

The
Michigan
BACH
Festival



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1987
SEASON



March 18, 19, 20, 21

CURTIS POSUNIAK, General Director



Curtis Posuniak is the General Director and Founder of the Michigan Bach Festival. An organist and pianist, he has studied at the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University. Currently he serves as the organist and director of music at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Detroit and as the director of music for the Henry Ford Estate — Fair Lane — in Dearborn where he pioneered the Christmas Concert Series.

During the spring of 1981, Curtis toured East and West Germany and played the organs of the 16th and 17th centuries including the organ in Liepzig at St. Thomas Church that was played by Johann Sebastian Bach. He has also performed in San Francisco, Palm Beach, Phoenix, San Antonio, New York, Toronto and Brazil. His most recent tour took him to Melbourne, Australia.

While in East Germany, Posuniak was able to obtain keyboard music from the 16th, 17th and 18th Century of Polish composers not available outside the Iron Curtain. He has donated copies of this music to archives and universities across the country.

One of his goals is to unify the Bach Festivals that exist across the country and to make the Michigan Bach Festival one of the top in the country of the music of Johann Sebastian Bach.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

WELCOME

The Michigan Bach Festival welcomes you to the growing fold of lovers of the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. Over the last four years the festival has grown from a couple of small concerts in Dearborn to this year's schedule of five concerts over four days in five locations across southeastern Michigan. The Michigan Bach Festival is the only state Bach Festival in the country.

Our board and volunteers are working hard to help us achieve the recognition as one of the top presentors of the music of Johann Sebastian Bach.

This year we are presenting some new groups and artists while inviting back some of your favorites from prior years. This year we will be hearing from the New American Chamber Orchestra (formerly the Renaissance City Chamber Players) under the musical direction of Mischa Raclewsky. Also new to the schedule this year is the Christ Church Cranbrook Chancel Choir, Charles Raines, director. Returning from last year, organist Marilyn Mason, pianist Joseph Gurt, the Michigan Opera Theatre, and the Bach Festival Choir and soloists.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the hard working staff of the festival I would like to thank our many volunteers and our financial supporters, without whom our continued success and growth would not be possible. With your support our present program and future plans are very strong.

I hope you enjoy the program and that you will plan to join us again many more times.

With all good wishes,

General Director

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1987 Bach Festival Concert
Blanche Anderson Moore Hall
Dearborn, Michigan
Wednesday, March 18, 1987
7:30 p.m.

MARILYN MASON
Organist

MUSIC OF BUXTEHUDE AND BACH
Honoring the 350th Anniversary
of the Birth of Buxtehude

Praludium und Fuga, e moll, Bux W.V. 143

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Orgelchorale: Lobt Gott, ihr Christen allzugleich, Bux. V.W. 202 (IV, p. 42)

Wir danken dir, Herr Jesu Christ, Bux. V.W. 224 (IV, p. 57)

Nun lob, dein Seel den Herren, Bux. V.W. 212 (III, p. 28)

Praludium und Fuga, g moll, Bux. V.W. 148

Buxtehude

Partita, S. 768

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Partite diverse, sopra: Sei gegrusset, Jesu gutig

Toccata, Adagio and Fugue, BWV 564

Bach

MARILYN MASON

Marilyn Mason is University Organist and Chairman of the Organ Department of The University of Michigan. Her extensive career as concert organist, lecturer, adjudicator and teacher has carried her throughout the Western world. She was the first American woman to play in Westminster Abbey, the first woman organist to play in Latin America, and the first American organist to play in Egypt. During one single year, invitations took her to five different continents. She has served as adjudicator at almost every major competition in the world. Marilyn Mason's dedication to contemporary music is evidenced in the 40 organ works which she has commissioned and premiered. Currently she is pursuing her commitment to stylistic integrity through scholarly research into the construction and tonal design of historic European instruments. Recently fourteen research tours have focused on historic organs in France, North Germany, Saxony, and Spain. Her discography includes music of Bach, Handel, Mondonville and contemporary composers on Columbia and Musical Heritage labels.

BEST WISHES
TO THE
MICHIGAN BACH FESTIVAL

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Posuniak



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TO THE
MICHIGAN BACH FESTIVAL

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MARILYN MASON
University of Michigan
Chairman of the Organ Department
Doctoral Adviser in Organ



JOSEPH GURT
Eastern Michigan University
Piano Department



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Christ Church Cranbrook
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Organist



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