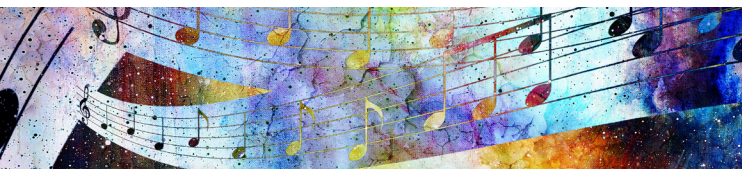
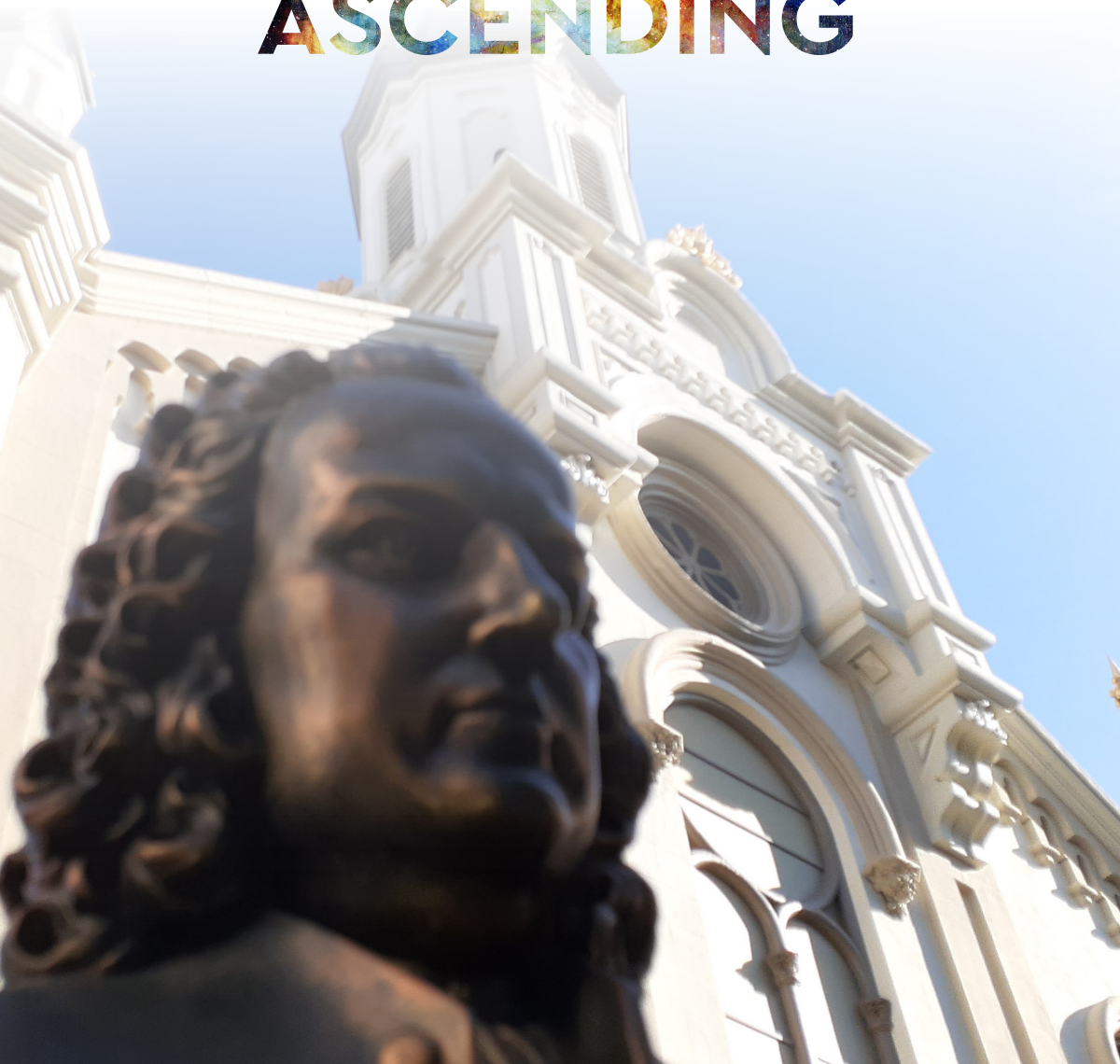


2023-24 SEASON

**BACH**  
**ASCENDING**



**BACH**  
**ASCENDING**



**BACH ASCENDING** is an emerging Savannah concert series centering on the music of German composer, Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750), which has inspired composers and performers for hundreds of years. Bach Ascending seeks to spread a joyful understanding of the breadth of this music and how it endures today. The principal venue for the concerts is Lutheran Church of the Ascension on Wright Square, which was founded in 1741 when Bach was still performing, and which has long played a prominent role in Savannah's musical and cultural life. Smaller, more intimate concerts are offered across the square at 6 East State Street.

