

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH



CANTATA SERIES

The Bach Choir & Cappella Baroque

DR. BRIAN A. SCHMIDT, DIRECTOR

SUNDAY, SEP 11, 2016 • 5:15PM

LDG

LORD, DO NOT REBUKE ME

Sinners & Repentance

ORGAN CHORALE

Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder, BuxWV 178 *Dietrich Buxtehude*
Christopher Jacobson, organist (c. 1637-1707)

CANTATA

Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder, BWV 135 *Johann Sebastian Bach*
Robert Bracey, tenor · Tamsin Simmill, alto · Brandon Hendrickson, baritone (1685-1750)

- I. *Chorus: Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder*
- II. *Recitative (tenor): Ach heile mich, du Arzt der Seelen*
- III. *Aria (tenor): Tröste mir, Jesu, meine Gemüte*
- IV. *Recitative (alto): Ich bin von Seufzen müde*
- V. *Aria (bass): Weicht, all ihr Übeltäter*
- VI. *Chorale: Ehr sei ins Himmels Throne*

PSALM

Schaffe in mir Gott, SWV 291 (*from Kleine Geistliche Konzerte I*) *Heinrich Schütz*
Samantha Arten, soprano (Duke Ph.D. Musicology, '18) (1585-1672)
Ryan Koter, tenor (Duke Doctor of Physical Therapy, '17)

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Quartet in Gm, O haupt voll blut und Wunden *Johann Gottlieb Janitsch*
William Thauer, oboe · Fiona Hughes, violin (1708-1763)
Joey O'Donnell, viola · Stephanie Vial, cello

MOTET

Gott, hilf mir, BuxWV 34 *Buxtehude*
Brandon Hendrickson, baritone · Andrea Edith Moore, soprano · Tamsin Simmill, alto

- I. *Sonata*
- II. *Solo (bass): Gott, hilf mir*
- III. *Chorus: Fürchte dich nicht*
- IV. *Solo (bass): Israel, Israel hoffe auf den Herren*
- V. *Chorus: Wer hofft in Gott*
- VI. *Trio (SSB): Ach ja, mein Gott ich hoff' auf dich*
- VII. *Chorus: Israel, Israel hoffe auf den Herren*

*This concert is made possible through the support of Duke Health,
the Office of the President of Duke University, and
friends of Duke University Chapel.*

PROGRAM NOTES

THE PILLARS OF THIS BACH SERIES PROGRAM include J. S. Bach's cantata #135, *Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder* ("Ah Lord, I am a poor sinner") and Dietrich Buxtehude's grandiose motet *Gott, hilf mir* ("God, help me"). Both selections explore the theme of repentance, which is found in the Gospel reading for September 11th from Luke 15:10, "there shall be joy before the angels and God over a single sinner who repents."

The chorale tune of *Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder* is one people will likely recognize as the tune most commonly associated with “O Sacred Head Now Wounded,” a familiar hymn heard frequently during Lent and Holy Week. This hymn tune, seen below, can be heard in three musical selections: the organ chorale, cantata, and the Quartet in Gm heard later in the performance.



1. O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed

Both Bach and Buxtehude brilliantly personify the “one sinner who repents,” as referenced in the Gospel reading from Luke, but in very different manners.

Bach's cantata 135 opens with a chorale fantasia movement for choir and orchestra. He often begins his cantatas with the choir to bring the listeners into understanding a text from a personal point of view as a member of the "people of God". In this case, his message is "I am a poor sinner... forgive my sin so I may live forever with you." The use of words like "I" and "my" make this personal, but his congregation can also see the representation of themselves since this first movement is sung by the chorus. The next several movements are sung by soloists — first a tenor, then an alto, then a bass — and the sequence of this message is quite important. The tenor further personalizes the message from a sinner's perspective — "I am weak... my soul is anxious with worry... comfort me, Jesus" — which draws the listener further into a personal relationship with the music. Similarly, the alto sings about being "weary with sighing" and having "no strength or might" because she is overwhelmed with worry. Then, in a moment of complete transformation and confidence, the bass delivers a message of hope — "away you wrongdoers, my Jesus comforts me... the sun of joy will shine again" — to confirm with the listener that God is present, even in our times of angst and worry.

