



**BACH CHOIR
OF PITTSBURGH**

PRESENTS



QUEENS

THE MUSIC OF THE BAND QUEEN



**BACH CHOIR
OF PITTSBURGH**

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BACH CHOIR OF PITTSBURGH

presents

QUEENS

The Music of Freddie Mercury and Queen

Thomas W. Douglas

Artistic Director and Conductor

Jon Erik Schreiber

Associate Conductor

GUEST ARTISTS

Treasure Treasure & Deep Violet

THE BAND

*Scott Anderson (Keyboard), Chris Thomas (Guitar),
Brian Stahurski (Bass), Scott Boni (Saxophone),
Bobby Kunkel (Drums)*

Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center
3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
April 15 + 16, 2023

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The BACHDAY BASH

A Donor Appreciation Party

JUNE 11, 2023
Willow Restaurant

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2022-23 BCP Program of *Giving*

You will notice this year that when you purchase tickets, you may donate to the **Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh** as well. Each year, we will choose an organization to collect funds for through our ticket process.



about the



BACH CHOIR OF PITTSBURGH

The Bach Choir of Pittsburgh was founded in 1934 to perform works of Johann Sebastian Bach exclusively. Under the leadership of Conductor and Artistic Director Thomas W. Douglas, the choir continues to evolve from a narrowly-focused ensemble to a larger, more inclusive choir that performs major choral works by composers from the Renaissance through the present.

Mission

The Bach Choir of Pittsburgh presents unique and moving interpretations of choral works to engage and captivate arts-loving audiences across the Pittsburgh region.

DONATE



Program Notes

- Contributed by Paul Tellers, Bass



Queen was a British rock band whose fusion of heavy metal, glam rock, and camp theatrics made it one of the most popular groups of the 1970s. Queen crafted an elaborate blend of layered guitar work by guitar virtuoso Brian May and overdubbed vocal harmonies enlivened by the flamboyant performance of front man and principal songwriter Freddie Mercury. The members were Freddie Mercury (original name Farrokh Bulsara; b.1946, d. 1991), Brian May (b. 1947), John Deacon (b. 1951), and Roger Taylor (b. 1949).

Members of two bands composed of university art-school students combined to form Queen in London in 1971. Aided by producer Roy Thomas Baker, Queen shot up the international charts with its third album, *Sheer Heart Attack* (1974).

Program Notes Continued

A Night at the Opera (1975), which includes “Lazing on a Sunday Afternoon” and “You’re My Best Friend” and is one of pop music’s most expensive productions, sold even better. Defiantly avoiding the use of synthesizers, the band constructed a sound that was part English music hall and part Led Zeppelin, epitomized by the mock-operatic “Bohemian Rhapsody,” Britain’s top single for nine weeks. Spectacular success followed in 1977 with “We Are the Champions” and “We Will Rock You”—which became ubiquitous anthems at sporting events in Britain and the United States. *The Game* (1980), featuring “Crazy Little Thing Called Love” and “Another One Bites the Dust,” was Queen’s first number one album in the United States.

Queen has been a global presence in popular culture for more than half a century. Estimates of their record sales range from 250 million to 300 million, ranking them among the world’s best-selling music artists. Their popularity waned for a period in the 1980s, but a stellar performance at the charity concert Live Aid in 1985 reversed their fortune commercially. In 1990, Queen received the Brit Award for Outstanding Contribution to British Music. The band gave its final performance in 1995. Queen was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2001. The band’s formation and rise to stardom are the topics of the blockbuster film *Bohemian Rhapsody* (2018).

Brian May and Roger Taylor currently perform with Queen + Adam Lambert.

Farrokh Bulsara, aka Freddie Mercury, was born in Stone Town, Zanzibar (now part of Tanzania) to Parsi parents who had emigrated from India to Zanzibar, where his father worked as a clerk for the British government. As a child, Bulsara was sent to a boarding school in India. Artistically inclined from an early age, he formed a band there in which he played the piano. When Zanzibar unified with mainland Tanganyika to become the modern nation of Tanzania in 1964, Bulsara moved with his family to England. He studied graphic art and design at Ealing Technical College. Following graduation, he joined a series of bands and had some odd jobs. In April 1970, he teamed up with Brian May and drummer Roger Taylor to become lead singer of their band Smile, which was later joined by bassist John Deacon. Mercury changed the name of the band to Queen in 1971. In this time frame, he began a long term relationship with Mary Austin. Mercury and Austin remained lifelong friends, but his romantic relationship with her ended when he revealed his bisexuality. On 23 November 1991, Mercury publicly revealed that he had AIDS and the next day died of bronchopneumonia, a complication of AIDS.

