

## Before Bach

In recent decades, there has been a great resurgence of interest among artists and audiences in the music of the late Renaissance and early Baroque eras. Leading this movement is a generation of performers who have devoted themselves to introducing concertgoers to the array of music written before 1685—the birth year of both Johann Sebastian Bach and George Frideric Handel. With great creativity, artists have reimagined the world of music from this time, illuminating musical masterworks and bringing previously hidden corners of the repertoire to light. This season, Carnegie Hall celebrates this musical movement with *Before Bach*, a month-long series that begins in April 2015 and features 13 concerts by some of the world's most exciting early-music performers.

Critically acclaimed L'Arpeggiata, led by Christina Pluhar, kicks off this artistic focus, performing the music of Henry Purcell and Francesco Cavalli—including selections from Cavalli's early operas—in two distinct concerts. Later in the month, Monteverdi specialist Sir John Eliot Gardiner leads lauded period-instrument ensemble, the English Baroque Soloists, and The Monteverdi Choir in two early Baroque masterpieces by the composer: the ambitious sacred work *Vespro della Beata Vergine* and a concert performance of *L'Orfeo*, one of the earliest surviving operas still performed today. Canadian ensemble Les Violons du Roy and La Chapelle de Québec, led by Bernard Labadie, delve into an all-Purcell program, featuring excerpts from *King Arthur* and *The Fairy Queen*, as well as the composer's tragic landmark opera *Dido and Aeneas* with riveting soprano Dorothea Röschmann as the opera's heroine. In the same week, viola da gamba master Jordi Savall performs a solo recital and also leads period-instrument ensemble Le Concert des Nations in a program that features compositions by the forefather of orchestral music, Jean-Baptiste Lully, as well as work by other composers of the French Baroque period, including François Couperin, Jean-Philippe Rameau, and Jean-Baptiste Forqueray.

Celebrated South African harpsichordist Kristian Bezuidenhout performs a captivating program of instrumental music, and Fretwork, a consort of viols hailing from the United Kingdom, performs works by Matthew Locke, Orlando Gibbons, and Henry Purcell. Placing particular emphasis on vocal music during the pre-Bach period, the celebration features vocal ensembles Pomerium and I Fagiolini, presenting sacred and secular glories from the Renaissance. In addition, renowned British vocal ensemble, the Tallis Scholars, are featured in two concerts. They bring vocal works by Josquin des Prez and William Byrd to their performance in Weill Recital Hall. In addition, Tallis Scholars founder and director Peter Phillips leads a multi-day workshop for young professional choral singers, created by Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute, which culminates with workshop participants joining his group for a program at Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, concluding with Thomas Tallis's stirring 40-part motet "Spem in alium."



Marco Borggreve

JS Vico Chamala

Christina Pluhar

Jordi Savall

Steve J. Sherman

John Eliot Gardiner

Eric Richmond

I Fagiolini

Pomerium

**Tuesday, April 7 at 7:30 PM** | Zankel

L'Arpeggiata

Christina Pluhar, Artistic Director and Theorbo  
Nuria Rial, Soprano  
Raquel Andueza, Soprano  
Vincenzo Capezzuto, Alto  
ALL-PURCELL PROGRAM

**Wednesday, April 8 at 7:30 PM** | Zankel

L'Arpeggiata

Christina Pluhar, Artistic Director  
Nuria Rial, Soprano  
ALL-CAVALLI PROGRAM  
Selections from *Artemisia*, *Calisto*, *Didone*, *Eliogabalo*, *Egisto*, *Ormindo*,  
*Rosinda*, and other works

**Thursday, April 9 at 7:30 PM** | Weill

Pomerium

Alexander Blachly, Director  
MUSIC FOR THE TUDOR QUEENS  
TYE Kyrie: *Missa Orbis Factor*  
WHITE “Christe qui lux es”; “Regina caeli laetare”  
TALLIS “Salvator mundi”; Gloria: *Missa Puer natus est nobis*; Agnus Dei:  
*Missa Puer natus est nobis*; “In jejunio et fletu”; “Derelinquat impius”;  
“Te lucis ante terminum”  
SHEPPARD “In manus tuas Domine”; “In pace in idipsum”  
BYRD “Diliges Dominum”; “O lux, beata Trinitas”; “In resurrectione  
tua”; “Haec Dies”

