

**Bach @ Seven Cantata Series 2015-2016**  
***"SOMETHING OLD – SOMETHING NEW"***

**PROGRAM 3: December 2, 2015 at 7 PM**  
**CHRISTMAS ON LOGAN SQUARE**  
**St. Clement's Church**  
**20<sup>th</sup> and Cherry Streets, Philadelphia**

**PROGRAM ORDER | PERFORMERS**

**O Antiphons**, World Premiere of Seven Works by Philadelphia Composers:

Mark Rimple:	<i>O Sapientia</i>
Daniel Shapiro:	<i>O Adonai</i>
Anthony Mosakowski:	<i>O Radix Jesse</i>
David Ludwig:	<i>O Clavis David</i>
Melissa Dunphy:	<i>O Oriens</i>
Kile Smith:	<i>O Rex Gentium</i>
Riho Maimets:	<i>O Emmanuel</i>

**J.S. Bach:** ***Cantata BWV 61 Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland***  
(Savior of the nations, come)  
*Soloists:*  
Soprano: Rebecca Myers Hoke  
Tenor: Jeffrey Cutts  
Baritone: Jean Bernard Cerin

**Choral Arts Philadelphia**  
**Philadelphia Bach Collegium**  
**Matthew Glandorf, Artistic Director and Conductor**

**PROGRAM NOTES**

**What are the O Antiphons?**

The O Antiphons are seven short liturgical texts rooted in Gregorian chant that are assigned to one of the seven days leading up to Christmas. Each is recited or sung before and after a psalm or canticle at Vespers, the evening prayer of the Church in the Western Christian tradition. Each text begins with the interjection "O" and reflects on the nature of the coming Christ child:

December 17 - O Sapientia (O Wisdom)  
December 18 – O Adonai (O Lord)  
December 19 – O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse)  
December 20 – O Clavis David (O Key of David)  
December 21 – O Oriens (Dayspring)  
December 22 – O Rex Gentium (O King of Nations)  
December 23 – O Emmanuel (O God With Us)

## **About the *O Antiphons* project**

Artistic Director Matthew Glandorf commissioned seven composers from the Philadelphia region: **Mark Rimple, Daniel Shapiro, Anthony Mosakowski, David Ludwig, Melissa Dunphy, Kile Smith, and Riho Maimets** – to set each O Antiphon to music. Glandorf thought that it would be “interesting to create a pure ‘Philadelphia Songbook’ on a common theme, with each composer’s individual voice bringing his/her own style, sound and perspective on the quiet, reflective and mystical texts.” He selected composers based on his own interest in their music and tried to match them with the text he felt would be most appealing to them.

*O Antiphons* is the first commission by Choral Arts Philadelphia since 2007. This project was made possible thanks to a Special Projects Grant by **The Presser Foundation** and, according to Glandorf, will make a contribution to the overall choral Advent repertoire because this collection will be attractive to both liturgical and secular choirs.

The current season, appropriately billed as *Something Old – Something New*, marks Glandorf’s attempt to break down the barriers of perception of old and new music. He saw “many commonalities and aesthetic similarities with contemporary music” and decided to use Bach’s Cantatas as a starting point and find – or commission -- modern works that contrast Bach or share a similar spirit or theme.

## **About Bach At Seven Cantata Series (aka Bach@7)**

Co-presented by Choral Arts Philadelphia and The Bach Festival of Philadelphia, the monthly concerts have commenced in the Fall of 2013. The series has pioneered a unique concert format to allow the performers and audience members to better connect with each other, to build a friendly supportive community, and to enjoy and develop appreciation for Bach’s music and beyond.

*Bach@7’s unique concert format:*

- Featured Cantata by J.S. Bach is accompanied by thematically related rarely heard choral, solo and instrumental works from all music periods;
- Brief live notes by Artistic Director Matthew Glandorf;
- Mid-week early evening programs lasting no longer than one hour;
- Attendance on the Pay-What-You-Wish basis, with open seating and no ticket sales;
- Post-concert mingle with peers and artists, while enjoying food and beverages.

## **Contact Information:**

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