



# Fourth New England Bach Festival

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2008

“Baroque voices for the 21st Century”

The voice was integral to the music of J S Bach. Even in his instrumental works the rhetorical flourishes and phrasing are influenced by vocal technique. In this, the fourth New England Bach Festival, the voice has pride of place.

German baroque specialist, baritone Hans-Georg Wimmer is donating his services in three concerts, the fabulous Tall Poppeas will flaunt their theatricality and Natalie Shea appears with the Australian Baroque Brass who are returning by popular request.

A highlight of the festival will be the BACH Improvisation concert (supported by Festivals Australia) in which the audience will provide themes to festival musicians to see what they can make of them. It will be music you've never heard before!

## **Concert 1: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 7:30pm - Uniting Church**

Hans-Georg Wimmer and Sydney Conservatorium Baroque Ensemble (dir. Neal Peres da Costa)

Sacred solo cantatas including *Ich habe genug* and *Ich will den Kreuzstab gerne tragen* and instrumental works

German baritone Hans-Georg Wimmer is a leading baroque specialist and former house baritone with Musica Antiqua Cologne

## **Concert 2: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 1pm - Uniting Church**

Sydney Conservatorium Baroque Ensemble (dir. Neal Peres da Costa)

Music of Bach and Purcell including 3rd Brandenburg Concerto

## **Concert 3: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 7:30pm - Uniting Church**

Revelations for the Soul

The Tall Poppeas

Directed by Inara Molinari

Vocal music of Hildegard von Bingen and J S Bach.

Sydney's unique female baroque vocal ensemble: “luscious”, “inspirational” and “music for the soul”

## **Free Event: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 11am - Hanna's Arcade**

*The Coffee Cantata*: a staged performance.

## **Concert 4: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 1pm - Uniting Church**

Hans-Georg Wimmer and David Drury.

Music for voice and organ by Bach, Schutz and others.

## **Festival Lecture: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 3pm - Old Teacher's College**

Stephen Tafra and Stephen Thorneycroft

“Arranging the Goldberg’s”

### **Concert 5: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 7:30pm - Uniting Church**

Australian Baroque Brass

Directed by John Foster with Natalie Shea (alto) and David Drury (organ)

Music by Bach, Caldara, Purcell, Pezel, Wagenseil, Biber.

Australia's finest baroque trumpets and period instrument ensemble.

### **Concert 6: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 10pm - Uniting Church**

The BACH Improvisation Concert.

Provide a theme and see what festival musicians can make of it!

This concert was made possible by *Festivals Australia*, an Australian Government program which supports cultural activity at regional and community festivals.

### **Concert 7: Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 12:30pm - Ursuline Chapel**

Stephen Tafra and Stephen Thorneycroft (guitars)

*The Goldberg Variations* for two guitars

### **Concert 8: Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2:30pm - Uniting Church**

Crossroads

Stringybark with Hans-Georg Wimmer and friends

*Tirsis am Scheidewege* (Telemann) and instrumental works by Bach, Telemann and others

### **Festival Evensong: Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 5pm - St Peters Cathedral**

Includes Cantata 8, *Liebster Gott, wann werd'ich sterben*.

<u>Tickets</u>	<u>Full</u>	<u>Concession</u>
Concert 1	\$30	\$20
Concert 2	\$20	\$15 (School groups \$5 a head)
Concert 3	\$30	\$20
Concert 4	\$20	\$15
Lecture	\$10	\$5
Concert 5	\$30	\$20
Concert 6	\$15	\$10
Concert 7	\$20	\$15
Concert 8	\$30	\$20
OR		
Season	\$160	\$120
Early bird*	\$140	\$100

\* Before 7 April (only from NEBF)

Concession: Full time students, pensioners, benefit holders (NOT Seniors Card)

Tickets available from New England Bach Festival (21 North Street, ARMIDALE NSW 2350), New England Credit Union Branches & (Credit card bookings) Armidale Visitor Information Centre (1800 627 736)

Logos: Festivals Australia, NECU, German Consulate, NSW Ministry for the Arts.

### Workshops

As part of the new England Bach Festival there will be baroque vocal masterclasses by Hans-Georg Wimmer (Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 4-6pm) and Inara Molinari (Tall Poppeas) Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May 10am-12noon. Sarah Sweeting will have a yoga and breathing workshop at 12noon on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May.

There will be Baroque dance workshops for primary and junior secondary students led by Cecile Michels in the week 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> May.

For further information about workshops contact Benjamin Thorn 6772 5889 or NECOM 6772 7203.

### Venues:

The Uniting Church, Rusden Street (between Faulkner and Marsh Streets)

The Ursuline Chapel, Barney Street (cnr Jessie Street)

The Old Teachers' College, Mann Street (between Faulkner and Dangar Streets)

Hanna's Arcade, Beardy Street (East Mall)

St Peter's Cathedral, cnr Rusden and Faulkner Streets