



CALENDAR LISTING

Classical Music

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – July 15, 2010

- WHO** Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra – 30th Anniversary Season
Nicholas McGegan, *Music Director*
- WHAT** *Bach's Wedding Cantata*
BACH
Orchestral Suite No. 1 in C major, BWV 1066
Concerto for Harpsichord in D minor, BWV 1052
“*Weichet nur, betrübte Schatten*” (The Wedding Cantata), BWV 202
Concerto for Harpsichord in D major, BWV 1054
- FEATURING** Lars Ulrik Mortensen, *conductor and harpsichord*
Maria Keohane, *soprano*
- WHEN/WHERE** Friday, October 15, 2010, at 8:00 p.m.
San Francisco – Herbst Theatre (401 Van Ness Avenue)
Saturday, October 16, 2010, at 8:00 p.m.
Berkeley – First Congregational Church (2345 Channing Way)
Sunday, October 17, 2010, at 7:30 p.m.
Berkeley – First Congregational Church (2345 Channing Way)
Tuesday, October 19, 2010, at 8:00 p.m.
Atherton – The Center for Performing Arts (555 Middlefield Road)
- TICKETS** Tickets start at \$25 (\$25/\$48/\$60/\$70/\$80) and are available through City Box Office at (415) 392-4400 or online at www.cityboxoffice.com beginning on August 5. If available, Student Rush tickets are \$10 and go on sale one hour before the start of the concerts. To learn more about all of Philharmonia Baroque's concerts, visit the ensemble's website at www.philharmonia.org.

Music Director Nicholas McGegan and the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra welcome Lars Ulrik Mortensen as their guest conductor. The award-winning Danish harpsichordist leads a program of works by Johann Sebastian Bach that reaches back to the very beginnings of Philharmonia Baroque. The orchestra's inaugural concert in 1981 featured Bach's “*Weichet nur, betrübte Schatten*,” best known as the Wedding Cantata. Warm-toned Swedish soprano Maria Keohane joins the orchestra as

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they perform the work for the very first time since that opening season.

Mortensen will conduct from the keyboard while performing two of Bach's harpsichord concertos – both written for the Leipzig Collegium Musicum, a group that gave informal concerts in cafes and taverns. The D minor concerto is an early work, Bach's first attempt to write in Vivaldi's concerto style. The D major concerto is a later work, Bach's transcription of his own Violin Concerto in E major (which Philharmonia Baroque performed to critical praise with guest artist Elizabeth Wallfisch in November 2009).

The program also includes Bach's first Orchestral Suite. This fascinating piece draws inspiration from dance and folk music, and is written in the French suite style featured in last season's concerts with Jordi Savall (March 2010).

“Lars Erik Morensen is a master of Bach,” says Music Director Nicholas McGegan, “and it is a privilege for us that he'll be directing the orchestra in an evening of the composer's secular music. We are also so pleased that he will be playing a wonderful new German harpsichord made by Berkeley craftsman John Phillips. John has built two of my harpsichords, including my favorite, which is known by audiences as ‘Goldilocks’ for obvious reasons – it's painted gold!”

For more information, visit www.philharmonia.org or call (415) 252-1288.

ABOUT

Celebrating its 30th Anniversary Season in 2010/11, San Francisco's Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra is dedicated to historically-informed performance of Baroque, Classical and early Romantic music on period instruments. Led by Music Director Nicholas McGegan since 1985, Philharmonia Baroque is recognized as one of the finest chamber orchestras, as well as one of the most exciting period-instrument ensembles in the country. Drawing on musicians from all over the United States and abroad, Philharmonia Baroque performs eight concert programs in four Bay Area cities each season and regularly tours the U.S. and internationally. Attracting such talented guest artists as mezzo-soprano Susan Graham, conductor Jordi Savall, violinist Monica Huggett, recorder player Marion Verbruggen and soprano Isabel Bayrakdarian, the group has its own professional chorus, has commissioned new music for period instruments, and has collaborated with the Mark Morris Dance Group, Alonzo King LINES Ballet and Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco among others. Philharmonia Baroque's 24 recordings have won or been nominated for numerous awards.

PRESS AND MEDIA RELATIONS CONTACT

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For complete biography, visit www.philharmonia.org/bio.html. Press photos are available at www.philharmonia.org/resources.html or by contacting Sasha Hnatkovich, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, at sasha@philharmonia.org or (415) 252-1288, ext. 315.

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