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PRESS KIT



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2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

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Date: 7 June 2024

»CHORal TOTAL«

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LEIPZIG BACH ARCHIVE · Foundation under German Civil Law · Institute of Leipzig University · Thomaskirchhof 15/16 · 04109 Leipzig

Chairman of the Board of Trustees Burkhard Jung, Mayor of the City of Leipzig

President Prof. Dr. Ton Koopman · **Director** Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Peter Wollny · **Managing Director** Friederike Hofmeister

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2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

I. Selected events for media representatives on the first day of the festival

Friday 7 June

10am:

Bach Museum,
Sommersaal
(Summer Hall)

Press Conference

Podium: Dr. Skadi Jennicke, Prof. Dr. Ton Koopman,
Friederike Hofmeister, Volkmar Müller, David Chin
and Prof. Dr. Michael Maul

5pm:

No 1: Thomaskirche
(St. Thomas' Church)

Opening concert

St. Thomas' Church organist Johannes Lang, soloists,
THOMANERCHOR Leipzig, Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra,
Conducted by: Thomaskantor Andreas Reize
*Presented by GGW – Gossler, Gobert & Wolters
Assekuranz-Makler Leipzig*

7:15pm approx.:

Altes Rathaus
(Old Town Hall)

Reception by the Mayor of Leipzig

Banqueting Hall, Altes Rathaus

Please note: admittance for Bachfest press card holders only.

8pm:

No 3: Nikolaikirche
(St. Nicholas' Church)

Chorale cantatas 1

Works by J. S. Bach:
Soloists, Chorus Musicus Köln,
Das Neue Orchester,
Conducted by: Christoph Spering

Accredited journalists admitted.

9pm:

No 4: Markt

BachStage

St. John Passion, barrier-free
Soloists,
Choir and orchestra of the ensembles
Sing & Sign, collegium thomanum,
Susanne Haupt (original idea and stage direction),
Andrea Schmertztorff (sign language soloist),
Irina Pauls (choreography), Conducted by: Diogo Mendes
Presented by Sparkasse Leipzig.

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2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

I. Schedule for media representatives: Lectures and discussions

Monday, 10 June

10am:

No 44: Blauer Salon
(Blue Salon)

Lecture

Hymns – a springboard for experimentation: The chorale in Protestant church music from Luther to Bach

Lecture by Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Peter Wollny
(with translation)

Please register your attendance at the Press Office.

3.30pm:

No 51: Blauer Salon (Blue
Salon)

Discussion series »Michael Maul meets«

Michael Maul and Bernhard Schrammek in a live podcast on their favourite cantatas (with translation)

Presented by the Neue Bachgesellschaft e. V.

Please register your attendance at the Press Office.

Tuesday, 11 June

10am:

No 62: Blauer Salon
(Blue Salon)

Lecture

The chorale as keyboard music by Bach

Lecture by Dr. Christine Blanken (with translation)

Please register your attendance at the Press Office.

3.30pm:

No 68: Blauer Salon
(Blue Salon)

Discussion series »Michael Maul meets«

Michael Maul meets Thomas Höft (librettist of the opera »J. S. Bach – Die Apokalypse«) and Florian Sievers (tenor): Bach, opera composer? (with translation)

Presented by the Neue Bachgesellschaft e. V.

Please register your attendance at the Press Office.

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I. Schedule for press representatives: Lectures and discussions

Wednesday, 12 June

10am:

Lecture

No 78: Blauer Salon
(Blue Salon)

Bach's original part scores for the annual cycle of chorale cantatas – and what we can learn from them –
Lecture by Dr. Bernd Koska (with translation)

Please register your attendance at the Press Office.

3.30pm:

Discussion series »Michael Maul meets«

No 86: Blauer Salon
(Blue Salon)

Michael Maul meets Daniel Johannsen (tenor) and Klaus Mertens (bass): A life with Bach – a winter journey or an Easter walk? (with translation)

Presented by the Neue Bachgesellschaft e. V.

Please register your attendance at the Press Office.

Thursday, 13 June

10am:

Lecture

No 93: Blauer Salon
(Blue Salon)

News from the workshop: researchers provide insights into current projects of the Bach Archive (with translation)

Please register your attendance at the Press Office.

3.30pm:

Discussion series »Michael Maul meets«

No 100: Blauer Salon
(Blue Salon)

Michael Maul meets Stefan Haupt (film director) and Knut Elstermann (film critic): Bach on film – an impossibility? (with translation)

Presented by the Neue Bachgesellschaft e. V.

