is J.S. Bach's only cantata scored for a solo soprano and trumpet.

Members of Australian Baroque Brass for this concert are:

**John Foster** – Artistic Director and Baroque Trumpet

**Matthew Manchester** – Baroque Trumpet

**David Musk** – Baroque Trumpet

**David Drury** - Organ

**Joshua Hill** – Timpani

And special guest, **Anna Sandström** - Soprano







### Secrets of Harmony, Bachfest Leipzig 10.6. – 19.6.2016

*‘Bach was not just a great polyphonist, he was an equally important harmonist. Because all true harmony results from voice leading. There is nothing, however complicated, in our modern harmony that old Bach had not already anticipated long ago,’* (Max Reger) . More about next year’s Bachfest Leipzig and bookings: [www.bachfestleipzig.de](http://www.bachfestleipzig.de) .

A growing number of Bach enthusiasts is travelling every year to Leipzig. For all your travel arrangements we recommend Jutta Portelli – your personal travel manager, mob. 0417 309 948

Let’s meet and talk travel



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### Not to be missed:

**J.S. Bach’s ‘Weihnachts-Oratorium’** 5 December 2015, 6:00 pm Toorak Uniting Church, 603 Toorak Rd

Tickets: \$ 35 (regular), \$ 25 (concession) and \$ 15 (students/children)  
[www.trybooking.com/HHXG](http://www.trybooking.com/HHXG)



## UPCOMING BACH EVENTS IN MELBOURNE

- **Cantata Service at St Johns Southgate**

*‘Geist und Seele wird verwirret’* BWV 35 - St Johns Bach Choir & Orchestra, dir. Graham Lieschke

**Sunday 6 September** 9:00 am St Johns Southgate, 20 City Rd Southbank

- **Cantata Service at Scots Church**

*‘Christ lag in Todesbanden’* BWV 4) - Scots Church Choir, soloists and The Baroque Players, dir. Douglas Lawrence

**Sunday 13 September** 11:00 am Scots Church, cnr Russell & Collins Street

- **Bach and Mozart - Melbourne Musicians** with soprano Elena Xanthoudakis, dir. Frank Pam

**Sunday 20 September** 3:00 pm St Johns Southgate, Info: [www.melbournemusicians.com](http://www.melbournemusicians.com)

- **Australian Baroque Brass in Melbourne**

Australia’s foremost baroque trumpeter John Foster (Sydney) and his Ensemble

**Saturday 10 October** 7:00 pm Christ Church South Yarra, [www.trybooking.com/HYYO](http://www.trybooking.com/HYYO)

- **Cantata Service at St Johns Southgate**

*‘Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott’* (BWV 80) - St Johns Bach Choir & Orchestra, dir. Graham Lieschke

- **J.S. Bach ‘Weihnachts-Oratorium’** (Christmas Oratorio)

Melbourne Chamber Choir, soloists and Orchestra, conductor: David Kram

**Saturday 5 December** 6:00 pm Toorak Uniting Church, 603 Toorak Rd

Bookings: [www.trybooking.com/HHXG](http://www.trybooking.com/HHXG)