In a similar manner, Buxtehude's *Gott hilf, mir* is an extraordinary drama that tracks the transformation of a troubled soul. The piece begins with an instrumental sonata that musically depicts the "deep waters" of Psalm 69:2-3, which the bass refers to in the second movement. In this second movement, Buxtehude uses the bass soloist as a person (the troubled soul) pleading for God's help as the "floods" are drowning him. This is a troubled person in need of God's message, which is then heard in movement three when the choir sings, "be not afraid, for I am with you" from Isaiah 43:1-2. This is followed by the troubled soul responding as though he has heard the word of God, now stating a text from Psalm 130. The choir follows again with more supportive testimony, but now with a text from the Reformation hymn "Durch Adams Fall," which states that "he who hopes in God will never fall into disgrace." After this, the troubled soul (bass soloist) is joined by two sopranos who help confirm his fully regained his hope in God as he aims to "honor God's name," and "live in true repentance." The final chorus brings back the text from Psalm 130 as the whole people of God now confidently testify that they should "hope in God, for he will redeem them from their sins." This piece is a creative masterwork that weaves together theology, music, and the abounding joy that Buxtehude found through his own hope in God.

ACH HERR, MICH ARMEN SÜNDER, BWV 135

1. CHORALE

*Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder
Straf nicht in deinem Zorn,
Dein' ernsten Grimm doch linder,
Sonst ist's mit mir verlorn.
Ach Herr, wollst mir vergeben
Mein Sünd und gnädig sein,
Daß ich mag ewig leben,
Entfliehn der Höllenpein.
("Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder," verse 1)*

Ah Lord, poor sinner that I am,
do not punish me in your wrath,
yet soften your grave fury,
or else all is lost for me.
Ah Lord, if you will only forgive
my sin and be merciful to me,
then I may live forever,
escaping the torment of hell.

2. RECITATIVE, TENOR

*Ach heile mich, du Arzt der Seelen,
Ich bin sehr krank und schwach;
Man möchte die Gebeine zählen,
So jämmerlich hat mich mein Ungemach,
Mein Kreuz und Leiden zugericht;
Das Angesicht
Ist ganz von Tränen aufgeschwollen,
Die, schellen Fluten gleich, von Wangen abwärts rollen.
Der Seele ist von Schrecken angst und bange;
Ach, du Herr, wie so lange?
("Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder," verse 2)*

Ah, heal me, you healer of souls,
I am extremely ill and weak;
one can even count my bones,
so sorely has my hardship,
my torment and suffering affected me;
my face
is completely swollen from tears,
which, like rapid rivers, roll down my cheeks.
My soul is anxious and fearful with terror;
Ah, Lord, why so long?

3. ARIA, TENOR

*Tröste mir, Jesu, meine Gemüte,
Sonst versink ich in den Tod,
Hilf mir, hilf mir durch deine Güte
Aus der großen Seelennot!
Denn im Tod ist alles stille,
Da gedenkt man deiner nicht.
Liebster Jesu, ist's dein Wille,
So erfreu mein Angesicht!
("Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder," verse 3)*

Comfort, Jesus, my spirit,
or else I will collapse in death,
help me, help me through your goodness
out of the most grievous anguish of the soul!
For everything is silent in death,
there no one thinks about you.
Dearest Jesus, if it is your will,
bring joy again to my face!

4. RECITATIVE, ALTO

*Ich bin von Seufzen müde,
Mein Geist hat weder Kraft noch Macht,
Weil ich die ganze Nacht
Oft ohne Seelenruh und Friede
In großem Schweiß und Tränen liege.
Ich gräme mich fast tot und bin vor
Trauern alt,
Denn meine Angst ist mannigfalt.
("Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder," verse 4)*

I am weary of sobbing,
my spirit has neither strength or power,
since the entire night,
without rest or peace for my soul,
I often lie in sweat and tears.
I worry myself almost to death and am
old from grieving,
for my fear is manifold.

