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## Baroque Music Festival, Corona del Mar dives into the interpretation, inspiration, and transcendence of the music of J.S. Bach: June 18-25, 2023

NEWPORT BEACH—The Baroque Music Festival, Corona del Mar, Newport Beach’s only resident professional classical music performing organization, returns with a Kaleidoscopic 43rd season. This year is a “Bach-Fest” where a broad selection of music by the Baroque master is the festival’s focus. An exquisite boutique summer festival for accessible, smaller-scale concert-going awaits the local community. Specialist professionals will perform **five Baroque music concerts over eight days**, at beautiful venues in **Corona del Mar and Newport Beach, CA**.

**World-renowned Baroque violinist Elizabeth Blumenstock** directs the season: curating and leading all but one (the Monday recital) of the festival’s performances. Blumenstock performs regularly with the 17th-century Guarneri violin on generous loan to her from the Philharmonia Baroque Period Instrument Trust. In addition to her artistic directorship of the Baroque Music Festival (since 2011), she serves as a concertmaster and soloist of Baroque orchestras and ensembles nationwide, and in Germany. Blumenstock’s choice of **Baroque masterpieces** for the 2023 Baroque Music Festival includes a **stunning selection of sacred Bach cantatas**; double, triple, and sextuple concertos by **Bach, Vivaldi, and Telemann**; two concerts themed around Bach’s imitators, and his “indestructible” mastery expressed through wide-ranging **arrangements**; and a flute recital, including two of his rarely heard **flute sonatas**.

This, the **43rd Festival**—“**A Bach Kaleidoscope: The Master from Many Angles**”—is anchored by two Sunday afternoon concerts, featuring the **Festival Orchestra**. For the opening performance, the ensemble accompanies an array of soloists—all players from its ranks—in concertos for multiple instruments. Bach’s **1st orchestral suite** completes the program in, astonishingly, its first performance at this 40+ year-old baroque music festival.

Three evening concerts positioned between the larger-scale Sunday events present **chamber ensembles and soloists**. Monday evening’s **Bach Flute Recital** makes use of the excellent acoustics in the more intimate sanctuary of St. Michael & All Angels Church, Corona del Mar. Since the first Baroque Music Festival, Corona del Mar, in 1981, weeknight concerts have been held within the hidden oasis of **Sherman Library & Gardens** in Corona del Mar. This year musicians will gather there on the **Wednesday and Friday evenings** of Festival week for a fun pair of chamber concerts taking a lighter angle on Bach’s output.

The 43rd summer season will close with **Darkness & Light**, showcasing some of Bach’s most moving vocal music. LA-based soprano soloist **Jennifer Ellis Kampani** returns, joined by debuting Baroque specialist vocalists from further afield. The Finale orchestra features pairs of viola da gambas and recorders, as well as baroque strings, oboes, bassoon, and harpsichord.

**Over for information & ticket details/**

## Information and Tickets

In addition to the ticketed concerts, audiences are invited to enjoy Baroque music performed *al fresco* by **South Coast Brass**, beginning 45 minutes before each concert. At all performances, audience members and musicians enjoy mingling for conversation and refreshment at complimentary wine and waters receptions.

- **Subscriptions:** \$325 for all five concerts. Price includes reservable premium seating at each concert and a private post-concert dinner following the Festival Finale on Sunday, June 25th.
- **Single Tickets:** Ranging from \$45 to \$55 for individual concerts, for open seating.
- **Students Go for Baroque rush tickets (age 12 and above):** \$5 on the day of performance only, cash or Venmo only, with Student ID. Please email [students@bmf-cdm.org](mailto:students@bmf-cdm.org) for further information, and to inquire about group bookings and our open dress rehearsal for students. Exclusively for NMUSD families – thanks to support from the City of Newport Beach, the adult accompanying any NMUSD student(s) is also eligible for the \$5 rush ticket rate. Proof of enrollment at an NMUSD school is required to receive the discounted rate.
- **How to purchase:** Festival subscriptions, single tickets and full venue information are at [bmf-cdm.org](http://bmf-cdm.org) or available by calling (949) 760-7887 and leaving a message for a callback within 24 hours.