Please register your attendance at the Press Office.

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2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

I. Schedule for press representatives: Lectures and discussions

Friday, 14 June

10am

No 107: Blauer Salon
(Blue Salon)

BachSprechstunde – a time for talking about Bach

Everything you ever wanted to know about Bach. Just ask the researchers at the Bach Archive (with translation).

Please register your attendance at the Press Office.

3.30pm:

No 115: Blauer Salon
(Blue Salon)

Discussion series »Michael Maul meets«

Michael Maul meets Hans-Christoph Rademann and Thomaskantor Andreas Reize: 300 years of the *St. John Passion* and no end in sight (with translation)
Presented by the Neue Bachgesellschaft e. V.

Please register your attendance at the Press Office.

Saturday, 15 June

10.30am:

No 125: Blauer Salon
(Blue Salon)

Presentation of the 2025 Bachfest

Artistic Director Prof. Dr. Michael Maul presents the 2025 Bachfest.

Please register your attendance at the Press Office.

2pm:

No 130: Blauer Salon (Blue Salon)

Bach Network in Dialogue – Panel Discussions

Dialogue-format panel discussions presenting the latest research on Bach's cantatas (in English).
Featuring John Butt, Stephen Crist, Michael Maul, Daniel R. Melamed, Ruth Tatlow and others.

Please register your attendance at the Press Office.

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2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

II. Press release

THE 2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST AT A GLANCE

Entitled »CHORal TOTAL«, the 2024 Leipzig Bachfest celebrates two anniversaries: 500 years of Luther chorales and 300 years of Johann Sebastian Bach's cycle of chorale cantatas.

In 1524, Martin Luther published the first Protestant hymnbook in Wittenberg and in doing so laid the foundations for the grand tradition of Protestant chorales. Since then, generations of composers have used them as a springboard for experimentation, among them Johann Sebastian Bach: in his second year in Leipzig, the Thomaskantor chose the Lutheran chorale to be the musical DNA of his entire annual cycle of cantatas.

In 1724-25, Bach composed a good 50 cantatas based on well-known church hymns. At the 2024 Leipzig Bachfest, they will be performed in 16 concerts by 30 Bach choirs from five continents – artistic director Michael Maul's continuation of the concept behind the 2022 Leipzig Bachfest, which brought Bach ensembles, from amateur choirs to professional ensembles, to Leipzig from all over the world.

Also celebrating its 300th anniversary in 2024 is Bach's first Leipzig Passion oratorio, the *St. John Passion*. The Passion will be performed in three different formats: (1) a historically informed performance by the THOMANERCHOR Leipzig, conducted by the cantor of St. Thomas' Andreas Reize and with the same musical forces as at Bach's time, (2) a stage performance by the Bonn ensemble Vox Bona, and (3) at BachStage on Leipzig's Markt square, an admission-free and barrier-free version performed and simultaneously signed by the ensemble Sing & Sign, in which the audience is invited to sing along with the chorales. A total of 157 events are scheduled for this festival season in more than 30 venues in and around Leipzig.

The Leipzig Bachfest is funded by the City of Leipzig and the Ministry of Science, Culture and Tourism of the Free State of Saxony. The main sponsor of the Leipzig Bachfest is Sparkasse Leipzig.

2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

III. Short texts

Ensembles and conductors

Many of the best-known Bach interpreters will be performing at the Leipzig Bachfest, including ensembles such as the Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra & Choir conducted by Bach Medal laureate Ton Koopman, the Armida Quartet, Chorus Musicus Köln & Das Neue Orchester conducted by Christoph Spering, the Freiburger Barockorchester with Kristian Bezuidenhout and Neues Bachisches Collegium Musicum conducted by Bach Medal laureate Reinhard Goebel.

Soloists

Singing with the ensembles at the 2024 Leipzig Bachfest are soloists including Elvira Bill (alto), Hana Blažíková (soprano), Elisabeth Breuer (soprano), Alexander Chance (altus), Maarten Engeltjes (altus), Miriam Feuersinger (soprano), Bach Prize winner Patrick Grahl (tenor), Bach Prize winner Daniel Johannsen (tenor), Benedikt Kristjánsson (tenor), Tilman Lichdi (tenor), Bach Medal laureate Klaus Mertens (bass), Dorothee Mields (soprano), Alex Potter (altus), Bach Prize winner Benno Schachtner (altus), Matthias Winckler (bass) and Hanna Zumsande (soprano).

