



LIVERPOOL BACH COLLECTIVE

Sunday 10 September at 6.30pm

St David's Church, Rocky Lane, Childwall, L16 1JA

Cantata 33

Allein zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ

Alone in thee, O Jesus Christ

Today's gospel reading deals with sin and its forgiveness, and the cantata is a meditation on this theme. A highlight is an alto aria with poignant accompaniment of muted violin and pizzicato strings.

Sunday 8 October at 6.30pm

Church of St Frances de Sales, Hale Road, Walton L4 3RL

Cantata 180

Schmücke dich, O liebe Seele

Dear soul, adorn yourself with gladness

The parable of the wedding banquet is the subject of today's gospel from St Matthew and of this cantata. The instrumentation includes flutes and oboe d'amore.

Sunday 5 November at 9.00pm

St Francis Xavier's Church, Salisbury Street, L3 8DR

Cantata 80

Ein' Feste Burg ist unser Gott

A mighty fortress is our God

(The Reformation Cantata)

The cantata will form part of Liverpool Hope University's commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Please note late starting time.

Sunday 3 December at 6.30pm

St Clare's Church, Arundel Avenue, Liverpool L17 2AU

Cantata 115

Mache dich, mein Geist, bereit

Make yourself ready, my spirit

A cantata for the First Sunday of Advent, and the need for the soul to prepare for the second coming of the Lord by keeping watch and praying. An expressive soprano aria, with flute and string obbligati, is a high point in the music.



Sunday 7 January at 6.00pm

Church of Our Lady & St Nicholas (Liverpool Parish Church), Old Churchyard, Liverpool L2 8TZ

Cantata 7

Christus unser Herr zum Jordan kam

Christ the Lord came to the Jordan

A cantata to commemorate Christ's baptism in the River Jordan by John the Baptist, related in today's gospel from St Mark. In the opening chorus Bach seems to suggest the waters of the Jordan.

CANTATAS 2017-18

Sunday 12 February at 6.30pm

Holy Family Church, Back O' Th' Town Lane Ince Blundell L38 0JJ

Cantata 78

Jesu, der du meine Seele

Jesus, you have freed my spirit

In today's gospel St Mark gives an account of the curing of the leper; in the cantata, the librettist includes a prayer for release from the leprosy of sin. The 2nd movement is an enchanting duet for soprano and alto, with organ and cello obbligati.

Saturday 10 March at 7.00pm

Church of Our Lady & St Nicholas (Liverpool Parish Church), Old Churchyard, Liverpool L2 8TZ

ST JOHN PASSION

Bach's monumental account of the passion of Christ, in preparation for Good Friday. The Collective will be joined by Nicholas Mulroy *Evangelist*. Admission by ticket only; further details will be announced early in January.

Sunday 15 April at 6.30pm

Holy Trinity Church, Church Road, Wavertree L15 9EQ

Cantata 145

Auf, mein Herz, des Herren Tag

Arise, my soul, the day of the Lord is here

A cantata to celebrate the Resurrection. The music includes a duet in which a tenor takes the part of the risen Christ, and the soprano—perhaps Mary Magdalene—responds. Trumpet and flute join oboes d'amore and strings.

Sunday 13 May at 6.30pm

St Matthew's Church, Townsend Avenue/Queen's Drive, Clubmoor L413 9DL

Cantata 11

Lobet Gott in seinem Rechten

Praise God in his kingdom (The Ascension Oratorio)

A cantata for Ascension Sunday. Bach's setting of St Mark's gospel narrative of Christ's ascension into heaven includes three trumpets and timpani—Bach at his festive best.

Sunday 17 June at 6.30pm

Mossley Hill Parish Church, Rose Lane L18 8DB

Cantata 29

Wir danken dir, Gott, wir danken dir

Heart We thank you, God, we thank you

This cantata celebrates the anniversary of the consecration of the church, which took place on 23 June 1875, and it gives thanks for the history and life of the church. The scoring includes three trumpets and timpani and there is a prominent part for the organ.

LIVERPOOL BACH COLLECTIVE

was formed in 2013, and it aims to put on performances of J S Bach's cantatas in churches around Liverpool every month as part of Sunday Evensong or Vespers. The cantatas chosen are based on, or are at least relevant to, the readings of the day in the church visited.

The Collective consists usually of eight singers and an ensemble of instrumentalists: strings, oboes and organ; the ensemble is enlarged when the music demands it. The Collective is directed by Philip Duffy, formerly Master of the Music at Liverpool's Metropolitan Cathedral. The singers and players all have a love for the music of Bach and are committed to performing these wonderful works. So far twenty-nine cantatas have been performed in nineteen different churches, from Hightown to Rainhill and Ince blundell to Birkenhead. The ensemble continues to enlarge its following of interested listeners.

The images show a performance in Liverpool Parish Church (below) and first violinist Tassilo Erhardt. The front panel shows Bach's manuscript of the opening of the St John Passion.



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**CANTATA
PERFORMANCES
2017-18**

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