

philharmonia
BAROQUE
Nicholas McGegan • Music Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**COME ONE, COME ALL: AUDIENCE MEMBERS INVITED TO
JOIN PHILHARMONIA BAROQUE IN PERFORMANCE
AT THIRD ANNUAL FAMILY CONCERT NOVEMBER 19**

**RECORDER VIRTUOSO MARION VERBRUGGEN,
CONDUCTOR OTTAVIO DANTONE
AND MEMBERS OF THE ORCHESTRA OFFER INNOVATIVE
AND INTERACTIVE CONCERTS FOR FAMILIES AND STUDENTS
NOVEMBER 18 AND 19**

San Francisco, CA -- October 13, 2011 -- Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra presents its third annual Family Concert on Saturday, November 19 at 4 PM at Berkeley's First Congregational Church.

Featuring recorder virtuoso Marion Verbruggen and conductor Ottavio Dantone, the program includes excerpts from two Baroque-era concertos for recorder (Vivaldi and Sammartini) in a special interactive presentation. Musicians from the orchestra will talk about the music they are performing and utilize visual accompaniment to create an engaging, lively family event. As a grand finale, audience members at the Family Concert will be offered the unique opportunity to join the orchestra in performance on the stage. Anyone wishing to participate should bring their own instrument to play in the concert and sheet music for this piece will be available on the orchestra's website at philharmonia.org prior to the concert. (Pictured right: Kristin Zoernig by Frank Wing).



As part of Philharmonia Baroque's community engagement initiatives, the ensemble will also offer a special free Student Concert for grades 6-12 at 1:30 p.m. on November 18 at Herbst Theater. The Student Concert will include commentary by the musicians about their instruments with engaging and informative historical background about the performance, music and composers. Admission is free for school groups, subject to availability. Schools must pre-register by contacting Christine Ho at Christine@philharmonia.org, or [\(415\) 252-1288 x300](tel:(415)252-1288).

Marion Verbruggen, renowned for her captivating stage persona, will bring to life the

storm at sea depicted in the Vivaldi concerto. Ottavio Dantone, a harpsichordist and conductor, serves as Musical Director of the Accademia Bizantina Orchestra in Ravenna, Italy, and is making his Philharmonia Baroque debut during this visit to the Bay Area.

Philharmonia Baroque's recent family and student concerts are the brainchild of Lisa Grodin, a tenured player with Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra who was appointed in December 2009 as the ensemble's Director of Education. An accomplished violinist who has played throughout the world with many ensembles including Philharmonia Baroque, Grodin is also an experienced educator having served since 2004 as the Music Director at The Crowden School and taught at both Crowden and U.C. Berkeley's Young Musicians Program for many years. Through these new programs, Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra and Chorale revitalizes its commitment to education and community, bringing young people into the concert hall and helping build future audiences for period-instrument music performance.

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

WHO Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra
Ottavio Dantone, *conductor*
Marion Verbruggen, *recorder*

WHAT **Special Concerts for Families and Students**

Excerpts from:

ANTONIO VIVALDI (1678-1741)
Concerto for Alto Recorder in F Major, RV 433 "La
tempesta di Mare"

GIUSEPPE SAMMARTINI (1695-1750)
Concerto for Soprano Recorder in F Major

And more

WHEN/WHERE **Student Concert:**
Friday, November 18 at 1:30 PM
San Francisco – Herbst Theater (401 Van Ness Avenue)

Family Concert:
Saturday, November 19 at 4 PM
Berkeley – First Congregational Church
(2345 Channing Way)

TICKETS Tickets for the Family Concert are priced at \$5 for under 17 and \$10 for adults, and are available through City Box Office at [\(415\) 392-4400](tel:4153924400) or online at <http://www.cityboxoffice.com>.

For the special Student Concert, admission is free for school groups, subject to availability. Schools must pre-register by contacting David Wilson, Production and Education Coordinator, at dwilson@philharmonia.org or [\(415\) 252-1288 x304](tel:4152521288).

To learn more about all of Philharmonia Baroque's concerts, visit the orchestra's website at <http://www.philharmonia.org>.