Sir Brian Harold May, lead guitarist for Queen, is also an astrophysicist having earned a PhD degree in astrophysics in 2007. He was a “science team collaborator” with NASA’s *New Horizons* Pluto mission. Most of May’s virtuoso electric guitar work live and in the studio is done on the Red Special, which he built with his father, an electronics engineer, when he was sixteen years old. May was appointed a Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in 2005 for services to the music industry and for charity work and recently received the title of Knight Bachelor on March 14, 2023.

PROGRAM

THOMAS W. DOUGLAS, Artistic Director and Conductor
JON ERIK SCHREIBER, Associate Conductor

Under Pressure

MJ Lintern, Soloist

Don't Stop Me Now

Bicycle

MJ Lintern, Soloist

Somebody To Love

Treasure Treasure

The Show Must Go On

Deep Violet

Another One Bites The Dust

Fat Bottomed Girls

Nicole Tascarella, Soloist

Flash Theme

MJ Lintern, Soloist

Crazy Little Thing Called Love

Jon Erik Schreiber, Soloist

Good Old Fashioned Lover Boy

Treasure Treasure

We Will Rock You

We Are The Champions

Treasure Treasure

Lazing On A Sunday Afternoon

Deep Violet

You're My Best Friend

MJ Lintern, Soloist

Innuendo

Treasure Treasure

Bohemian Rhapsody

Company

Guest Artists

Treasure Treasure

Deep Violet

Soloists

MJ Lintern

Nicole Tascarella

Jon Erik Schreiber

The Band

Paul Thompson, Contractor

Scott Anderson, Keyboard

Chris Thomas, Guitar

Brian Stahurski, Bass

Scott Boni, Saxophone

Bobby Kunkel, Drums



Summer Sing



BACH CHOIR
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JUNE 2023

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A Sneak Peek into the

2023-2024 Season

LIVES WELL LIVED

Considering Matthew Shepard

by Craig Hella Johnson
with Chamber Orchestra

A German Requiem

by Johannes Brahms
with Four-Hand Piano

Messiah in Space

by George Frideric Handel
with Full Orchestra

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BIOS



THOMAS W. DOUGLAS *Artistic Director*, is a compelling and passionate conductor having performed more than 250 opera, oratorio, orchestral and musical theater productions. As the Artistic Director of the Bach Choir of Pittsburgh he regularly receives accolades for innovative, creative and dramatically provocative productions. He was also the music director of the Newton Symphony in Kansas. Career highlights include conducting Webber's

Phantom of the Opera in Basel, Switzerland, Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, the Pittsburgh premiere of the classic silent films *The Passion of Joan of Arc*, with live orchestra and chorus, the U.S. premiere of David Chesky's *The Agnostic*, the rousing *Carmina Burana Africana*, Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* and *Don Giovanni* and a production of *Ain't Misbehavin'* in Malaysia.

Douglas works regularly as Musical Director at Music Theater Wichita where he has done many productions including *Smokey Joe's Café*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Ragtime*, *Hairspray*, *The Full Monty*, *Miss Saigon*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Les Misérables* among many others. He has also conducted the Anchorage Opera, San Diego Symphony, Seattle Symphony, Des Moines Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, at the City Theater, Pittsburgh Festival Opera, Canton Symphony, Wichita Symphony, Dallas Symphony and the River City Brass Band. In addition, Douglas has conducted classical guitarist and Latin Grammy winner Berta Rojas, Tony winner Kelli O'Hara, and Leslie Odom Jr., Tony winner for his role in *Hamilton*.

Thomas has enjoyed the stage roles of Amonasro in Elton John's *Aida*, Caiaphas in *Jesus Christ Superstar* and Balthazar in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. He has been a vocal soloist with the River City Brass, Pittsburgh Opera, Pittsburgh Symphony, Canton Symphony, the Children's Festival Chorus and sings frequently with jazz legend Joe Negri in his *Mass of Hope*. Douglas is the Director of Opera Studies and also Choral Activities at Carnegie Mellon University. This is his 19th season with the Bach Choir of Pittsburgh.

