



Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

2023 - 2024

CONCERT SERIES

625 Montgomery Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
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CONCERTS with a CAUSE

Welcome to a new season of music and fine arts events at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. This year promises to be a particularly poignant season, as the church celebrates 150 years of ministry to the community and looks ahead to the coming years. To that end, we have commissioned internationally renowned composer, Kim André Arnesen to compose new works for BMPC. We have invited Philippe Lefebvre, organist of Notre Dame Cathedral, and James Kealey, winner of the prestigious National Young Artists Competition in organ to perform on the church's fabulous Rieger organ. We will offer a concert for two harpsichords and instruments, a local premiere of Hugh McElyea's "Tenebrae: The Passion of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and Brahms' "A German Requiem," performed with the composer's arrangement for two pianos. These events, along with an Advent harpsichord series, a Lenten organ series, and a outrageously funny Midwinter Festival, promise to stir your soul and lighten the continued burdens of this post-pandemic era.

- **Jeffrey Brillhart**

Director of Music & Fine Arts



Philippe Lefebvre Organ Recital

October 14 at 7:30 P.M.

A special evening performance during BMPC's 150th Celebration weekend, Philippe Lefebvre (one of the three Titular Organists of Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris) returns to perform a program featuring French masterworks by Jehan Alain, Claude Debussy, Marcel Dupré, César Franck and Louis Marchand. The program will conclude with an improvisation based on Gregorian chant themes.

Offering to support Friends of Notre Dame de Paris:
www.friendsofnotredamedeparis.org



Advent Lessons and Carols Service

December 10 at 4 P.M.

A vespers service of Lessons and Carols that will focus on the season of Advent, a time of hope and expectation as Christians all around the world anticipate the birth of the Christ Child. Led by BMPC's Sanctuary Choir as well as its Singing for Life and Youth Chorale ensembles, scripture readings, carols, and anthems will surely draw you into the season of Advent.

Offering to support Prevention Point Philadelphia:
www.ppponline.org



James Kealey Organ Recital

January 21 at 2:00 P.M.

Laureate of the 2022 American Guild of Organists' "National Young Artist Competition in Organ Performance" His program will showcase the colors and strength of the Rieger organ, particularly in Maurice Duruflé's tone poem, "Prélude, Adagio, et Choral varié" on the Pentecost chant theme of Veni Creator, and in David Hurd's "On the name MAURICE DURUFLÉ."

Offering to support AGO Philadelphia's Scholarship Fund: www.agophila.org



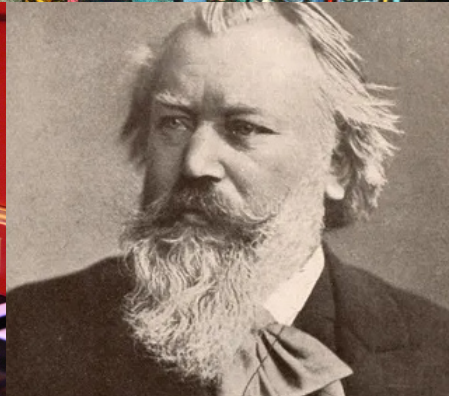
All Bach Program For Harpsichord & Voice

March 10 at 4:00 P.M.

Gabriel Benton & Edward Landin Senn, harpsichord
Elizabeth Weigle, soprano
Jeffrey Brillhart & Arreon Harley-Emerson, conductors.

March is the month of J. S. Bach's birth, so is there a better way to celebrate other than performing his music? This program will include two concertos for two harpsichords, a solo cantata for soprano, as well as a special performance of a motet by the Elevation choir.

Offering to support 12PLUS: www.12plus.org



A German Requiem by Johannes Brahms

April 28 at 4:00 P.M.

Laura Ward & Susan Ricci Rogel, piano
Kara Goodrich, soprano
Nicholas Provenzale, baritone

The 2023-24 season will end with a performance of Johannes Brahms' monumental German Requiem, though in a more intimate arrangement for two pianos by the composer himself. The colors of the orchestra are emulated in a different way through the dynamic range and tonal palette of BMPC's Sanctuary Choir, soloists, and pianos.

Offering to support Homeless Advocacy Project: www.haplegal.org

NOONTIME OFFERINGS



Advent Harpsicord Series

December 5 – **Gabriel Benton**
December 12 – **Silvanio Reis**
December 19 – **Jeffrey Brillhart & Edward Landin Senn**

During the Tuesdays of Advent, join us at noon in the Sanctuary as area harpsichordists perform assorted repertoire on BMPC's Robert Hauptfuhrer Memorial Harpsichord built by the legendary William Dowd in 1966 in the style of a French "double," (two keyboards) and modeled after a 1770 French Taskin harpsichord from the Yale University Musical Instrument Collection.