5. ARIA, BASS

*Weicht, all ihr Übeltäter,
Mein Jesus tröstet mich!
Er läßt nach Tränen und nach Weinen
Die Freuden-sonne wieder scheinen;
Das Trübsals Wetter ändert sich,
Die Feinde müssen plötzlich fallen
Und ihre Pfeile rückwärts prallen.
("Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder," verse 5)*

Depart, all you evildoers,
my Jesus comforts me!
He makes, after tears and weeping,
the sun of joy shine again;
the storm of trouble alters,
the enemies must suddenly fall
and their arrows bounce backwards.

6. CHORALE

*Ehr sei ins Himmels Throne
Mit hohem Ruhm und Preis
Dem Vater und dem Sohne
Und auch zu gleicher Weis
Dem Heiligen Geist mit Ehren
In alle Ewigkeit,
Der woll uns all'n bescheren
Die ewge Seligkeit.
("Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder," verse 6)*

Let honor be, in the throne of heaven,
with high glory and praise,
to the Father and the Son
and also, in the same way,
to the Holy Spirit with honor
in all eternity,
who wishes to bestow on us all
eternal salvation.

*"Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder," Cyriakus Schneegaß 1597.
Translation ©Pamela Dellal (emmanuelmusic.org)*

SCHAFTE IN MIR GOTT, SWV 291

*Schaffe in mir Gott ein reines Herz
und gib mir einen neuen gewissen Geist.
Verwirf mich nicht von deinem Angesichte
und nimm deinen heiligen Geist nicht von mir.
Tröste mich wieder mit deiner Hilfe,
und der freudige Geist enthalte mich.
(Psalm 51:10-17)*

Create a pure heart within me, O God,
and grant me a new and sure spirit.
Do not drive me away from your presence,
and do not take your Holy Spirit from me.
Comfort me once again with your assistance,
and sustain me with your joyful spirit.

GOTT, HILF MIR, BUXWV 34

1. BASS SOLO: Psalm 69:2-3

*Gott, Gott, hilf mir;
Denn das Wasser geht mir bis an die Seele
Ich versinke in tiefem Schlamm,
Da kein Grund ist,
Ich bin im tiefen Wasser,
Und die Flut will mich ersäufen,
Gott, hilf mir!*

God, God help me,
Because the water has entered into my soul
I am sinking in deepest mire,
Where no ground is.
I am in deepest waters
where the floods will surely drown me.
God, help me!

2. CHORUS: Isaiah 43:(1b, 2a, 3a)

*Fürchte dich nicht! So du durchs Wasser gehst,
Will ich bei dir sein.
Daß dich du Ströme nicht sollen ersäufen.
Denn ich bin der Herr, dein Gott,
Der Heilige in Israel, dein Heiland.*

Be not afraid! If you cross waters,
I will be with you.
And the streams will not drown you.
For I am the Lord your God,
The holy one of Israel, your Savior.

3. BASS SOLO: Psalm 130:7a

Israel, Israel, hoffe auf den Herren

Israel, Israel, hope in the Lord.

4. CHORUS: *chorale text from "Durch Adams Fall" by Lazarus Spengler, 1524*

*Wer hofft in Gott und dem vertraut
Der wird nimmer zuschanden
Und wer auf diesen Felsen baut,
Ob ihm gleich stößt zuhanden
Viel Unfall hie, hab ich doch nie
Den Menschen fallen, der sich erläßt
Auf Gottes trost;
Er hilft seinen Gläubigen allen.*

He who hopes in God and in him trusts,
He will never fall into disgrace.
and he who on this rock builds,
though he should meet
therein with great travail, I have never
beheld a man to fall that trusts
in God's comfort.
He helps all his faithful ones.

5. SSB TRIO: *unknown poet*

*Ach ja, mein Gott, ich hoff' auf dich;
Nur stärke meinem schwachen Glauben.
Laß ja nichts, bitt' ich ängstiglich,
Mir deines Wortes Trost je rauben
Dein Wort ist's, drauf ich einzig trau,
Und nur nach deiner Hilfe schau.*

Oh yes, my God, I hope in you.
Only strengthen my weak faith.
Let not anything frightful,
take me from the comfort of your word.
In your word alone I put my trust,
And seek your help alone.

