



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Baroque is Bach (and Telemann too)

Bay Chamber Concerts presents two Baroque concerts, Next Generation Concert, and Da Capo Gala

Bay Chamber Concerts continues its annual tradition of presenting two concerts of music from the Baroque during its Summer Music Festival on Wednesday, August 19 and Thursday, August 20. These concerts feature the most famous of the composers of the time (J.S. Bach and G. P. Telemann). But they also include rarely heard performances of reinterpretations of these composers by such later composers as Schumann and Kreisler. The Wednesday, August 19 concert, titled "Baroque Romanticism: Virtuosity" will take place at 8:00 p.m. at the Strand Theatre in Rockland. The concert will feature flute, strings, harpsichord and piano. Among the most famous works will be Bach's Brandenburg concerto number 5. On Thursday, August 20 at 8:00 p.m. at the Rockport Opera House the musicians will be joined by Bay Chamber's artistic director and flutist Thomas Wolf to perform "Baroque Romanticism: Elegance" featuring the fourth Brandenburg concerto.

The word "baroque" comes from "barroco," a Portuguese word meaning "misshapen pearl." Baroque music describes a style of music known for its elaborate musical ornamentation composed from approximately 1600 to 1750. In its founding years, Baroque music was a regular part of Bay Chamber's repertoire. However, in the late 60s, a renewed interest in authentically performing Baroque music on instruments of the period – which have a particularly distinctive sound – led to a decline in performances using modern instruments. Consequently, Baroque music disappeared from the Bay Chamber Concerts repertoire for almost 30 years.

Fortunately, tastes change, and a little over a decade ago local music lover Harvey Picker convinced Wolf to restore Baroque music to Bay Chamber's programming. Thanks to the Picker Family's support, the concerts are back and have proven very popular for musicians and audience members alike. This year's concerts are unusual as audiences will hear how Robert Schumann and Felix Mendelssohn arranged some of Bach's music a century after the works were written utilizing romantic piano accompaniments.

Wednesday night's concert, "Baroque Romanticism: Virtuosity" features music by the great Baroque composer Johann Sebastian Bach. The programming will include Bach's Orchestral Suite No. 2 in B minor BWV 1067; his Adagio and Fugue from Sonata No. 3 in C major for solo violin arranged by

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admirer Robert Schumann; Violin Concerto in E major; and No. 5 of the Brandenburg Concertos which has the famous solo cadenza for harpsichord.

Bay Chamber's Baroque Bach extravaganza continues on Thursday night with three more works by the composer: Preludio from the Partita No. 3 in E major for solo violin arranged by Fritz Kreisler; Chaconne from the Partita No. 2 in D minor for violin arranged by Robert Schumann; and another of the renowned Brandenburg Concertos, No. 4 in G major. The concert will also include Telemann's Concerto in E minor for two flutes, strings and continuo.

Tickets to "Baroque Romanticism: Virtuosity" and "Baroque Romanticism: Elegance" are \$25 to \$35 for adults, \$8 for youth ages 18 and under. Discounts are available for subscribers and groups of 8 or more.

Also at Bay Chamber this week are two other events: on Saturday, August 15 at 3:00 p.m. Bay Chamber will present its annual free Next Generation Concert at the Rockport Opera House. Then, Sunday, August 16, at 5:00 p.m. is Da Capo: Bay Chamber Concerts' Annual Gala for Music Education at Point Lookout in Northport.

This year, 40 musicians from the state of Maine will participate in the 19th year of the week-long Next Generation Youth Chamber Music Program. The Next Generation Concert on Saturday, August 15, 3:00 p.m. at the Rockport Opera House is free and open to the public.

These accomplished young musicians will present a program of Schumann's "Trio in Gm, Op. 17;" Berlioz's "Trio Sonata;" Ottorini Respighi's "Il Tramonto;" Bach's "Trio Sonata, C Major, BWV 1037;" Brahms' "Piano Quartet in G minor Op. 25;" Brahms' "C Major Trio;" Kiel's "Piano Quintet No 2 in Cm, Op. 76;" Schocker's "2 Flutes in 3 Scenes;" Shostakovich's "Piano Quintet, Op. 57;" and Brahms' "Piano Quintet." The Next Generation participants will also present two small concerts at Windward Gardens and Quarry Hill for their residents.

In addition, five aspiring young musicians will perform at Bay Chamber Concerts' Da Capo Gala on Sunday, August 16, at 5:00 p.m. at Point Lookout's The Summit, in Northport to benefit Bay Chamber's education programs.