BIOS *Continued*



JON ERIK SCHREIBER *Associate Conductor*, is a teacher, singer and conductor with a background in vocal pedagogy, choral and solo song literature, and has experience in musical theater, folk and popular styles. With over two decades of experience directing high school choirs, church and community choirs, Schreiber is grateful for the rich and varied experiences leading and collaborating with all sorts of musicians young and old, challenged

and gifted, small groups and large. In addition to serving the Bach Choir of Pittsburgh as Associate Conductor, Schreiber teaches music and directs the Chorus at Pittsburgh Allderdice High School. He is the founding Artistic Director and Conductor of the Indiana Community Choir at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), and also maintains an independent studio of voice students. Above all, he is thankful for the opportunity to serve his family as a father and husband.



JAMES BURNS *Accompanist*, has been a frequent performer with groups such as the Opera Theater of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh Ballet Theater and the Mendelssohn Choir. As a pianist for the Civic Light Opera he has performed in over 100 musical theater productions. He has had the pleasure of bringing music to young students through his work with educational outreach programs for Gateway to Music and the Pittsburgh Opera. Burns holds piano

performance degrees from Oberlin Conservatory of Music and the Julliard School and a Masters degree in Sacred Music from Duquesne University. He is the organist at Westminster Presbyterian Church and Temple Emanuel.

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FaceBook / Instagram / Twitter: **BachChoirPGH**

GUEST ARTISTS



TREASURE TREASURE (she / they)

is a performing artist, composer and multi-instrumentalist. Appearances include Broadway, Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Museum of Art, Atlantic Theater Company, PCLO, PICT, Hangar Theater, Children's Museum of Pittsburgh and the Squonk Opera. Her original score for *The Tempest* was first produced by Southwest Shakespeare Company and her debut EP *Hypnerotomachia* is available on all platforms. She holds a BFA from the

Carnegie Mellon School of Drama (thank you, Thomas).

blInstagram: @beingtreasure



DEEP VIOLET (she / they) is an international songbird that has been jaunting from the shores of London, UK to the USA since 2020 bringing merriment and mayhem to those lucky enough to fall into her clutches. April 29th at Club Café, Deep Violet will be at it again to bring you the immersive production of *La Cucina (The Kitchen)*; a drag cabaret experience, where she'll be whipping up her most decadent dishes

as she divulges her deepest, darkest depths of her previous promiscuous life that she is leaving behind so she can stir up a brand new recipe for her next chapter. *La Cucina* delivers the roller coaster you've been looking for. Full of laughter, prizes, nibbles, and tear-jerking confessions, Deep Violet will leave you wanting more. So if you couldn't get enough of her this time, come on down to Club Café on the South Side. For info, connecting or just to brighten your day, follow her on Instagram @divinedepth. Let's rock out with your socks on!

THE BAND



CHRIS THOMAS *Guitar*, is a guitarist, teacher and luthier in the Pittsburgh area. He received a BA in music performance (jazz guitar) from Duquesne University in 1994. Chris has performed with local and national artists such as the the duo Leah and Chris, The Honeyriders, Modern Times and the Rick Purcell Band, Joe Negri, Charlie Haden, Randy Purcell, Stanley Turrentine, Joe Beck, The Shirelles, Jim Nabors and performed as an opening act for Barry Manillo, Chubby Checker, The Indigo Girls, Soul Asylum and Rod Stewart. Show performances have included *West Side Story*, *Little Shop Of Horrors*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Addams Family*, *The Wiz* and *Children of Eden* to name a few. He received a Post Baccalaureate Certification in music education from Duquesne University in 2003 and a Masters of Arts Teaching from California University of Pennsylvania in 2010. Chris is currently employed as a music teacher in the Elizabeth Forward School District. He resides in Forward Township with his wife and daughters where he also spends lots of time in his shop as a luthier. The guitar Chris is playing is his creation and a tribute to one of his heroes, Sir Brian May.