*Hilf mir nach deinem Gnadenwort
Und laß mich deine Hilf' empfinden,
Führ mich zu einem sichern Port
Aus meines Unglücks meers Abgründen
Bestätige, mein Heil und Licht,
Was mir dein teurer Mund verspricht*

Help me according to your merciful word
and let me be granted your help.
Guide me into a safe harbor
from the depths of my sea of affliction.
Grant this my Savior and my light,
What thy dear mouth speaks.

*So will ich deines Namens Ehr
Mit Herz und Seel' und Mund erheben,
Auch mich bemühen mehr und mehr,
In wahrer Buße dir zu leben.
Ach Herr, mein Gott, erhöre mich
Ich will dich preisen ewiglich.*

So I will honor your name,
with heart and soul and voice exalt.
And strive more and more
In true repentance to live.
O Lord my God, hear my voice,
I will praise you in all eternity.

6. CHORUS: *Psalms 130:7-8*

*Israel, Israel, hoffe auf den Herren
Denn bei dem Herren ist die Gnade
Und viel Erlösung bei ihm.
Und er wird Israel erlösen aus seinen
Sünden allen.*

Israel, Israel, hope in the Lord
For with the Lord there is mercy
And great redemption.
And he will redeem Israel from all
their sins.

BRANDON HENDRICKSON

AMERICAN BARITONE BRANDON HENDRICKSON IS AN ACTIVE PERFORMER ON THE OPERA, concert and recital stage. Hailed by Opera News as having a “mellifluous,” and “beautiful baritone,” Hendrickson has interpreted standard and contemporary operatic and recital repertoire on domestic and international stages. After studying at Simpson College (BME), Brandon continued his academic studies at LSU (MM and DMA in Vocal Performance). While at LSU, Hendrickson came to national attention as a regional finalist of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in 2011.

Hendrickson’s voice has also been heard with major national orchestras including the Oklahoma City Philharmonic, Madison Symphony Orchestra, Southeast Pennsylvania Symphony Orchestra, Charleston Symphony Orchestra, South Dakota Symphony Orchestra, Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra and Louisiana Sinfonietta. The Piccolo Spoleto Music Festival has also featured Brandon’s vocal talent. He has been a featured soloist on major recordings with the South Dakota Chorale for both the Gothic and Pentatone labels.

Dr. Hendrickson is currently Assistant Professor of Voice at the Louisiana State University School of Music, where he teaches undergraduate and graduate voice students. He previously served on the musical faculty at the University of South Dakota, where he instructed Applied Voice, Vocal Pedagogy, Song Literature and Lyric Diction. He also co-directed the national award winning USD Opera.

CAPELLA BAROQUE

Orchestra managed in collaboration with Mallarmé Chamber Players.

Violins

Fiona Hughes
(concertmaster)

Matvey Lapin

Violas

Joey O'Donnell
John Pruett

Cello

Stephanie Vial

Violone

Shawn Alger

Oboes

William Thauer
Sarah Huebsch

Sackbut

Katie Rose

Continuo

Jackie Nappi (organ &
harpsichord)

ROBERT BRACEY

ROBERT BRACEY HAS PERFORMED THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND MADE APPEARANCES in Canada, India, Japan, Russia and other parts of Europe. He was awarded first place in the 2002 Oratorio Society of New York's Annual International Solo Competition at Carnegie Hall. He returned to Carnegie Hall for performances of Handel's *Messiah* later that year. He made his Detroit Symphony debut at Orchestra Hall and his Kennedy Center debut in Washington, DC with the Choral Arts Society of Washington.

