



# Johann Sebastian Bach Ann Arbor Cantata Singers

## Featuring guest artists:

Bryon Grohman as the Evangelist

Glen Thomas Rideout as Jesus

Kelly Holst

Deanna Relyea

Dustin Scott

Joseph Roberts



### Bryon Grohman, tenor, the Evangelist

Bryon Grohman, tenor, has received international recognition for his performances in opera, oratorio, and concert repertoire. He has been a featured performer with Glimmerglass Opera, Chicago Opera Theatre, Opera Theatre of

St. Louis, Opera Circle of Cleveland, Opera Boston, Opera Europa, Monte-Carlo, Longwood Opera, and the Indiana University Opera Theatre. As a Tanglewood Music Center Vocal Fellow, Mr. Grohman sang the role of Rinuccio in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and, at the request of conductor Seiji Ozawa, returned to Tanglewood to perform Fenton in Verdi's *Falstaff*. Additional operatic roles include the lead in Rameau's *Pygmalion*, Gilbert in Donizetti's *Lucie de Lammermoor*, Joe in Puccini's *La Fanciulla del West*, Don Ramiro in Rossini's *La Cenerentola* and Don Narciso in *Turco in Italia*, Pastore in Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo*, and Spoletta in Puccini's *Tosca*. Grohman made his Boston Symphony Orchestra debut in Oliver Knussen's *Where the Wild things Are*. Other recent concert engagements have included Schubert's *Mass* in E-flat with Michael Tilson Thomas and the New World Symphony, Handel's *Messiah* with the Bloomington Early Music Festival, the Evangelist in Bach's *Johannes Passion*, and solos in Haydn's *Creation*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*, and Britten's *St. Nicholas Mass*. Grohman is an active member of the professional ensembles *Seraphic Fire* and the *Santa Fe Desert Chorale*. He holds a doctorate from Indiana University as well as a bachelor and masters degree from New England Conservatory of Music, Boston. Grohman currently serves as an Assistant Professor of Voice at Palm Beach Atlantic University in Florida. He is a native of Hazleton, Pennsylvania.



### Glen Thomas Rideout, baritone, Jesus

Glen Thomas Rideout, a native of Baltimore, Maryland, is an award-winning conductor and baritone. Glen Thomas earned a bachelor's degree in voice from Vanderbilt University and a master's degree from the top- ranked conducting

program at the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor. Glen Thomas has studied voice with Gayle Shay, Jonathan Retzlaff and Stephen West. His conducting mentors include Philip Olsen, Robin Fountain, Paul Rardin and Jerry Blackstone.

Glen Thomas' work as a vocalist includes work with the Nashville Symphony Orchestra, the Mark Morris Dance Group, Vanderbilt University at the Kennedy Center and the University of Michigan. His singing awards include first prize the Mid- South Regional Auditions of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. An award- winning pianist, he has served more than 15 churches, ministries and organizations as a concert and worship service artist. Glen Thomas's compositions have been performed in the United States and Europe, six of his gospel songs having been recorded by the Holiday Choir of Hemingway Temple A.M.E. Church in Baltimore, Maryland.

Glen Thomas also enjoys an active schedule as a music minister, conductor and clinician, having led the music ministries of congregations in Maryland, Tennessee and Michigan. While serving as artistic director of the Voices of Praise at Vanderbilt University, Glen Thomas facilitated the choir's growth from 20 to 70 members in three years and is remains the longest- serving director to have led the choir. While studying at the University of Michigan, Glen Thomas won second prize in the National Student Conducting Competition of the American Choral Director's Association. He has served as assistant conductor and

resident composer for the McDonogh Concert Choir's tours of Poland, Prague, East Canada and Croatia. Upcoming conducting engagements include concerts in Spain, France and Andorra. In addition, Glen Thomas has founded chamber choirs in Maryland and Tennessee that continue to provide unique leadership opportunities to aspiring young conductors and music educators. Glen Thomas has served the First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor as Director of Music since August, 2007.

Glen Thomas is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity and the American Choral Directors' Association.



### Kelly Holst, soprano

Kelly Holst, coloratura soprano, is an active performer of operatic, concert and recital repertoire, appearing with organizations such as the Michigan Opera Theatre, the Cedar Rapids Opera Theatre, Arbor Opera Theater, the Battle Creek Symphony, the

Lafayette Symphony, the Handel and Haydn Society of Boston, the Indiana University Opera Theatre, and the University of Michigan Opera Theatre. Her operatic roles include Barbarina in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, the Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute*, Adele in *Die Fledermaus*, Olympia in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, Elizabeth Taylor in Michael Daugherty's *Jackie O*, Tisbe in Hasse's *Piramo e Tisbe*, and Cupid in Purcell's *King Arthur*. Recently Kelly performed the Coloratura Soprano role in Argento's *Postcard from Morocco* with the University of Michigan Opera Theatre and the role of Zerlina in the Arbor Opera Theater production of *Don Giovanni*. In June of 2010 she will perform the title role in the Arbor Opera Theater production of *Lucia di Lammermoor*. Kelly has received a number of regional awards including an Encouragement Award at the Metropolitan Opera District Auditions in St. Paul, Minnesota. Most recently she won third place at the National Association of Teachers of Singing Artist Awards Vocal Competition in Nashville. She was a winner of the Upper Midwest Regional Metropolitan Opera Auditions in 2000. Ms. Holst holds degrees from Luther College, Indiana University and the University of Michigan. She is a member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. A dedicated teacher of voice, Kelly has a private voice studio in Ann Arbor and is an adjunct professor of voice at Oakland University and Adrian College.