The students who will be performing are: violinist Josie Davis, of Waldoboro; pianist Will Bristol of Freeport; cellist Nikolai Renedo of Orono; violist Elizabeth Moore of Cushing; and violinist Nate Lesser of Orono. All five of these talented young musicians have taken part in at least one of Bay Chamber's Education Programs: Odeon, Next Generation, Young Stars of Maine and more.

Gala patrons will be privy to a private silent auction. Bids on special, one of a kind items unique to Bay Chamber Concerts, will be accepted during the week of the Gala. The winners will be announced on the evening of the Gala.

Tickets to Da Capo are \$500, of which \$420 is a tax deductible donation. If you are interested in attending the Gala or if you cannot attend but wish to contribute directly to Bay Chamber Concerts education programs please contact Monica Kelly in the Bay Chamber office.

Bay Chamber Concerts is a 501(c)(3) registered non-profit organization. The media sponsor is VillageSoup.com. For more information, or to purchase tickets, contact Bay Chamber Concerts at (207) 236-2823, toll free at (888) 707-2770 or online at www.baychamberconcerts.org.

Calendar Listings:

Date: Saturday, August 15, 3:00 p.m.

Location: Rockport Opera House, 6 Central Street, Rockport, ME 04856

Title: Next Generation Concert

Sponsors: Co-Sponsor: Harmon, Jones and Sanford.

Performers: Participants in the Next Generation Youth Chamber Music Program.

Description: Each year Bay Chamber Concerts hosts scores of exceptionally talented young chamber musicians from across Maine at the Next Generation Youth Chamber Music Program. This concert showcases their efforts as the culmination of the week of instruction.

Price: Free and open to the public, no ticket necessary.

Date: Sunday, August 16, 5:00 p.m.

Title: Da Capo: Bay Chamber Concerts' Annual Gala Benefit

Location: The Summit: Point Lookout, Northport.

Description: Be among 100 guests partaking in a unique musical evening at the Summit, the pinnacle of Point Lookout in Northport. In this magnificent setting overlooking Penobscot Bay, guests will enjoy excellent cuisine, the performance of Bay Chamber's own young musicians, and the company of other members of the Bay Chamber family. All funds raised directly support Bay Chamber Concerts' many education programs!

Price: \$500 per person - \$420 tax deductible gift to benefit education programs.

Date: Wednesday, August 19, 8:00 p.m.

Location: The Strand Theatre, 345 Main Street, Rockland, ME 04841

Title: Baroque Romanticism: Virtuosity

Sponsors: The Picker Family Concerts

Performers: Demarre McGill, flute; Gilda Joffe, Harumi Rhodes, Peter Zazofsky, violins; James Dunham, viola; Marc Johnson, cello; Deborah Dunham, bass; Michael Bahmann, harpsichord; Robert Merfeld, piano.

Program: Bach: Suite for Flute & Strings No. 2 in B minor, BWV 1067; Bach: Sonata in C major, Adagio & Fugue, BWV 1005 (arr. Schumann); Bach: Violin Concerto in E major, BWV 1042; and Bach: Brandenburg Concerto, No. 5, BWV 1050.

Description: Bay Chamber's annual Baroque concerts return! This concert will feature works by Bach, including a Bach piece re-rendered almost a century after his death by admirer Robert Schumann.

Price: \$25-\$35 for adults, \$8 for ages 25 and under. Discounts available for subscribers and groups of 8 or more.

Date: Thursday, August 20, 8:00 p.m.

Location: Rockport Opera House, 6 Central Street, Rockport, ME 04856

Title: Baroque Romanticism: Elegance

Sponsors: The Picker Family Concerts.

Performers: Demarre McGill and Thomas Wolf, flutes; Gilda Joffe, Harumi Rhodes, Peter Zazofsky, violins; James Dunham, viola; Marc Johnson, cello; Deborah Dunham, bass; Michael Bahmann, harpsichord; and Robert Merfeld, piano.

Program: Bach: Prelude from Partita No.3 in E major, BWV 1006 (arr. Kreisler); Bach: Chaconne in D minor (arr. Schumann); Telemann: Concerto for Two Flutes & Strings in E minor, TWV 52; and Bach: Brandenburg Concerto, No. 4, BWV 1049.

Description: A second night of romantic re-interpretations of the 18th century Baroque music by composers of the 19th and 20th centuries, together with some authentic Baroque favorites..

Price: \$25-\$35 for adults, \$8 for ages 25 and under. Discounts available for subscribers and groups of 8 or more.

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