ABOUT PHILHARMONIA BAROQUE ORCHESTRA

San Francisco's Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra has been dedicated to historically-informed performance of Baroque, Classical and early-Romantic music on original instruments since its inception in 1981. Under Music Director Nicholas McGegan, Philharmonia Baroque has been named Ensemble of the Year by *Musical America*, and "an ensemble for early music as fine as any in the world today" by *Los Angeles Times* critic Alan Rich.

The orchestra performs an annual subscription series in the San Francisco Bay Area, and is regularly heard on tour in the United States and internationally. Philharmonia Baroque has its own professional chorus, the Philharmonia Chorale, directed by Bruce Lamott, and welcomes such talented guest artists as mezzo-soprano Susan Graham, countertenor David Daniels, conductor Jordi Savall, violinist Monica Huggett, recorder player Marion Verbruggen and soprano Isabel Bayrakdarian.

The orchestra has had numerous successful collaborations with celebrated musicians, composers and choreographers. Philharmonia Baroque premiered its first commissioned work, a one-act opera by Jake Heggie entitled *To Hell and Back*, in November 2006. In collaboration with the Mark Morris Dance Group, Philharmonia Baroque gave the U.S. premieres of Morris' highly acclaimed productions of Henry Purcell's *King Arthur* and Jean-Philippe Rameau's ballet-opera *Platée*.

Among the most-recorded period-instrument orchestras in the United States or Europe, Philharmonia Baroque has made thirty-two highly praised recordings - including its Gramophone award-winning recording of Handel's *Susanna* - for harmonia mundi, Reference Recordings, and BMG. In 2011, the orchestra launched its own label, Philharmonia Baroque Productions, with an acclaimed recording of Berlioz' *Les Nuits d'été* and Handel arias featuring mezzo-soprano Lorraine Hunt Lieberson.

Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra was founded by harpsichordist and early music pioneer Laurette Goldberg. Additional information is available at www.philharmonia.org.

ABOUT MARION VERBRUGGEN

Famed for her high-spirited, charismatic and technically dazzling performances, Amsterdam-born recorder virtuoso Marion Verbruggen has earned an international reputation as the leading exponent of her instrument. She gives concerts throughout North America, Europe, Africa, Israel, Japan and Australia.

Marion Verbruggen has been a regular concerto soloist with such ensembles as Musica Antiqua Köln, Akademie für Ancient Musik Berlin, The Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra, The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Tafelmusik Orchestra and Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra. She collaborates in chamber music ensembles with other renowned early music artists including harpsichordists Gustav Leonhardt, Bob Van Asperen and Ton Koopman, gambist Wieland Kuijken, baroque cellist Jaap ter Linden and violinist Lucy van Dael. She regularly appears in the early music festivals of Utrecht, Berlin, Berkeley, Boston and Tel Aviv. In addition, Marion Verbruggen gives unaccompanied, solo recitals throughout the world.

Enamored of the recorder from an early age, Marion Verbruggen studied at the Amsterdam Conservatory and the Royal Conservatory in The Hague with Frans Brüngen. Upon receiving her diploma cum laude, she was invited to join the faculty at the Royal Conservatory. Among her many awards and distinctions, she won the first International Recorder Competition in Bruges, the Nicolai Prize for the Performances of Contemporary

Dutch Music and the Erwin Bodky Award for Early Music.

Marion Verbruggen guest teaches at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague and gives master classes and workshops throughout the world. Her diverse discography includes music ranging from 17th century Spanish songs and theatre music to her own transcriptions of the JS Bach Cello Suites. She has recorded for BMG, EMI Erato, harmonia mundi usa, Ricercar, Sony, Titanic and Accent.

PRESS AND MEDIA RELATIONS CONTACT

Karen Ames Communications:

Karen Ames or Brenden Guy

[\(415\) 641-7474](tel:(415)641-7474)

karen@karenames.com

brenden@karenames.com

John Tavenner, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, Philharmonia Baroque

[\(415\) 252-1288, ext 315](tel:(415)252-1288)

jtavenner@philharmonia.org

For a complete biography, visit <http://www.philharmonia.org/about/history/>.

Press photos are available at <http://www.philharmonia.org/press-room/resources/>.

###