Photo: Kyle Murphy

### Deanna Relyea, mezzo-soprano

Mezzo soprano Deanna Relyea has appeared frequently as soloist in festivals including the Port Townsend Chamber Music Festival in Washington, the Vetta Chamber Music Vancouver series, the Ottawa International Chamber Music Festival, the Ann Arbor

SpringFest Chamber Music Festival, Niagra-On-The-Lake International Chamber Music Festival, and the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival (Detroit). Ms. Relyea has appeared in recital with celebrated accompanist/collaborator Martin Katz (Hugo Wolf Festival) and with NYC opera and song composer Ricky Ian Gordon on a program of his music with Mr. Gordon at the piano.

Ms. Relyea has appeared on concert series throughout Canada with her brother, Canadian bass-baritone Gary Relyea, his wife Anna and son, John, as Voices-Relyea. including the Classical Cabaret Series and the Operetta Theatre Association in Toronto, the Elora Festival, the Durham Music Festival, the Windsor Symphony, and most recently at the Niagara-On-The-Lake International Chamber Music Fest.

She has performed the major oratorios and symphonic repertoire and more recent performances have included the Bach B Minor Mass in Orillia, Ontario; the Beethoven Ninth Symphony with the Plymouth Symphony; and the Mahler Symphony No. 2 and Verdi Requiem with the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra.

Also a frequent cabaret artist, Ms. Relyea performed a one-woman show for the Niagra-On-The-Lake International Chamber Music Festival last summer with her partner pianist/arranger Jerry DePuit.

Ms. Relyea is Founder/Director of the Kerrytown Concert House in Ann Arbor, Michigan.



### Dustin Scott, tenor

Tenor Dustin L. Scott makes his second appearance with the Ann Arbor Cantata Singers; his first was as the tenor soloist in Bach's *Magnificat* last season. Some performance credits include the role of Nemorino in *L'elisir d'amore* with the Green Mountain Opera

Festival in Vermont; he was praised for that performance by local critics with words such as "theatrically ideal and very funny," "brilliant tenor," and "he sang sensitively with a pliable, beautiful sound." Just prior to that, he performed the title role in John Rutter's *The Reluctant Dragon* as part of the Rackham Symphony Choir's Singing it Real outreach program in Detroit. Mr. Scott completed his Master of Music degree in voice performance at the University of Michigan, where he studied with George Shirley, and while there he performed the roles of the Lyric Tenor in Argento's *Postcard from Morocco*, Ferrando in *Così fan tutte*, and Principál komediantů in Smetana's *Prodaná nevěsta* (The Bartered Bride). As a concert soloist, Mr. Scott has appeared with the Chamber Choir, Orpheus Singers, and the Residential College Choir (all at the University of Michigan), and most recently, in a selection of popular songs and arias with the Windsor Community Orchestra. Upcoming engagements include Tamino in a reduced version of *Die Zauberflöte* at Toledo Opera and Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni* at the Ash Lawn Opera Festival.



### Joseph Roberts, baritone

Joseph Roberts, baritone, holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Baylor University and a Master of Music from the University of Michigan. While at Baylor he appeared onstage with the Baylor Opera Theater as Dr. Spinelloccio in *Gianni Schicchi*. Additionally, Joseph appeared as a

performer in the nationally televised PBS special, *Christmas at Baylor*. As a student at the University of Michigan, he has performed the roles of Krusina in Smetana's *Prodaná Nevesta*, Schaunard in Puccini's *La Bohème*, the Captain and Zaretsky in Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*, Vicar Gedge in Britten's *Albert Herring*, and Count Almaviva in Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro*. On the Oratorio stage, Joseph has performed solos in both Brahms's and Durufle's *Requiems* as well as the baritone solo in Mozart's *Vesperae solennes de confessore*. He is currently pursuing a Specialist degree in Vocal Performance at the University of Michigan under the tutelage of Freda Herseht.

The Ann Arbor Cantata Singers will perform Bach's *St. John's Passion* on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at Christ Church Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills and April 3<sup>rd</sup> at First Congregational Church in Ann Arbor. See [www.a2cantatasingers.org](http://www.a2cantatasingers.org) for more information.