Made possible through the generosity of Bach Ascending's donors at all levels, including volunteers, supporters, sponsors and patrons, the annual concert series is open to the public at no cost to remove any hurdles for everyone who would like to attend.

Founded in early 2020 just before the pandemic, Bach Ascending returned in 2022 with concerts by the celebrated American pianist, Jeremy Denk, and by the German vocal ensemble, Amarcord. Then in October 2022, the first full-fledged season opened with Laura Ball and Friends' "Beatles and Bach" and concluded with the world-famous Atlanta Baroque Orchestra's "Triple Play." The robust 2022-23 season included six other diverse concerts and events.

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#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Margo Jones, President  
Diana Langer Jones, Vice President  
Renee Portell, Secretary  
Susan Heun, Treasurer  
Thomas J. White, Artistic Director

#### *Board Members*

Jamie Cartright, Gail Connolly,  
Cathy Girardeau, The Rev. Matt Henning,  
Kelli Horton, Lynn Wright

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*The Beatles and Bach with Laura Ball and Friends*



*Atlanta Baroque Orchestra  
Julie Andrijeski, Artistic Director*



*Britton-René Collins, Marimba*

JOY  
ABUNDANCE  
INTEGRITY  
MUSICALITY  
LEARNING  
COLLABORATION



Jeremy Denk, Piano



Jeana Melilli, Flute



Amarcord, A cappella vocal ensemble



## THE 2023-24 SEASON



### Performances by the 2023 winners of the Mark Berry Scholarship for Young Artists

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 5:00 PM

*Ascension Sanctuary*

The afternoon event will showcase this year's talented scholarship winners: Hannah Park, piano; Alice Gould, fiddle; and Ben Templeton, vocalist, and will also feature special performances by Bach Ascending board members and guests.

### SPOTLIGHT SERIES AT 6 EAST STATE:

#### Gregory Hamilton, Baroque Lute and Theorbo

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 7:30 PM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 7:30 PM

*6 East State*

Back by popular demand, Gregory will present works by Austrian lutenist and composer, Wolff Jakob Lauffensteiner; French lutenist and composer, Germain Pinel; French Baroque composer, lutenist and theorbist, Charles Hurel; and Johann Sebastian Bach, performed on lute and theorbo. As a bonus, to celebrate the arrival of Bach Ascending's new harpsichord, Artistic Director, Thomas J. White, will join Gregory in a performance of Baroque duets.



### OUR MISSION

We celebrate J.S. Bach in the Savannah community by hosting concerts that feature extraordinary artists from all over the world; so that together we can passionately honor Bach's timeless greatness.

### OUR VISION

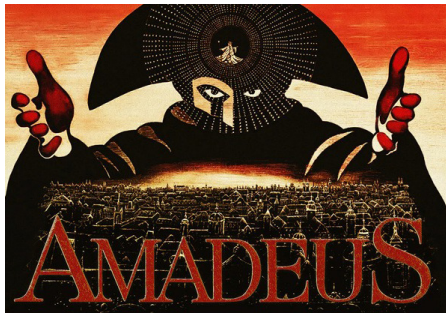
To expose and enlighten thousands of music lovers from Savannah and afar, through the gift of exceptional performances of great variety.

## Screening of the Director's Cut of the 1984 Academy Award-winning Film, AMADEUS.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 6:00 PM

Ascension Crumley Hall, Ground Floor

Wait - Mozart, not Bach? Mozart was influenced by Johann Sebastian Bach and would not have been the same musician without him. Come and discover the THREE references to Bach mentioned in this crowd-pleasing film!



## Atlanta Baroque Orchestra Returns: English Baroque Music

Julie Andrijesky, Artistic Director

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 6:00 PM

Ascension Sanctuary

The world-renowned Atlanta Baroque Orchestra returns this year for a wonderful evening of English music, including William Lawes' Royall Consort, and will be bringing to Savannah one of the world's best Early Music harpists, Maxine Eilander.

## SPOTLIGHT ON SAVANNAHIANS

### Sinisa Ciric, Violin

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 7:30 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 3:00 PM

6 East State

Sinisa Ciric is a well-known and cherished musician. Join him as he presents an intimate evening of music for the violin along with other instruments.