A Regional Finalist in the New York Metropolitan Opera Auditions, he also won first place in the National Association of Teachers of Singing Regional Competition. Other honors include the N.A.T.S. Jessye Norman Award for the most outstanding soloist at the competition, the Rose Marie Jun Voice Award, the Betty Brewster Award from the Cranbrook Music Guild, the Joy Whitman Weinberger Opera Award, a Dean's Award from Bowling Green State University, and winner of the University of Michigan Concerto Competition.

Centaur Records released Bracey's first solo compact disc in 2006. The recording of English art songs, entitled "Sweet was the Song," also features pianist Andrew Harley and violist Scott Rawls. It is available in markets worldwide.

He holds a Bachelor of Music Degree in Music Education from Michigan State University, and a Master of Music and a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Voice Performance from the University of Michigan. He has previously served on the faculties at Bowling Green State University and Michigan State University. He also taught on the voice faculty of the Michigan All-State program at the Interlochen Arts Camp for twelve summers. He is currently Coordinator of Vocal Studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

BACH CHOIR

Soprano

Samantha Arten
Kristen Blackman
Lydia Greene
Andrea Edith Moore
Tara Nixon
Patty Phillips
Laurie Siegel

Alto

Megan Gray
Cyril Murphy
Beth Robbins
Tamsin Simmill

Tenor

Ryan Koter
Jeremy Nabors
David Wiehle

Bass

Robin Hardman
Tom Jaynes
Michael Lyle
Walker Robinson

BRIAN A. SCHMIDT

BRIAN A. SCHMIDT IS ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR AND ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR OF Chapel Music at Duke University in Durham, NC, where he serves as conductor of the Duke Vespers Ensemble, Duke Divinity School Choir, and Bach Cantata Series. He is also the Artistic Director of the South Dakota Chorale, a professional chorus organization in Sioux Falls, SD.

The Duke Vespers Ensemble is an auditioned choir consisting of 20 volunteer singers. With the Duke Vespers Ensemble, Schmidt leads a weekly candlelit Choral Vespers service. Outside of their primary service work, this ensemble presents primarily early music concerts ranging from Baroque masterworks with period instruments to various Renaissance Mass and Requiem settings, and performances at Boston Early Music Festival in 2013 and 2015.

As founder and Artistic Director of the SD Chorale, he manages a roster of professional singers from around the United States. His leadership has guided the ensemble to rapid growth and recognition, as well as the release of commercial albums in collaboration with Grammy award-winning producer, Blanton Alspaugh, and the signing of an international recording contract with PENTATONE, a Dutch classical label specializing in high fidelity classical recordings. He also received the prestigious invitation to conduct the SD Chorale at the 2015 American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) national conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Brian was selected by ACDA to represent America in the International Conductor Exchange Program with Sweden, resulting in study and guest conducting opportunities in Sweden during the fall of 2015. He was previously the founder and Artistic Director of the Dakota Men's Ensemble, which also appeared at national, regional, and state ACDA conventions. Brian graduated from the University of North Texas, where he completed MM and DMA degrees under Jerry McCoy and Richard Sparks, along with early music studies under Lyle Nordstrom and Lenora McCroskey.

CELEBRATION OF MUSIC

*Duke Chapel Choir, Vespers Ensemble
& Evensong Singers*

Sep 29, 8pm

After a year of restoration, we celebrate the reopening of the Chapel with this gala concert of choral music and sing-along hymns. The three choirs of Duke Chapel (the Chapel Choir, Vespers Ensemble, and Evensong Singers) will perform individual selections, as well as joining forces with a large brass ensemble, organ, and audience on powerful arrangements of favorite hymns of the church.

BACH CANTATA SERIES

Sundays at 5pm

Sep 11 Lord, Do Not Rebuke Me:
Sinners & Repentance

Oct 23 Serving God With A False
Heart: *Lukewarm Christians &
Hypocrites*

Nov 27 Savior Of The Nations,
Come: *Music for Advent*

Jan 21, 3pm Coffee Cantata
at Fullsteam Brewery

Feb 12 Salvation Has Come:
Looking toward Jesus' Passion

Mar 19 Out Of The Deep:
Music for Lent

Apr 15, 3pm **ST. JOHN PASSION**
on Holy Saturday