**Sunday, April 12 at 2 PM** | Stern/Perelman

Les Violons du Roy  
La Chapelle de Québec

Bernard Labadie, Music Director and Conductor  
Dorothea Röschmann, Soprano (Dido)  
Henk Neven, Baritone (Aeneas)  
Hélène Guilmette, Soprano (Belinda)  
Remaining artists to be announced  
ALL-PURCELL PROGRAM  
Excerpts from *King Arthur* and *The Fairy Queen*  
*Dido and Aeneas*

**Monday, April 13 at 7:30 PM** | Weill

Jordi Savall, Viola da Gamba

THE SPIRIT OF THE VIOL  
Program to include works by Jean de Sainte-Colombe, Monsieur de  
Sainte-Colombe le fils, Le Sieur de Machy, Marin Marais, and others

**Thursday, April 16 at 7:30 PM** | Zankel

Le Concert des Nations

Jordi Savall, Director  
ANON. *Concert donné a Louis XIII en 1627* (selected by André Danican Philidor)  
LULLY Suite from *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* and additional works  
MARAIS *Couplets de folies*; *Sonnerie de Ste-Geneviève du Mont-de-Paris*  
COUPERIN Selections from *Concerts royaux*  
RAMEAU *Pièces de clavecin*  
FORQUERAY “La Marella”; “La du Vaucel”; “La Leclair”  
LECLAIR Sonata in D Major, Op. 2, No. 8

**Friday, April 17 at 8 PM**

Church of St. Ignatius Loyola | 980 Park Avenue  
Tallis Scholars: Spem in alium Project  
Carnegie Hall Chamber Chorus  
Peter Phillips, Conductor  
BRUMEL *Missa Et ecce terrae motus*; *Lamentations*  
TALLIS “Loquebant ur variis linguis”; “Spem in alium”

**Saturday, April 18 at 7:30 PM** | Weill

Tallis Scholars

Peter Phillips, Conductor  
JOSQUIN “Gaude Virgo”; *Missa Pange lingua*  
BYRD “Cunctis diebus”; “Gaudeamus omnes”; “Timete Dominum”;  
“Iustorum animae”; “Beati mundo corde”; “Tribue, Domine”

**Monday, April 20 at 7:30 PM** | Weill

Fretwork

JENKINS Fantasy No. 16 in D Major; Fantasy No. 8 in C Minor  
LOCKE Suite No. 2 in D Minor / D Major; Suite No. 3 in F Major  
GIBBONS Fantasia No. 8, MB. 14; In Nomine No. 2  
LAWES Consort in A Minor; Consort in A/C Minor  
PURCELL Fantasy No. 2 in F Major, Z. 733; Fantasy No. 8 in D Minor,  
Z. 739; Fantasy No. 11 in G Major, Z. 742

**Thursday, April 23 at 7:30 PM** | Weill

Kristian Bezuidenhout, Harpsichord

**Saturday, April 25 at 7:30 PM** | Weill

I Fagiolini

Robert Hollingworth, Director  
INSALATA I FAGIOLINI  
Works by Senfl, Janequin, Sandrin, Phinot, Le Jeune, Vásquez, da Flecha,  
de Lassus, de Rore, Striggio, de Wert, Croce, and Monteverdi

**Thursday, April 30 at 8 PM** | Stern/Perelman

English Baroque Soloists  
The Monteverdi Choir

Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Conductor  
MONTEVERDI *Vespro della Beata Vergine*

This concert is made possible, in part, by an endowment fund for choral music established by  
S. Donald Sussman in memory of Judith Arron and Robert Shaw.

**Friday, May 1 at 8 PM** | Stern/Perelman

English Baroque Soloists  
The Monteverdi Choir

MONTEVERDI *L’Orfeo* (opera in concert)  
Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Conductor