BRIAN STAHURSKI *Bass*, received his formal education at Duquesne University, earning a Bachelor's degree in Jazz Performance in 1989 while studying with Jeffrey Mangone and a Master's degree in Performance in 1992 while studying with Anthony Bianco. Since then he has performed with the Pittsburgh Ballet Orchestra, Major Broadway touring productions, the Wheeling Symphony, WQED's *Live from Studio A* on PBS television and various Jazz, Blues, Salsa, Pop and Rock artists around Pittsburgh. Brian toured with jazz trumpet legend Maynard Ferguson and his Big Bop Nouveau band around the world from 1999 - 2001 playing jazz festivals, clubs and universities in the United States, Europe and Asia. He also performed on two notable recordings during that time: vocalist Michael Feinstein on "Big City Rhythms" with Maynard Ferguson, and with renowned vocalist Diane Schuur on *Swingin' for Schuur*, also featuring Mr. Ferguson. Both albums are on the Concord Jazz label. He is currently Professor of Bass Studies at Slippery Rock University, California University of Pennsylvania, Duquesne University and bass guitar instructor at the Winchester Thurston School.

THE BAND *Continued*



SCOTT BONI *Saxophone*, is a saxophonist from Washington, PA. His relationship to the city of Pittsburgh was formed through a childhood involvement with the arts. As a member of the Children's Festival Chorus, he performed at many venues around the city. "I believe my experience with CFC laid the foundation for my path into music as an adult. When we rehearsed and performed it was very focused and intense. We had fun, but we were expected to act like young professionals. It was

a wonderful experience and I have no doubt that all of the singing I did helps me every time I play the saxophone." Studying at Boston's Berklee College of Music, he was exposed to creative ideas by classmates and teachers from around the world. "That was truly life-changing for me. It helped me grow both personally and musically. I'm thankful to be performing here in Pittsburgh. I'm busy working with both old and new friends. That's one of the great gifts found through the arts – the relationships you make. Pittsburgh has such an incredible jazz history and it's both humbling and inspiring to be working in the current scene." Scott is employed as a realtor and enjoys exploring Pittsburgh's history through books, films and antiques.



BOBBY KUNKEL *Drums*, One of Pittsburgh's most reliable and versatile drummers, Bobby writes, records, and performs with North Of Mason-Dixon (NOMaD), and is a long-standing member of the worship team at New Community Church in Wexford. His performance and recording credits include In The Mood, The Nick Dialoiso Orchestra, Anderson/Hewlett, Bon Journey, Yinz & Roses, Trenton Antill, and Domenic Fusca, among many others. A graduate of Duquesne University, Bobby also is an

educator/teacher and is currently authoring a method book for beginner and intermediate drummers. "I am so very excited and honored to this opportunity with the Pittsburgh Bach Choir to perform the music of Queen and Freddie Mercury. To quote Freddie himself, 'On with the show!!'" - BK

THE BAND *Continued*



SCOTT ANDERSON *Keyboard*, is a two time Emmy award-winning composer, music director, producer and one of the Pittsburgh region's most sought-after keyboard players. Scott received an Emmy award in 2006 for his work composing the score for the award-winning documentary *From Pittsburgh to Poland: Lessons from The Holocaust*. In 2007 he won both an Emmy and a Telly award for his work as music director and co-producer of *Live From Studio A: American Standards*. Scott was also

nominated for Emmy awards in 2003 and 2004 for his work as Music Director of WQED's *Live From Studio A* television show and again in 2010 for music contributed to the film *In Service*, a joint production of Pittsburgh Filmmakers and Bricolage. He was the organist for the Pittsburgh Penguins and a member of the Penguin's house band, The Blue Line Band, for three years. Scott's musical diversity is what propelled him to preferred status as a keyboard player for the region's top performers, including Joe Negri, Benny Benack, Pete Hewlett, Eric DeFade, Lisa Bleil, Billy Price, Kenny Blake, and on and on. He can go from Jazz to Big Band to straight-ahead Rock & Roll without missing a beat.

Thank You!
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Peer-to-Peer Fundraiser
March 1-31, 2023

The Bach Choir of Pittsburgh would like to thank not only its choir members who participated in our Peer-to-Peer fundraiser, but also those who donated in honor of participating singers towards our programming. We raised over an astounding 18K in contributions. We will be sharing more information around this first ever successful fundraiser in our March Newsletter!

CONTRIBUTORS *Thank you!*

Individual contributors to the Bach Choir are truly the lifeblood of our organization. Without the generous support of many people, we would simply not be able to perform for you. We are currently hard at work setting up a new reliable system for keeping track of all of you and your contributions. We want our listing to be 100% accurate! If you see an error, please contact ncoccia@bachchoirpittsburgh.org. * This shows donors from 07/01/22 to 02/28/2023.

