



Sunday, June 17 - 24, 2018

The vision goes on, the great artists, the incomparable music of Johann Sebastian Bach, the love, the dignity.

We are the Bach Virtuosi Festival.

When I first announced I would bring a Bach Festival to Portland, Maine, the headline from Bob Keyes' wonderful article in the Portland Press Herald read:

"The Bach Festival will help put city on map as classical music destination. The Juilliard School's Lewis Kaplan lines up major performers for the inaugural event..." [3/18/16]

From June 17-24, 2018, these same great artists are here to perform for you again: [Arthur Haas](#), [Sherezade Panthaki](#), [Beiliang Zhu](#), [Ariadne Daskalakis](#), [Emi Ferguson](#), [Renee Jolles](#), [Kurt Muroki](#), [Yibin Li](#), [Paul Dwyer](#) and [Jay Carter](#).

With their wonderful acoustics and intimacy, we once again return to two of our favorite locations - **St. Luke's Episcopal Church** and **Etz Chaim Synagogue**.

The first two seasons drew music lovers from several cities in the United States and from as far away as Germany. In 2018, we will again have an inspiring program:

- Brandenburg Concerto #4 featuring Emi Ferguson and Renee Jolles;
- Bach Cantatas featuring two of the world's greatest Bach singers, soprano Sheherezade Panthaki and countertenor Jay Carter;
- Concerto in C minor for 2 harpsichords featuring Arthur Haas; and a program we are calling, "*Before Bach and Beyond*," a concert that displays Bach's enormous influence to this day, including works by Bartok and Shostakovich, as well as the Schumann Piano Quintet

I am confident that this Festival will grow as its reputation does.

Share details about the Bach Virtuosi Festival with your friends and family, and please encourage them to **sign up** to receive information about the festival and our talented musicians!

We are fortunate to have added Ellie Chatto as the Festival's Managing Director. Ellie is from Portland and was the Director of Finance for the Portland Symphony Orchestra from 2007 until 2012 and served as the Acting Executive Director for a short time. She also held key roles with Portland Ovations and Porttix, the box office at Merrill Auditorium. She now lends her enormous experience to the future of our Bach program.

As 2017 comes to a close, we ask for your generosity to ensure our continued success. Please make your year-end gifts to Bach Virtuosi Festival by December 31, 2017. Our address is at the bottom of the page.

Bob Keyes concluded his article in March 2016 with a quote from me that I believe to be absolutely valid:

*"We want to be measured against any of the top performers in the world...
...that's our standard."*

Portland is your "classical music destination" and through great concerts and masterclasses by our renowned artists and teachers, it will continue to receive the visibility and artistry that Portland deserves.

We wish you and your family all the best and a very happy holiday season.

With appreciation,

Lewis Kaplan
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*The Vision Goes On
in Portland*

JUNE 17-24, 2018
LEWIS KAPLAN, DIRECTOR
ELLIE CHATTO, ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

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