Among the guest musicians performing **in recitals and chamber music and organ concerts** are the violinists Leonidas Kavakos and Hélène Schmitt, as well as Chouchane Siranossian, who as **artist-in-residence** can be heard in six Bachfest events, including the opening concert on 7 June with Alban Berg's *Violin Concerto (To the memory of an angel)*. Further festival concerts feature harpsichordists Kit Armstrong, Kristian Bezuidenhout, Christine Schornsheim, Andreas Staier and Bach Prize winner Alexander von Heißen, guitarists Thibaut Garcia and Antoine Morinière and the pianist and Bach Prize winner Alexander Paley.

2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

III. Short texts

Leipzig, the city of music

The **THOMANERCHOR Leipzig** and **Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra** traditionally perform at the festival's opening concert; the two ensembles will also be providing the musical accompaniment at the open-air church service on Leipzig's Markt square on 9 June. Leipzig's two composer houses **Mendelssohn House** and **Schumann House**, the **MDR Children's Choir** and **MDR Symphony Orchestra** and the **Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy University of Music and Theatre Leipzig** also figure prominently in the festival programme with their own productions.

Festival highlights

The Apocalypse – an unusual stage production by OPERA2DAY and the Nederlandse Bachvereniging based on choruses and arias by Bach – presents Johann Sebastian Bach, who never composed an opera himself, as a talented composer of musical drama. With the **Monteverdi Choir and members of the English Baroque Soloists**, Jonathan Sells will be turning his attention to Bach's motets in a double concert – in dialogue with Isabelle Faust, with her interpretation of Bach's *Sonatas and Partitas for solo violin*. This year, Bach's **St. Matthew Passion** will be performed by Václav Luks and Collegium 1704, while the **B Minor Mass** which concludes the festival can be heard on 16 June, sung by Collegium Vocale Gent under the direction of Philippe Herreweghe.

Bach research and panel discussions at the Bachfest

As every year, scholars from the **Bach Archive** and international guest speakers will be accompanying the Bachfest with free lectures, pre-concert talks and discussion panels, as well as the »*BachSprechstunde*« – a time for talking about Bach – and a seminar. Also during the festival, publishing house **Carus-Verlag** will organise a workshop for choir conductors with Ton Koopman.

2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

IV. BachStage 2024

»BachStage« on Leipzig's Markt square on the opening weekend is an invitation to admission-free open-air concerts.

BachStage 2024 kicks off at 7pm on 7 June with vocal polyphony from Constantinople to Andalusia via Leipzig in a concert entitled **Voices and Memories**: the Babylon Orchestra, founded in 2016, is a Berlin-based fusion ensemble that combines European and Middle Eastern music with the sound of a big band and a contemporary orchestra. With the subsequent performance of a **barrier-free St. John Passion** at 9pm, Leipzig celebrates the 300th anniversary of the premiere of this epoch-making oratorio. In a sung and simultaneously signed version of this work, the Leipzig ensemble Sing & Sign will bring the emotions and experience of the music closer to the hearing impaired.

The second day of BachStage is devoted entirely to the theme of this year's festival, CHORal TOTAL. Kicking off the evening at 6pm on 8 June, Rudolf Lutz (keyboard) and a quartet from the J. S. Bach Foundation of St. Gallen will host a public chorale-singing event: **Choral unlimited!** presents well-known chorales by Martin Luther, Martin Rinckart, Philipp Nicolai, Paul Gerhardt and Joachim Neander. Though half a millennium old, these hymns are still as fresh and atmospheric as ever – and have never ceased to inspire musicians to all kinds of musical experiments. The presenter is the Bachfest's artistic director, Prof. Dr. Michael Maul.

At 7.30pm, the Bach Collegium de Asunción and LeipJAZZig-Orkester conducted by Stephan König will be building whole new musical worlds with their jazz versions of Bach and chorales in **Choral Modal**. Starting at 9.15pm, **Bach goes Big Band** featuring the legendary hr-Bigband led by Jim McNeely concludes the second evening of BachStage with the gripping sound that results when Baroque austerity meets jazzy spontaneity.