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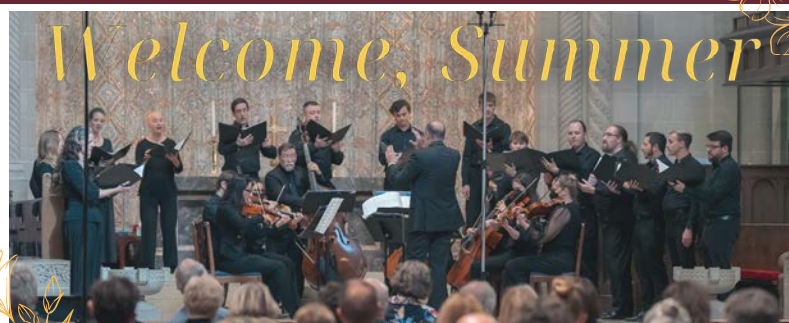


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the **PITTSBURGHCAMERATA**
PRESENTS

Welcome, Summer



June 7, 2023 - 7:00 pm

Shadyside Presbyterian Church

5121 Westminister Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15232

TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION:

PITTSBURGHCAMERATA.ORG



Come and sing with us!

WHO: Open to the community! No auditions necessary!

WHAT: A low commitment – high enjoyment choral experience. Summer Sing is a wild experience – a cross between an open rehearsal of a choral masterwork and a reading session with singers of all levels of training and experience. We will read by sight and make what music we can within three Tuesday evening rehearsals. The last rehearsal concludes with a run-through of the full piece—sung in the round with the participants/ourselves as the only intended audience. It is always joyful but exhausting, magical and a little bit messy. Mostly, it's just good choral fun!

WHERE: Rodef Shalom Congregation
4905 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

WHEN: It will be held on Tuesday, June 6, 13 and 20, 2023 from 7:00-10:00PM. You may attend one session or all sessions dependent on your comfort level with the piece.

REGISTER: Registration opens May 1 via our website at www.BachChoirPittsburgh.org/Tickets

MUSICIANS

SOPRANOS

Janice Auth
Wendy K. Carson*
Sandra Gibson
Beverly Gray
Susan Hood
Beth Jacobs
Mary Jeffries

Tracy Keys
Ceinwen King-Smith
Takako Kiyota-Petek
Mary Kate Mannion
Joanna Obuzor
Sarah Richards*
Nacol Sharkins+

Rebecca Symms*
Nicole Tascarella*
Julia Timmons
Frances Verschuure
Andrea Walczak

ALTOS

Elizabeth Arkush
Wendy Arons
Tybe Brett
Claudia Broman
Joan Cosgrove
Elizabeth Criss
Joan Devine
Linda Evans

Beverly Filtz
Julie Galati*
Keren Gifford
Gina Hey Grotelueschen
Abbie Johnson
Megan Kelly-Thomas
Maria Ketter*
Joy McNally

Polly McQueen
Penny Morel
Sue Phillips
Mary Sabol
Alison Schwartz
Ellen Stolpe+
Tara Vargo

TENORS

Peter Carras
Kane Karsteter-
McKernan
MJ Lintern

Jack McLaughlin
Jon Erik Schreiber*
Brian Filtz
Rob Schwartz+

Steve Suarez
George Spencer*

BASSES

David Allan
Randal Bryant
Matt Dooley+*
Nicholas Eustis
Albert Flasck
Ben Filippone*
Ayres Freitas

Michael Friedrich
Stephen Fuegi
George Libby
Shane Michael
Andrew Sabol
Erich Stein
Jim Storch

Steve Suarez
Paul Tellers
Mel Vatz
Carter Wellons
Conrad Zapanta

* Professional Core
+ Section Manager

BCP would like to acknowledge all of its new singers this season! We are an 80-member choir, bringing us back to pre-pandemic numbers.

We appreciate your attendance and support!

A special thank you to those who attended our 2022-23 Season! Without your support, we could not do what we love and give the gift of music to the Pittsburgh community.



Volunteers

BCP appreciates the many volunteers who make our performances possible!

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BACH CHOIR OF PITTSBURGH



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