

## **Third Biennial Bach Festival of Charleston, March 1-3, 2013**

*featuring Renowned Early Music Conductor Stephen Stubbs*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, Charleston, SC, January 20, 2013.** The third biennial ***Bach Festival of Charleston*** will be held on Friday, March 1, through Sunday, March 3, 2013, in the sanctuary of First (Scots) Presbyterian Church, 53 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC. Dr. JeeYoon Choi, Music Director and Organist at First (Scots), is the Bach Festival's Artistic Director.

***All festival events are free and open to the public.***

### **2013 Bach Festival of Charleston Program Highlights**

On **Friday, March 1, at 7:30 p.m.**, the Festival will open with Dieterich Buxtehude's *Membra Jesu Nostris* ("The Limbs of Our Jesus"), composed in 1680. This work contains seven parts, each of which focuses upon a different part of Christ's crucified body. The concert will feature a vocal quintet with Margaret Cook and Susan Atwood, sopranos; Ricard Bordas, countertenor and conductor; Oliver Mercer, tenor; and David Young, bass. The vocalists will be accompanied by a chamber ensemble using period instruments: Cynthia Roberts and Johanna Novom, violin; Phoebe Carrai, cello; JeeYoon Choi, continuo organ; and Stephen Stubbs, baroque guitar.

On **Saturday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m.**, audiences will have the opportunity to reflect upon different musical styles in a selection of organ concertos brought together in an intimate chamber setting with candlelight. The elaborate, ornate, and asymmetrical style of the Baroque period offers a clear contrast to the simpler textures and forms of the early Classical period in these rarely heard organ works. Dr. JeeYoon Choi will lead the chamber ensemble from the positif organ in works by Handel, Vivaldi, Stanley, C.P.E. Bach, Mozart, and Haydn.

The Festival concludes on **Sunday, March 3, at 4:00 p.m.** with a large-scale choral event recalling the unique story of three renowned baroque composers — Georg Philipp Telemann, Christoph Graupner, and J. S. Bach. After Johann Kuhnau, Kantor at St. Thomas Church in Leipzig, died in 1722, the position was offered first to Telemann, who declined; then to Christoph Graupner, who also declined; and finally to Bach, whom Graupner had recommended. In this way Bach became the Kantor at St. Thomas Church (1723 – 1750) where he spent the rest of his celebrated career. The concert will open with two orchestral works, Graupner's *Overture* and Telemann's *Water Music*, and will close with Bach's *Magnificat* as performed by the combined voices of the Festival Kirk Choir and the Charleston Southern University Concert Singers (directed by Dr. Valerie Bullock). The 55 singers will be joined by soloists and a chamber orchestra, and will be conducted by Stephen Stubbs, a world-renowned conductor of early music. Dr. Choi characterizes this as a memorable, "not-to-be-missed performance."

**All Bach Festival of Charleston performances are free and open to the public.**

Donations are graciously accepted; checks may be made to the First (Scots) Presbyterian Church (Note: Bach Festival).

# 2013 Bach Festival of Charleston

Dr. JeeYoon Choi, Artistic Director

**Friday, March 1, 2013, 7:30pm**

## **Baroque Vocal Chamber Concert**

*Membra Jesu Nostri*, BuxWV 75 by D. Buxtehude

Ricard Bordas, conductor

Margaret Cook and Susan Atwood, sopranos;  
Ricard Bordas, countertenor; Oliver Mercer, tenor; and David Young, bass

Cynthia Roberts and Johanna Novom, violins; Evan Few, viola;  
Phoebe Carrai, cello; JeeYoon Choir, organ; Stephen Stubbs, Baroque guitar

**Saturday, March 2, 2013, 7:30pm**

## **Organ Concerti by Candlelight**

Organ concertos by Handel, Vivaldi, Stanley, C. P. E. Bach, Mozart, and Haydn

JeeYoon Choi, organ

Cynthia Roberts and Johanna Novom, violins; Evan Few, viola; Phoebe Carrai, cello

**Sunday, March 3, 2013, 4:00pm**

**"Soli Deo Gloria"**

## **The *Magnificat* by J.S. Bach, and Orchestral Works by Telemann and Graupner**

Festival Kirk Choir, Charleston Southern University Concert Singers,  
Soloists, and Chamber Orchestra

Stephen Stubbs, conductor

Soloists: Margaret Kelly Cook and Suzanne Fleming-Atwood, sopranos;  
Jennifer Luiken, alto; Oliver Mercer, tenor; David Young, bass

<http://www.BachFestivalofCharleston.org>

Donations in support of the Festival may be made to the First (Scots) Presbyterian Church (Note: Bach Festival). Patrons wishing to donate by mail may send checks to 53 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC, 29401.