



Saturday, Dec. 12th & Sunday, Dec, 13th, 2009
Bach Baroque Family - The WSO Baroque Chamber
Players and Max Fleischman, harpsichord and forte piano

Programme: C.P.E. BACH Sinfonia in C major, Wq. 182/3, H. 659; J.S. BACH Violin concerto No. 1 in A minor, BWV 1041; W.F. BACH Sinfonia in F major ("Dissonant"), F. 67; J.S. BACH Praeludio : Sinfonia; J.C. BACH Keyboasrd concerto in Eb major, Op 7, No. 5, C. 59; J.C.F. BACH Sympony in D minor, W. 1/3, C. 4

ARTISTRY AND EDUCATION

It was delightful to hear what the audiences of the Bach composers would have listened to. The Praeludio was beautifully expressive and enthralling. The Keyboard Concerto with the perfect tempo and driving pulse produced a happy 'romp' which was exhilarating. The Allegro was elegant with expressive phrasing and meticulous ornamentation. **(Sheila Rodgers)**

An unusual concert in that we learned a lot rather than just sitting back to enjoy. All the Bachs so different, which just shows that milieu and changing times override genetics, doesn't it? Interesting and very enjoyable! And all are old friends! **(M. Dammermann)**

I really appreciated the context-setting remarks of Gwen Hoebig in particular. The music was also a pleasure! Good to have it as an annual event. **(Robert Thomas)**

Well-programmed, wonderfully performed and greatly appreciated. Very creative programming; a delight to hear these relatively unknown gems. The camaraderie of the musicians is delightful and refreshing. The virtuosity is so evident in these musicians! **(Anon.)** These were a very nice choice of pieces. I loved the chance to compare and contrast father and sons. **(David Place)**

The expression of this concert was emphasized by the excellent intros by Gwen, Yuri and Max. Splendid! Do this again and again! **(J. Lutz)** Delightful program. Beautifully played. Well conceived selections. The commentary really added to the enjoyment. **(Anon.)**

Thank you for taking us through this musical journey through the Bach family. **(Andrea Kirkland)**

The details about Bach's children was very instructive. I enjoyed the music in such a relaxing atmosphere also. It was soothing to the soul and mind. Thank you. **(Suzy P.)**

This is one of my favorite concert series; a class act. An intimate environment like a private performance. Love the musician interaction with the audience. Bravo! **(Andrea Downey-Franchuk)**

It is so nice to see classical music played in a smaller and intimate setting like Virtuosi. I appreciate hearing the background explorations on the composers and pieces as explained by the musicians. **(Anon.)**

Excellent and intimate! I love the artistry and education garnered from the musicians. **(Susan Riley)**

A very entertaining program with such variety and vitality. Let's have more of this! **(Morgana Graham)**

Challenging pieces and excellent execution. **(Arne Elias)** Wonderful! A lovely selection of pieces and superb musicianship. Thank you! **(Melanie Gaudreau)**

What a treat! Our community is so fortunate and blessed to have such a wealth of talented musicians! **(Judith London Bager)** Good to meet the Bach family in one evening! **(M. Evans)** Magnifico!!! **(J. Marc Bresler)** Amazing! (Marcelo Mangorelli)

Editor: Mireille Theriault

Thank you all sincerely for your comments.



Critic's Prize

Sheila Rodgers

CD — "A Baroque Harp: Judy Loman performs Bach and Scarlatti"

Ambitious concept, inconsistent results

By: Gwenda Nemerofsky

IT'S not surprising that with 20 offspring, Johann Sebastian Bach produced four sons who became accomplished composers in their own right.

In a collaboration between the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and Virtuosi Concerts, 12 musicians, 11 from the WSO, dedicated two concerts to the Bach legacy. This ambitious and fascinating concept met with inconsistent results.

The lone non-WSO musician was the unmitigated star Saturday evening. Max Fleischman was heard, for the most part, as continuo on harpsichord or fortepiano; his own instruments transported specially for the concerts.

Read the remainder of this review at the Winnipeg Free Press on-line

(<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/entertainment/music/ambitious-concept-inconsistent-results-79202257.html>)

gwenda.nemerofsky@shaw.ca

Eckhardt-Gramatte Hall

Dec. 12 Attendance: 200

Three and a half stars out of five

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