The Baroque Music Festival was founded in 1981 by Dr. Burton Karson, then Professor of Music at CSU Fullerton. **The annual season of five June concerts is a high-quality musical experience and an accessible way to discover, or rediscover, the uplifting beauty and joy of Baroque-era music (written from around 1600 to 1750), right in the heart of the local community.** Over the past four decades, the Festival has evolved as both an esteemed and popular cultural institution in Orange County. Performing primarily on period instruments in intimate settings, acclaimed instrumentalists and vocal soloists assemble each June in Corona del Mar and Newport Beach.

Concertgoers have described the performances as “rapturous” and “riveting”; reviews from the *Los Angeles Times*, *Orange County Register* and other publications have praised the Festival throughout its long and illustrious history. The organization’s Board of Directors remains committed to bringing inspiring Baroque music to Corona del Mar and surrounding neighborhoods every summer.

*Artistic Director Elizabeth Blumenstock is available for phone, video, and email interviews on request.*

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**Over for concert listings/**

# **A Bach Kaleidoscope: The Master from Many Angles**

## **43rd annual season, Baroque Music Festival, Corona del Mar**

### **June 18-25, 2023**

**Sunday, June 18, 4 p.m. – St. Mark Presbyterian Church, Newport Beach**

#### **Concertos for Many!**

Soloists from the Festival Orchestra (led by Elizabeth Blumenstock) in Bach's triple concerto for flute, violin and harpsichord, BWV 1044; Telemann's for three oboes and three violins; Vivaldi's for three violins; and more. Plus, Bach's Orchestral Suite No. 1 in its first-ever performance at this Festival.

Followed by a wine & waters reception on the patio with the musicians

**Monday, June 19, 7:30 p.m. – St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church, Corona del Mar**

#### **A Bach Flute Recital: Stephen Schultz & Friends**

Stephen Schultz (flute) and Corey Jamason (harpsichord) with a guest appearance by Elizabeth Blumenstock (violin) in a program of Bach, Telemann and Boismortier, including Bach's flute sonatas in E-flat Major, BWV 1031, and A Major, BWV 1032.

Followed by a wine & waters reception on the patio with the musicians

**Wednesday, June 21, 7:30 p.m. – Sherman Library & Gardens, Corona del Mar**

#### **Flattery, Fugues & Frivolities**

Gates open at 6:45 p.m. for complimentary wine in the Gardens · Intermission coffee & cookies · Meet the musicians after the concert

Elizabeth Blumenstock and Jolianne Einem (violin), Rob Diggins (viola), Eva Lymenstull (cello) and Corey Jamason (harpsichord) present selections from Bach's *The Art of Fugue*, music by PDQ Bach, Telemann's *Gulliver's Travels*, and other works.

**Friday, June 23, 7:30 p.m. – Sherman Library & Gardens, Corona del Mar**

#### **Bach the Indestructible**

Gates open at 6:45 p.m. for complimentary wine in the Gardens · Intermission coffee & cookies · Meet the musicians after the concert

Lara Wickes (oboe), Michael Kaufman and Stella Cho (cello), Ian Pritchard (harpsichord) and strings join Blumenstock for ingenious arrangements of the *Chaconne* in D Minor, BWV 1004; 2- and 3-Part *Inventions*; the famous *Prelude*, BWV 846; the *Italian Concerto*, BWV 971; and more.

**Sunday, June 25, 4 p.m. – St. Mark Presbyterian Church, Newport Beach**

#### **Festival Finale: Darkness & Light**

Soprano Jennifer Ellis Kampani, countertenor Jay Carter, tenor Jacob Perry, baritone Mischa Bouvier and the Festival Orchestra in cantatas BWV 106 (*Actus Tragicus*) and BWV 97, plus pieces by Bach, Buxtehude, Bernard, and Johann Christoph Bach.

Followed by a wine & waters reception on the patio with the musicians

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