Lenten Organ Series

March 5 – **Isabella Isza Wu**
March 12 – **Edward Landin Senn**
March 19 – **Jeffrey Brillhart**
March 26 – **Luke Staisiunas**

After much success in the past few years, we are pleased again to present a noontime recital series that will feature BMPC's recently renovated Chapel organ. Full of orchestral colors (oboe, clarinet, tuba), a wide range of scintillating string combinations, and the grandeur of "all the stops," the Chapel organ adapts to varied repertoire and this series is a wonderful midday escape from the hustle and bustle of our lives.

Special Worship Services



All Saints Sunday

November 5 at 10:00 A.M.

All Saints Sunday is a revered tradition at BMPC, a day when the beloved saints who have entered the Kingdom of God are remembered in a service that is rich in reflection, music, and liturgy. This year we will present anthems that approximate the format of a Requiem, composed by a diverse group of American and British composers, including the premiere of a newly composed work, “Song of the Sojourner,” by BMPC’s Assistant Director of Music, Edward Landin Senn.

Good Friday

March 29 at 7:30 P.M.

Good Friday Performance of “Tenebrae: The Passion of Dietrich Bonhoeffer” featuring the Bryn Mawr Chamber Singers. Composed by Hugh McElzea, experience the final moments of Bonhoeffer’s journey, reflecting on his life and work through his letters, manuscripts, and poetry. This one-hour music drama is presented in 12 scenes and composed for choir, soloists, narrator, and chamber orchestra.

Rachelle Fleming, Mezzo-soprano
Nicholas Provenzale, Baritone

Community Events at BMPC

LYRIC FEST

Sat. October 7 at 3 p.m.

Sat. December 16 at 3 p.m.

Learn more about Lyric Fest: www.lyricfest.org

La Serenata

Songs and Serenades from Italy for Guitar & Voice

Philadelphia's premiere guitarist Allen Krantz is joined by three exquisite vocal chamber artists, soprano Jessica Beebe, tenor James Reese, and baritone Jean Bernard Cerin. This intimate program highlights both the well-known songs and little-known gems of Monteverdi, Caccini, Rossini, Bellini, Tosti, Puccini, and finishes with best-loved Neapolitan canzone.

Any of those Decembers

A Winter Cantata

The vibrant, poignant winter poems of Jeanne Minahan are given voice in a rhapsodic new cantata by a brilliant young composer, Benjamin Perry Wenzelberg. Commissioned by Lyric Fest to be presented just in time for the holidays, Any of those Decembers meditates on memory and the tender experiences of winter, childhood, holiday, and reunion. With soprano Rebecca Meyers, mezzo soprano Devony Smith, tenor Steven Ng and baritone Steven Eddy, in solo and ensemble, joined by the Daedalus Quartet, Ray Furuta, flute, and Laura Ward piano.



Fri. February 23 at 8 p.m.



Sat. March 16 at 4 p.m.

Winter Concert

Main Line Symphony Orchestra

The Main Line Symphony Orchestra presents their annual Winter Concert, featuring the winner of their 2024 Deitz Competition as well as works by Sergei Rachmaninoff and Jay Fluellen.

Learn more about Main Line Symphony Orchestra:
www.mlso.org

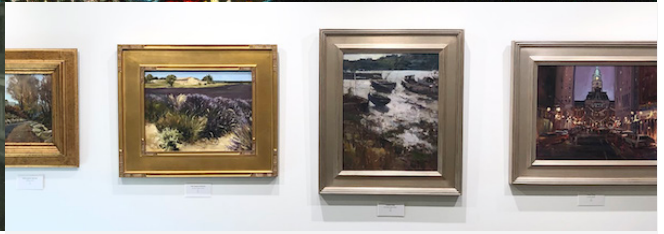
“Earth, Wind, and Fire.”

Singing City with the Philadelphia All City High School Choir

Singing City with the Philadelphia All City High School Choir in an environmentally themed program entitled “Earth, Wind, and Fire.” Led by Rollo Dilworth.

Learn more about Singing City:
www.singingcity.org

Gallery Information



BMPC at 150: Faithful Engagement in a Changing World

September 17 - October 29

An exhibit that will offer meaningful glimpses into BMPC's rich history and captivate viewers as they contemplate our continued call to engage the world with the love, justice, and mercy of God.

BMPC Member's Only Exhibit

November 5 - December 17

An opportunity to see works by a handful of talented artists that are members of BMPC – also a chance to purchase something for a Christmas gift for family and friends!



“Seascapes” by João Magalhães

January 7 - February 25

Forget about the dark and gloomy days of winter and transport yourself into the sun and breeze of the summer months.

Documentary Photography on Foster Care by Lisa Hancock

March 3 - April 28

Documentary photography exploring Foster Care by Brooklyn based photographer, Lisa Hancock, and on show in conjunction with BMPC's Spring Community Forum Speaker, Matthew Desmond, who recently published the book “Poverty, by America” and several years ago won the Pulitzer for his book “Evicted” on the affordable housing crisis.

Learn more about our
upcoming concerts on our webpage:

www.bmpc.org/concerts

To learn of future BMPC Department of Music & Fine Arts concerts and gallery exhibits,
please join our mailing list by e-mailing:

MFA@BMPC.ORG



Music & Fine Arts Staff

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