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2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

IV. BachStage 2024

The final day of BachStage begins at 10am with an **open-air church service** in which the THOMANERCHOR Leipzig and the Gewandhaus Orchestra will be participating, conducted by Thomaskantor Andreas Reize. Representing the 30 or so Bach choirs from 13 different countries which are singing at the 2024 Bachfest, from 2pm on Market square three choirs will be introducing themselves in the aptly named **Bach-Chöre stellen sich vor** («Bach choirs introduce themselves») and performing excerpts from their repertoire spanning the early Baroque to the present. **The choirs are:** BachChor Tübingen, Bachchor Mannheim and the Bach Collegium Paris.

The evening programme on 9 June kicks off at 7pm with **Inventions: Reinventions**. In addition to all the popular two-voice *Inventions*, jazz pianist Dan Tepfer presents nine free improvisations in the »missing« keys, creating a new, complete cycle through all 24 keys. In doing so, the artist is following in the footsteps of one of the greatest improvisors of all times: Johann Sebastian Bach. In the project **Sampling Baroque: Bach**, Burak Özdemir and Musica Sequenza develop a new kind of music, free from ideologies, curious, sound-focused and going beyond the respective musical origins. In a meeting of Baroque and modern sounds, we will hear period instruments from the eighteenth century side by side with synthesizers and digital samples, promising musical forays into the unexplored world of electro-Baroque. Musica Sequenza led by Burak Özdemir (bassoon, electronics) concludes BachStage 2024 on 9 June, starting at 9.15pm.

BachStage 2024 is presented by the Bachfest's main sponsor Sparkasse Leipzig.

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2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

V. Statements

Dr. Skadi Jennicke, Deputy Mayor for Culture of the City of Leipzig:

»Innumerable Bach lovers all over the world play music together in ensembles that bear the name of the Leipzig Thomaskantor. In 2024, a large number of these Bach choirs will be back in Leipzig to live out their enthusiasm for Bach and musical performance together in the city where the composer spent the greater part of his career. The City of Leipzig is not only the guardian of an important musical legacy; it is also deeply committed to promoting an extraordinarily rich music-making culture, from world-famous ensembles such as the THOMANERCHOR Leipzig right through to amateur ensembles – and since 2003 has, moreover, honoured outstanding Bach interpreters with the Bach Medal at the Bachfest. I look forward to a festival edition featuring excellent musicians, the awarding of the Bach Medal to the harpsichordist Andreas Staier and above all, to meeting and talking with the international Bach family.«

Dr. Harald Langenfeld, President and CEO Sparkasse Leipzig (main sponsor and presenting partner of BachStage):

»As the main sponsor of this magnificent event, we are immensely proud of our 25 years of partnership. During this quarter of a century, it has grown into a veritable institution. Year after year, renowned German and international artists attract visitors to Leipzig from all over the world, who come to celebrate and experience together the work of one of the greatest composers of all times. Sincerest acknowledgement and thanks are due to the artistic director, Prof. Dr. Michael Maul, his team and all those who have made the Bachfest what it is today: a unique classical music festival which has become an integral part of the cultural agenda of our city.«

Friederike Hofmeister, Managing Director:

»We are pleased to report that demand from our international audience has been high again this year: tickets have again been sold to nearly 50 countries so far. This is why we are confident that the 2024 Bachfest will cover its costs. But even visitors who decide at the last minute still have a chance: even if many events are already sold out, there are still tickets available for a number of interesting concerts. As the new managing director of the Bach Archive Foundation, I am looking forward tremendously to my first Leipzig Bachfest. But I already have huge respect for what the Leipzig Bach Archive team has already achieved with the numerous partner institutions here in Leipzig, the »city of music«.«

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Prof. Dr. Ton Koopman, President of the Leipzig Bach Archive:

»Once again this year, the Bach family will be reuniting in Leipzig to play music together. For my part, I have the great pleasure of again conducting the BACH – We-Are-FAMILY Project Choir specially formed during the Bachfest – an especially moving experience for both the choristers and myself. Besides this, with my own Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra & Choir and soloists I will be performing two further concerts of chorale cantatas by the great master Johann Sebastian Bach on 12 and 14 June, and will be working with other choir conductors in a Carus-Verlag workshop on the motet *Jesu, meine Freude*, BWV 227. Over the past few years, the Leipzig Bachfest has grown not only into a globally important music festival, but also a hub for famous musicians, amateur choristers, concert-lovers and, of course, Bach research, on the basis of which the Leipzig Bach cosmos prospers and thrives. I am very grateful to be a part of such a great and fascinating family!«