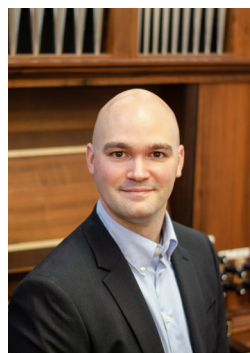
### Jacob Fuhrmann, Harpsichord

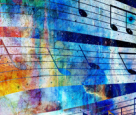
THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 7:30 PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 7:30 PM

6 East State

Bach used two methods to build large pieces out of groups of miniatures: the dance suite and the variation set. In this, he followed his teacher, Georg Böhm, and his most famous role model, Dietrich Buxtehude, both of whom also wrote in these genres. Jacob will explore these connections in a recital that places dance suites and chorale variations of Bach next to those that he may have had in mind as he was composing them.





## THE 2023-24 SEASON



### Parker Ramsay, Harp and Harpsichord, and Arnie Tanimoto, Viola da Gamba

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 7:30 PM

*Ascension Sanctuary*

Harpist and harpsichordist, Parker Ramsay, and gambist, Arnie Tanimoto, will present a program of works including masterworks by Marin Marais and Johann Sebastian Bach for viola da gamba. The first half of the program will focus on music from the 17th century and will be accompanied by the baroque harp; while the second half will focus on the musicians in Bach's circle and will use Bach Ascending's new harpsichord.



### Third Annual Bach Marathon

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 11:00 A.M. UNTIL ??

*Ascension Sanctuary*

The Third Annual Bach Marathon will be open to all instruments, ages and abilities. Although it is all about the music, prizes will be awarded for best overall performance, most outstanding performance by a student (high school senior or younger), and most creative performance. A sign-up link will be posted on the website.

### Astralis Ensemble Presents "Baroque Legends"

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 7:30 PM

*Ascension Sanctuary*

The award-winning musicians of the Astralis Chamber Ensemble: Angela Massey, flute; Paul Aguilar, violin; Megan Chartier, cello; and Alexandra Dunbar, harpsichord, will present "Baroque Legends." The concert will include works by legendary composers from the period, including Bach, Vivaldi, Telemann, Quantz and more. Trios, quartets and solo repertoire will feature each performer in this unforgettable evening of music!





### SAVE THE DATE

## Astralis Ensemble: A Baroque Brunch

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 11:00 AM

*Ascension Crumley Hall, Ground Floor*

As a bonus, Bach Ascending presents the first Baroque Brunch featuring Astralis Ensemble: a catered sit-down meal with delicious food, ending with a dessert of beautiful music! This will be a ticketed event with information coming out later in the season.

## An Evening with Jory Vinikour, Harpsichord

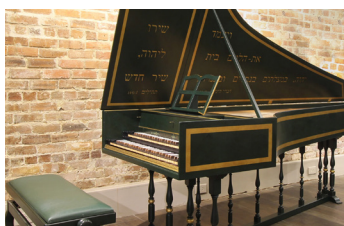
FRIDAY, APRIL 12

PRE-CONCERT LECTURE, 7:00 PM

RECITAL, 7:30 PM

*Ascension Sanctuary*

Celebrating the acquisition of a new harpsichord built by the late Richard Kingston, this dedicatory concert by international superstar, Jory Vinikour, will include music by Bach, Vivaldi, Byrd, Scarlatti, Louis Couperin and Rameau. Bach Ascending is pleased to formally present this magnificent addition to the Savannah musical community.



## Bach Society Houston

Rick Erickson, Artistic Director

SUNDAY, MAY 12, 6:00 PM

*Ascension Sanctuary*

Bach Society Houston presents rich, vibrant, historically-informed live music performances of the music of Johann Sebastian Bach and his contemporaries. For this concert the Bach Choir will sing Bach Motets continuing with music composed in the Americas during Bach's life.

*Sponsored by Diana Langer Jones*

### LOCATIONS

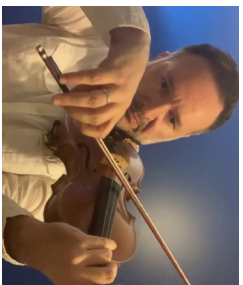
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

120 BULL STREET, SAVANNAH

SPOTLIGHT SERIES

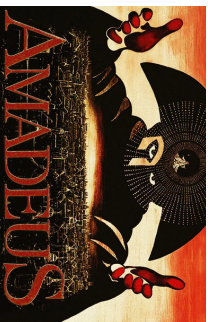
6 EAST STATE, SAVANNAH

# BACH ASCENDING



2023-24 SEASON

# BACH ASCENDING



# BACH ASCENDING

120 Bull Street  
Savannah, GA  
31401

[BACHASCENDING.COM](http://BACHASCENDING.COM)

Reservation links available online one month prior to each event.