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Back Bay Chorale Presents J.S. BACH: CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

The Back Bay Chorale, directed by Scott Allen Jarrett, performs Johann Sebastian Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* in Sanders Theatre, Cambridge, Massachusetts, on Saturday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25, \$35 and \$50 and are available at www.bbcboston.org or by calling 617-648-3885 (seniors/students \$5 discount).

The Back Bay Chorale is proud to present the only complete performance of Bach's joyous *Christmas Oratorio* in Boston this holiday season. The *Christmas Oratorio* is one of Bach's most joyous and accessible works. From the opening kettle drums, trumpets and chorus of "Jauchzet frohlokket!" (Shout ye exultant!) to its angelic chorales, this retelling of the Christmas story captures the audience in moments of exuberant joy and tender lullaby. An unusual piece for Bach, it is actually comprised of six separate church cantatas originally intended for the three days of Christmas (December 25, 26 and 27), New Year's Day (also the Feast of the Circumcision), the Feast for the Sunday after New Year, and the Feast of the Epiphany (January 6). Through its tenor Evangelist, the Oratorio narrates the biblical story of the Nativity through the adoration of the Magi.

Concert Details

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Christmas Oratorio, BWV 248 (1734)

Performed by the Back Bay Chorale
Scott Allen Jarrett *conducting*

Soprano: Kendra Colton

Alto: Krista River

Tenor: Aaron Sheehan

Bass: David Newman

Saturday, December 11, 7:00 P.M., Sanders Theatre,
Cambridge, MA

Tickets: \$50, 35, \$25 (\$5 student/senior discount) online at
www.bbcboston.org or calling 617-648-3885.

Though a regular part of the holiday season in Germany, the *Christmas Oratorio* is only rarely performed in its entirety in the United States. The Back Bay Chorale is thrilled to bring the *Christmas Oratorio* to Boston this year.

About the Back Bay Chorale

The Back Bay Chorale is a 110-member auditioned chorus drawing singers from the Greater Boston area. Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett has been the chorale's artistic director since 2004. From its inception, the BBC has had a commitment to share music in the community with repertoire that ranges from Baroque to contemporary in an annual subscription series. Musician, minister, and Larry Hill founded the Back Bay Chorale in 1973 at Boston's Church of the Covenant to create a musical ministry that would bring meaning to both singers and their audience. In the years since Hill's death in 1989, the chorale has grown in stature and is now regarded as one of Boston's premiere amateur choruses. Under its music directors Larry Hill, Beverly Taylor, Julian Wachner, James Olesen and Scott Allen Jarrett, the Chorale has presented numerous concerts in venues throughout Greater Boston.