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The **Melbourne Chamber Choir**, founded by Faye Dumont more than 30 years ago, continues to be a leading contributor to the Melbourne choral scene. It is a small four-part choir (SATB) that performs works from across the musical ages, from Medieval to contemporary times and in many languages. In addition, a charter of the choir is to showcase new Australian works.

In the Choir's distinguished history it has performed with the Melbourne and Sydney Symphony Orchestras, Orchestra Victoria, the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra, and the percussion ensemble Synergy. It has shared concerts with the Blessed Sacrament Basilica of Christchurch, New Zealand, the North Arizona University Choir and the Corinthian Singers of Adelaide. It provided the southern continent choral music for the Opening of the Beijing Olympics.

2013 marks a significant new phase in our history with the arrival of a new Music Director, **Dr. David Kram**. David comes to the choir with many years of international conducting experience. He is also an educator, pianist, music arranger and composer, and Senior Fellow of the University of Melbourne.

This year the Melbourne Chamber Choir has already held two much acclaimed concerts. In December the choir will join in the Season of Light and of Freedom, as part of Chanukah, at Temple Beth Israel in St. Kilda, singing Händel's *'Judas Maccabees'*.

After initial studies at The University of Melbourne, **Anthony Halliday** was awarded Fellowships to study at The Royal College of Music London and the University of London. He received many awards and prizes and has given numerous piano and organ recitals and concerto performances throughout Europe and Australasia.

Anthony has given many recitals in the German Lutheran Trinity Church, notably the eight-part series "Beethoven and Friends" in 2007/08, each part beginning with pre-ludes and fugues of the Well Tempered Clavier by J.S. Bach. In 2010 a CD "Lobe den Herren" was released with Anthony playing German sacred music on the heritage listed organ (1874).

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### **Australian Bach Society Inc.**

22 Parliament Place East Melbourne VIC 3002

Ph: 0425 802 046 - [www.bach.org.au](http://www.bach.org.au) Online Bookings: [www.bach.org.au/events](http://www.bach.org.au/events)

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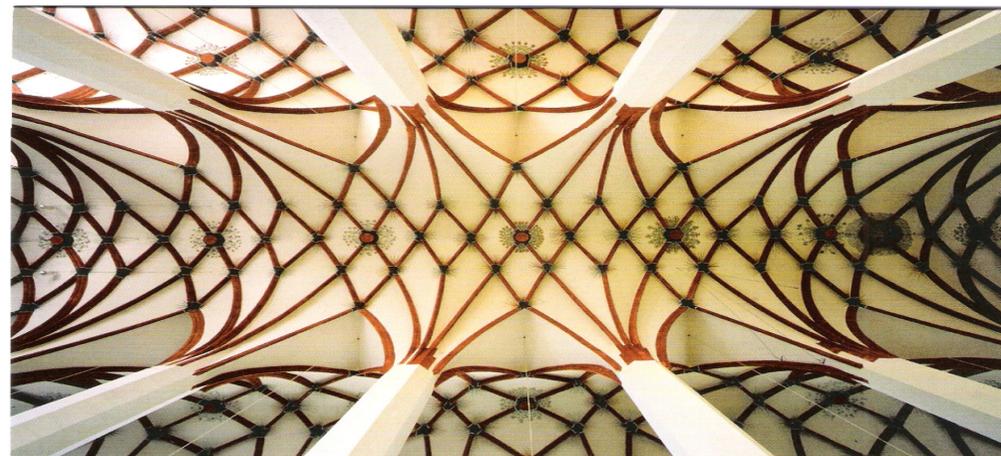
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## **Australian Bach Society Inc.**

In association with

## **German Lutheran Trinity Church**

presents

AUSTRALIAN BACH SOCIETY



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## **Reformation Concert (Bach - Beethoven - Brahms)**

**Melbourne Chamber Choir**

**Anthony Halliday (organ)**

**(Music Director: Dr. David Kram)**

**Saturday 19 October 2013, 3:00—4:30 pm**

German Lutheran Trinity Church, 22 Parliament Place East Melbourne 3002

Tickets: \$ 35 and \$25 (concession)

Bookings: [www.bach.org.au/events](http://www.bach.org.au/events)

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# Reformation Concert

(Bach - Beethoven - Brahms)

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## Johann Sebastian Bach (1685—1750)

Cantata BWV 80

‘Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott’ (*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*)

Fugue in E flat BWV 552

(Anthony Halliday, organ)

Missa Brevis in F major (*Lutheran Mass*) BWV 233

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## Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 - 1827)

Elegischer Gesang (*Elegiac Song*) op. 113

Finale from Symphony No. 5 Op.67

(transcribed by Anthony Halliday for organ)

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## Johannes Brahms (1833 - 1897)

Schaffe in mir Gott ein rein Herz (*Create a clean heart in me, O God*) op.29

An die Heimat (*To the Homeland*) op. 64

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## Program Notes:

‘*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*’ is one of the best known and best loved of Martin Luther’s hymns. Luther wrote the words and composed the melody sometime between 1527 and 1529. It has been called the ‘Battle Hymn of the Reformation’ for the effect it had in increasing support for the Reformer’s cause, initiated ten years earlier. **J.S. Bach** composed the church cantata ‘Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott’ BWV 80 for Reformation Day 31 October, first performed between 1727 and 1731.

The ‘*Missa brevis in F major*’ (Lutheran Mass) BWV 233 refers to one of **J.S. Bach**’s four short masses. Each Missa, composed around 1738/39, is in six movements of Kyrie and Gloria. Some in revised form became part of the famous ‘Mass in B-minor’ BWV 232.

‘*Elegischer Gesang*’ (Elegiac song) op. 113 is a work by **L. van Beethoven** which is scored for string quartet and four voices. The work furthers his late infatuation with the genre of string quartet. It is one of Beethoven’s least known works and is not performed very often.

**J. Brahms**’ op. 29 ‘*Schaffe in mir Gott ein rein Herz*’ seems based on the well-known ‘Singet dem Herrn ein neues Lied’ by J.S. Bach. Brahms applied some contrapuntal skill to the expressive power; the obvious fugue bristling with powerful effect, easily mistaken for simple Romantic pastoralism.

**Heimat** is a German concept, a word with no English equivalent. It usually carries positive connotations. The nearest English term would be home or homeland, the place where one knows itself best. It is where one belongs, a space one longs to be (Alexandra Ludewig, Perth).

(From Internet sources)

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**Next event:** Tuesday, 22 October 2013, 7:30 pm St. Paul’s Cathedral

‘**Brilliant Baroque and Classic at St. Paul’s**’ (Camerata Novesia, German Chamber Orchestra Neuss, conductor: Joachim Neugart)

Tickets: \$ 35 & \$ 25 (concession), Bookings: [www.bach.org.au/events](http://www.bach.org.au/events) or at door - Info: Mob 0425 802 046

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