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MUSICAL WONDERS TO FILL THE ASTON MAGNA 2011 SUMMER FESTIVAL

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE BACH AND MOZART CHAMBER MUSIC, SONGS BY KING HENRY VIII, AND MADRIGALS FROM FOUR CENTURIES

Aston Magna wants to remind you that winter does not last forever. And to hasten the coming of warmer weather, we bring tidings of our 2011 Summer Festival. During this summer's season, Artistic Director and violinist Daniel Stepner and friends will guide you through an unusually expansive selection of music performed by some of the finest musical artists around.

Once again this season, in addition to the series at Olin auditorium on the Main Campus of Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson and The Daniel Arts Center at Bard College at Simon's Rock in Great Barrington, Aston Magna is pleased to continue to present concerts at the Slosberg Auditorium at Brandeis University, Waltham, MA.

Two workshops will again be offered at Brandeis: Mr. Stepner will offer sessions on Bach's works for unaccompanied violin to both modern and baroque violinists, June 12-17. And Stephen Hammer, oboe, and Eric Hoeprich, clarinet, will offer sessions on Mozart's wind instruments, June 19-24. For more information, please consult the website, www.brandeis.edu/summer/music/.

The Aston Magna Festival will present a summer concert series devoted to music spanning from the early 16th to the 20th centuries. The first three programs in the series will be performed at Slosberg Auditorium at Brandeis University in Waltham, MA, on Thursday evenings, June 16, 23, and 30 with concerts beginning at 8 p.m. All four concerts may be heard on Fridays evenings, June 17 and 24, and July 1 and 8 at 8:00 p.m. in the air-conditioned auditorium of the Olin Humanities Building on the Main Campus of Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York; and on Saturdays June 18 and 25, and July 2 and 9 at the Daniel Arts Center at Bard College at Simon's Rock in Great Barrington, MA, at 6 p.m. A pre-concert lecture will be featured one hour before all concerts.

On June 16, 17, and 18 Mr. Stepner will be joined by harpsichordist John Gibbons for a program dedicated to music by J.S. Bach and one of his most successful sons, C.P.E. Bach. Sebastian's works will dominate the program with his sonatas for keyboard and violin in E major and G major. The soloists will also join in a performance of Emanuel's Duo sonata in C minor. Also on the program are the Chromatic fantasy and fugue, and the sonata for solo violin in A minor.

The Festival will continue on June 23, 24, and 25 with chamber music for winds and strings by Mozart and Johan Nepomuk Hummel. Clarinetist Eric Hoeprich will return for a pleasant program including Mozart's Musical Joke; the horn quintet, K. 407; and the divertimento in D major, K. 251. Also on the program will be Hummel's clarinet quartet, which first appeared in modern edition in 1958. Other artists will include Stephen Hammer on oboe and Richard Menaul and Frederick Aldrich on horn. String players will included Mr. Stepner and Julie Leven on violin, David Miller on viola, Loretta O'Sullivan on cello, and Anne Trout on double bass.

For its third program, on June 30, July 1, and July 2, Aston Magna will reach a bit into the past, to the court of the English King Henry VIII. The program will even include works by the notorious ruler, in addition to music by Hayne van Ghizeghem, Josquin des Prez, Heinrich Isaac, John Cornysh, Ludwig Senfl, and Jo. de Vyzeto. Tenor Aaron Sheehan will be joined by Sarah Cunningham, Jane Hershey, Laura Jeppesen, and Emily Walhout, viols,

The final concert of the 2011 Festival, on July 8 and 9, will include an unusual breadth of madrigal styles (for Aston Magna). "The Italian Madrigal and its Legacy" will present a capella masterworks through four centuries. Beginning with some of the brilliant vocal works of Carlo Gesualdo, Salamone Rossi, and Claudio Monteverdi, the program will conclude with choice compositions by Johannes Brahms, Claude Debussy, Maurice Ravel, Glenn Gould, Peter Schikele, and Peter Lutkin. Sopranos Roberta Anderson and Kristin Watson, countertenor Gerrod Pagekopf, tenors William Hite and Frank Kelley, and bass David Ripley will perform this wide range of music.

For information or to order tickets to the concerts at the Olin Auditorium on the Main Campus of Bard College, Annandale on Hudson, NY, please phone 845-758-7425. Tickets to concerts at The Olin Auditorium at Bard College are not available on-line.

Tickets to concerts at Slosberg Auditorium at Brandeis will be \$25 for general admission, \$15 for senior and \$10 student at the door. A three-concert series is available for \$60. Tickets to concerts at the Daniel Arts Center at Bard College at Simon's Rock will be \$35 for general admission, \$25 for senior and \$10 student at the door. Subscriptions to the Daniel Arts Center concerts are available for \$65 for two concerts and \$120 for all four concerts.

Tickets to concerts at Slosberg Auditorium at Brandeis University in Waltham, MA and tickets to concerts at the Daniel Arts Center at Bard College at Simon's Rock in Great Barrington, MA may be ordered by calling 413-528-3595, out of area 800-875-7156; sending a check or money order with a self-addressed, stamped return envelope to Aston Magna, P.O. Box 28, Great Barrington, MA 01230 or online at www.astonmagna.org. For further information, call 413-528-3595, out of area phone 800-875-7156; go to www.astonmagna.org or visit us on facebook.

This season, Aston Magna continues its program to bring more young people to its concerts. Up to two children, ages 6 to 16, may attend the Great Barrington concerts free with each paid adult ticket.

The Aston Magna Festival is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Music from Aston Magna concerts at Bard are made possible, in part, by the New York State Council on the Arts.