Prof. Dr. Michael Maul, Artistic Director:

»CHORal Total" promises to be an emotional experience – besides the entire bandwidth of Bach all-stars, more than 30 Bach choirs from all over the world will be our guests. Together, they will be performing Bach's best-loved cantata cycle and, moreover, in a way that enables every visitor to participate. With this programme, what began here four years ago with the slogan ›BACH – We are FAMILY!« – that is, transforming our annual Bachfest into the best-ever ›self-help group« for Bach fans from all over the world – is coming to a head. In short, I simply cannot wait for the upcoming Bachfest, and of one thing I am certain: no one will be able to resist the enchantment of the chorales, especially in Bach's incomparably polished arrangements!«

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2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

V. Statements

Andreas Staier, laureate of the 2024 Bach Medal:

»My journeys to the city of Bach have always been something of a pilgrimage. I still clearly remember my first visit to Leipzig in September 1986, and how deeply moved I was when I entered St. Thomas' Church and laid a red rose on the tomb slab.

I had come on a trade fair visa, which at that time was the least bureaucratic way of coming into the country for someone like me, who had no relatives in the GDR. Christine Schornsheim, whose acquaintance I had made the previous year at the Stuttgart Bach Festival, had kindly offered to let me sleep on the pull-out sofa in her living room in Grünau. We undertook some unforgettable excursions in her Trabi, cheerfully and blithely ignoring the rule that forbade trade fair visitors from leaving the district of Leipzig.

That's a long time ago and much has happened in the meantime. But even now I approach Leipzig with the »weak but eager« steps of the pilgrim and hardly need emphasise how delighted I am, in this city especially, to be honoured with the Bach medal.«

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VI. Awarding of the 2024 Bach Medal to Andreas Staier

The 2024 City of Leipzig Bach Medal goes to the harpsichordist and pianist Andreas Staier. The music of Johann Sebastian Bach has always been at the centre of his wide-ranging repertoire: Staier's interpretations of Bach's harpsichord concertos, the *Partitas*, the *Goldberg Variations* and both parts of the *Well-Tempered Clavier* are reference performances.

Andreas Staier's style of play attests not only a spiritual and intellectual understanding of the works, but also the gift of putting across his ideas in a magisterial and absolutely natural manner. The artist regularly performs on the concert platform both on the harpsichord and pianoforte, with ensembles such as the Freiburger Barockorchester, Concerto Köln and the Orquestra Barroca Casa da Música Porto. Staier was artist-in-residence at the international music centre AMUZ in Antwerp from 2012 to 2016 and from 2011 to 2021 at the Opéra de Dijon. For the past few years, the musician has also worked as a conductor and orchestra director.

On the occasion of the 2024 Leipzig Bachfest, the City of Leipzig Bach Medal will be awarded to Andreas Staier by the Deputy Mayor of Leipzig and Councillor for Finance, Torsten Bonew, and the director of the Bach Archive Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Peter Wollny, following a recital by the artist in the banquet hall of Leipzig Old Town Hall on 14 June. Peter Wollny will also deliver the laudatory speech on the artist, who will play works by Jean-Henri D'Anglebert, Georg Muffat and Johann Sebastian Bach at 11.30am.

In recognition of their special services to the upholding of Bach's work, previous laureates of the City of Leipzig Bach Medal include the THOMANERCHOR Leipzig (2023), Sir András Schiff (2022), Prof. Dr. Hans-Joachim Schulze and Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. mult. Christoph Wolff (2021), Angela Hewitt (2020), Prof. Dr. h. c. Robert Levin (2018), Masaaki Suzuki (2012), Herbert Blomstedt (2011), Philippe Herreweghe (2010), Nikolaus Harnoncourt † (2007), Prof. Dr. Ton Koopman (2006), Sir John Eliot Gardiner (2005), Helmuth Rilling (2004) and Gustav Leonhardt † (2003).

2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

VII. Leipzig Bach Museum during the Bachfest

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS IN THE BACH MUSEUM

Voices of women from the Bach family

from 24 May to 10 November 2024

The world over, the name Bach is synonymous with Johann Sebastian Bach. But what do we know about the women of the famous family of musicians? About the court singer Anna Magdalena, the opera singer Cecilia, the teacher Christina Louisa or the sealing wax dealer Augusta Magdalena?

