## 2024-25 SEASON







BACH ASCENDING



BACH ASCENDING'S community concert series and scholarship program centers on the music of German composer, Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750), which has inspired composers and performers for hundreds of years! Seeking to spread a joyful understanding of the breadth of this music and how it endures today, the non-profit organization's principal concert venue 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. Additional events are offered across the square at 6 East State Street, and at other sites.

The annual Bach Ascending concert series, which is open to the public at no cost, is made possible through the generosity of donors at all levels, a dedicated Board of Directors, and a host of volunteers. Founded in early 2020, the organization will celebrate its 5th anniversary on Saturday, February 1, with the 2nd Annual Baroque Brunch.

The many highlights of last season included performances by the winners of the Mark Berry Scholarship for Young Artists; intimate 'Spotlight Series' concerts; the annual Bach Marathon; an inaugural Baroque Brunch; and a number of featured international artists, including Atlanta Baroque Orchestra, Julie Andrijeski, Artistic Director and Violinist, and Bach Society Houston led by Rick Erickson, Artistic Director.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Margo Jones, President Diana Langer Jones, Vice President Emi Higashiyama, Secretary Susan Heun, Treasurer Thomas J. White, Artistic Director Cathy Girardeau, The Rev. Matt Henning, Kelli Horton, Lynn Wright



Sinisa Ciric, Violin, and Jacob Fuhrman, Harpsichord



Gregory Hamilton, Baroque Lute and



Baroque Brunch with Astralis Ensemble









2023 Bach Marathon

Jory Vinikour, Harpsichord

Bach Society Houston

## THE 2024-25 SEASON



#### **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.

## Congratulations to the 2024 Mark Berry Scholarship for Young Artists awardees.





Macey Smith attended the Reinhardt Piano Festival and performed at the Donor Celebration in August. Alice Gould attended the Montana Fiddle Camp and will be performing a piece during the Mark & Maggie O'Connor concert!

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 7:00 P.M.

SPOTLIGHT ON SAVANNAHIANS:

## KATHLEEN TURNER, OBOE; ANNE BEETEM ACKER, HARPSICHORD; LEAH DUTTON, CELLO

6 East State on Wright Square

Through the Looking Glass: Glimpses from then to now, as Anna Magdalena Bach offers reflections from the Anna Magdalena Notebook of 1725.







## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 7:00 P.M. MARK & MAGGIE O'CONNOR: BACH AND BLUEGRASS, WITH MEMBERS OF THE SAVANNAH PHILHARMONIC

Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Sanctuary, 2nd Floor, accessible by elevator

A triple Grammy winner and seven-time CMA Musician of the Year, Mark is an acclaimed multi-instrumentalist, equally adept on fiddle, guitar and mandolin. A Georgia native, Maggie is also a Grammy winner and earned a masters degree in classical violin performance from the Peabody Conservatory.



## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 4:00 P.M. MASTERCLASS, WITH MARK O'CONNOR, open to the public





## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 5:00 P.M. WADE DAVIS RETURNS! WITH DANCING BY DEMARK MANIGO

Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Crumley Hall

Bach's Cello Suites are based on Baroque dance. Experience the magnificent musicianship of Baltimorebased Baroque cellist, Wade Davis, and visualize the dance with Savannah native, Demark Manigo.



2024-25 SEASON



## THE 202

#### **THE 2024-25 SEASON**



# THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 7:00 P.M. ENSEMBLE CHACONNE: THE GLORIOUS ONES, MASTERPIECES OF THE LATE BAROOUE

Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Sanctuary, 2nd floor, accessible by elevator

Boston-based Ensemble Chaconne enthralls audiences with dramatic period instrument performances of music by Handel, Vivaldi, Telemann, J.S. Bach, and other Baroque masters.





## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 11:00 A.M. 2nd Annual Baroque Brunch: Celebrating Bach Ascending's 5th Anniversary

Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Crumley Hall

The inaugural Baroque Brunch was so well received that attendees requested a repeat this season!

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 7:00 P.M.

#### SPOTLIGHT ON SAVANNAHIANS:

#### Eric Jones, Piano: Bach to Jazz -Bridging Baroque and Bebop

Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Sanctuary, 2nd floor, accessible by elevator

Known around the country for his mastery of the piano in classical and jazz, this phenomenal artist weaves Bach's genius into America's musical birthright, jazz.





#### SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 6:00 P.M. LOS ANGELES GUITAR QUARTET: FROM BACH TO BRAZIL

Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Sanctuary, 2nd floor, accessible by elevator

World-famous LAGQ will delight all with their virtuosic rendering of J. S. Bach and Latin American music. A great way to kick off your St. Patrick's Day weekend celebration!

### SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 11:00 A.M. - ?

#### 4TH ANNUAL BACH MARATHON

Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Sanctuary, 2nd floor, accessible by elevator

Over the years the marathon has provided a stage for talented musicians of all ages playing a wide range of instruments. For the first time this year, entries within the visual arts and dance will also be accepted. Awards for best and most creative performances and most promising young performer (12th grade or younger) will be presented, so begin practicing now!





# THURSDAY, MAY 8, LOCATION AND TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED SMITHSONIAN CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY: BACH'S THE ART OF FUGUE

Four gambists from the esteemed Smithsonian perform Bach's masterpiece that demonstrates the command he had over the Baroque era's signature and most monumental musical form.



LOCATIONS
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
120 BULL STREET, SAVANNAH
SPOTLIGHT SERIES: 6 EAST STATE, SAVANNAH















120 Bull Street