This special exhibition presents these women in four chapters: as family managers, singers, businesswomen and living together as a community. At different audio stations, 33 women raise their voices and tell us about their lives – from Bach's mother to his great-granddaughters. Valuable music manuscripts, letters, illustrations and documents provide insights into their everyday lives and their scope of action. Women's portraits from the collection of the conductor and harpsichordist Ton Koopman broaden the view to include European women stage artists, composers, music lovers and poets.

Numerous music samples provide an introduction to the repertoire of the female singers of the Bach family and their European colleagues. The special exhibition is part of this year's theme *Stark! Weibliche Lebenswelten in den Leipziger Musikmuseen* (Strong! Women's worlds in Leipzig's Music Museums). In exhibitions, guided tours, concerts and workshops, the Bach Museum, Mendelssohn House, Schumann House, the Grieg Meeting Place, the City History Museum and Musical Instruments Museum make the decisive role of women in the history of music visible and audible. All these institutions sincerely thank the Ostdeutsche Sparkasse Foundation and Sparkasse Leipzig for their generous support.

Masterpieces on a weekly basis. Bach's Annual Cycle of Chorale Cantatas turns 300

Special exhibition in the Treasure Room starting on 4 June 2024

In June 1724, Johann Sebastian Bach began his largest, completed composition project: for 40 weeks, he composed nothing but chorale cantatas based on one fundamental musical and poetical idea. The consistency of the annual cycle of chorale cantatas is unparalleled. With it, Bach systematically achieved the »ultimate goal« of his life that he had formulated back in 1708 in his request for dismissal to

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the Mühlhausen town council: namely, to perform a »well-regulated church music to the glory of God«.

The special exhibition in the museum's Treasure Room presents selected »masterpieces on a weekly basis« and provides an introduction to topics such as hymns, chorale arrangements and cantata libretti. Among the valuable exhibits are original Bach manuscripts, part scores of chorale cantatas, chorale books, hymn text booklets and a Luther Bible that belonged to Bach.

PUBLIC GUIDED TOURS DURING THE BACHFEST

Meeting point: Leipzig Bach Museum, Thomaskirchhof 16

Tickets: €15

Special exhibition: Voices of women from the Bach family

Sat. 8 Jun. / Mon 10 Jun. / Wed. 12 Jun. / Fri. 14 Jun. / Sun. 16 Jun., all at:
10am (German)/11am (English)

Permanent exhibition »In the footsteps of Bach« (including the special exhibition »Masterpieces on a weekly basis. Bach's annual cycle of chorale cantatas turns 300«)

Sun. 9 Jun. / Tues. 11 Jun. / Thur. 13 Jun. / Sat. 15 Jun., all at:
10am (German)/11am (English)

OPENING TIMES AND ADDRESS

Leipzig Bach Museum and museum shop

Thomaskirchhof 15/16, 04109 Leipzig

Open daily from 10am to 6pm for the duration of the Bachfest

BACH MUSEUM APP

This free app is available in **in 11 languages and three barrier-free versions** (Chinese, German, English, French, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Dutch, Polish, Russian, Spanish, simple (German) language, sign language, for the blind). It is available in the Bach Museum, or you can download it from the Apple Store and Google Play Store with additional offers such as »A tour with Bach«.

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PRESS KIT

Press Office Franziska von Sohl · Tel. +49 341 9137-121 · Fax +49 341 9137-125 · Email von.sohl@bach-leipzig.de

2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

VIII. Statistics

Events:

- 157, including 24 partnership projects and 19 third-party events

Venues:

- 34 in Leipzig
- 5 outside Leipzig: Freiberg, Halle an der Saale, Köthen, Rötha and Wittenberg

Participants (events organised by the Bachfest):

A total of 3,688, including

- 59 choirs with a total of 2,265 singers
- 41 orchestras with a total of 777 musicians
- 177 members of chamber music ensembles
- 196 vocal soloists, 52 conductors
- 134 speakers and presenters
- 43 organists
- 44 instrumental soloists

Advance ticket sales:

- tickets were sold in 50 different countries (as of 5 June), including: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, China, Colombia, Republic of Korea, The Philippines, The United Arab Emirates, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, Taiwan, Thailand and United States of America.
- Ticket prices: From €3 to €120
- Group tours: 47 tour operators from 15 countries

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IX. Services

Info/Ticket tent

Petersstrasse/corner of Markt square: information, tickets and meeting point for Bach lovers.

Opening times: daily from 10am to 8pm for the duration of the Bachfest, on 16 June until 6pm.

Tickets for the Leipzig Bachfest are available at www.bachfestleipzig.de and www.bachfestleipzig.de/tickets. Ticket reservations can also be made by phone on 01806-99 90 00-345 (€0.20 per call from a landline phone in Germany or no more than €0.60 per call from the German mobile phone network, or, from outside Germany, on 0049-1806-99 90 00-345 (local rates apply) Monday to Sunday from 10am to 6pm (CEST).

Tickets are available in Leipzig at Oelsner music shop, Ticketgalerie and the Bach Museum shop.

Box office sales are at the respective venues.

Festival Pass

Purchasing a Festival Pass (€77) entitles holders to the reduced ticket price for events organised by the Bachfest proper. The pass is not valid for guided tours and concerts organised by third parties.

Bachfest for students

Up to 16 June you can book selected concert tickets for €10 in the Leipzig Bachfest webstore and Leipzig Bach Museum shop with the promotional code UniBach. You will be asked to show your student ID at the door.

2025 Leipzig Bachfest:

12-22 June 2025: »Transformation«

Start of advance ticket sales: 26 November 2024.

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2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

X. Recordings and streaming of Bachfest events

Friday, 7 June 2024, St. Thomas' Church | 5pm

No. 1, OPENING CONCERT

The concert will be recorded by MDR and broadcast deferred at 8.05pm* on MDR Klassik and MDR Kultur.

Friday, 7 June, Markt | 9pm

No. 4, ST. JOHN PASSION, BARRIER-FREE

The concert will be recorded by the Bach Archive and streamed on the MDR, Deutsche Welle (YouTube), So geht Sächsisch (Facebook) and Leipzig Bach Archive (Facebook) channels.

Sunday, 9 June, Evangelical Reformed Church | 1pm

No 30, CHORALE METAMORPHOSES FROM LUTHER TO BACH

The concert will be recorded by the Leipzig Bach Archive and broadcast on Deutschlandfunk Kultur on 11 July at 8.03pm.*

If you need recordings of the radio productions for press purposes, please contact:

MDR KULTUR:

Isabel Roth (isabel.roth@mdr.de, tel.: +49 (0) 345-300 5521)

LEIPZIG BACH ARCHIVE:

Ulrich Wingerter (wingerter@bach-leipzig.de, tel.: +49 (0) 341-9137-332)

*Broadcast times subject to change.

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2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

XI. Press Office

Press Office during the Bachfest, 7 to 16 June 2024:

Address: Leipzig Bach Archive,
15-16 Thomaskirchhof,
04109 Leipzig (interior courtyard)

Opening times: 7 June: 11am to 8pm
8 to 15 June: daily from 9am to 8pm
16 June: 9am to 6pm.

Phone: +49 341 9137-351 or +49 341 9137-353

Email: presse@bach-leipzig.de

Contact: Franziska von Sohl (Press Officer)

Press team: Isabella Guzy, Naïma Märker,
Jonathan Teufel and Max Uhlmann

We are only too happy to answer questions, organise interviews and provide photographic material.

Registration/access to Bachfest photo service: <https://presse.bach-leipzig.de>

Please note: You can pre-order photos of the opening concert of the 2024 Leipzig Bachfest and/or the awarding of the City of Leipzig Bach Medal free of charge as of now by supplying your email address. The photos will be sent to you by 7.30pm at the latest on 7 June (opening concert) and by 4pm at the latest on 14 June (City of Leipzig Bach Medal award).

Credits:

Bachfest Leipzig/Jens Schlüter (Opening concert)

Bachfest Leipzig/Gert Mothes (Bach Medal award)

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2024 LEIPZIG BACHFEST

XII. The Leipzig Bachfest wishes to thank



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DANKT:

SEINEM HAUPTFÖRDERER

S Sparkasse
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SEINEN PRÄSENTATIONSPARTNERN

QCL American Friends of the
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bachfestleipzig.de

**CHORal
TOTAL**

BACHFEST LEIPZIG

07.-16. JUNI 2024

MUSIKSTADT:LEIPZIG

SEINEN FÖRDERERN

Carus **LEIPZIG REGION**
www.leipzig-region.de

PROMENADEN **SEASIDE PARK HOTEL**
LEIPZIG

SEINEN KULTUR- UND MEDIENPARTNERN

DR **Deutschlandfunk Kultur**

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