### Helena Symphony ALLAN R. SCOTT | MUSIC DIRECTOR



# **The Four Musicians**

#### Featuring Music by Johann Sebastian Bach

Saturday, 7 November 2020, 10:00 a.m.

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## **Today's Composer:**

#### Johann Sebastian Bach







German Composer of the Baroque Era March 21, 1685 - July 28, 1750

Johann Sebastian Bach was born in Eisenach, Germany, where his father was a town musician. Bach came from a long line of composers - over 300 years' worth of Bachs all worked as professional musicians. By the time Johann was 10, both his parents had died, so he was brought up by his older brother, who was a church organist. Johann became a very good organist, too.

Johann Sebastian Bach held three major jobs in his life: first he worked for a duke, then for a prince, and finally, he became director of music at the St. Thomas Church and School in Leipzig, Germany. Even though his job in Leipzig kept him very busy, in his spare time, Bach conducted a group of musicians who liked to get together to perform at a local coffee house.

Johann Sebastian Bach was married two times and had a grand total of 20 children! All of Bach's ancestors were musicians, and his sons were expected to follow in his musical footsteps. Some of them became famous composers, too.

During his lifetime, people thought of Bach as just an ordinary working musician. No one really knew much about his music until 100 years after his death, when another composer, Felix Mendelssohn, conducted a performance of Bach's St. Matthew Passion.

Bach is now seen as one of the greatest geniuses in music history. He wrote all kinds of music for organ and other keyboard instruments, orchestras, choirs, and concertos for many different instrumental combinations.



https://www.classicsforkids.com/composers/composer\_profile.php?id=4

#### Which instruments did Johann Sebastian Bach play?

Harpsichord....and the.....Organ

A keyboard instrument is a musical instrument that is played by <u>pressing down on keys</u>. The keys control a mechanism that produces sound. Some instruments have <u>strings</u> that produce the sound. In others, air is pumped through <u>pipes</u> to make the sound. A third group uses electronics to produce sound. The main types of keyboard instruments are the clavichord, **harpsichord**, piano, and **organ**.





The **harpsichord** is a keyboard instrument similar to a piano. It has strings that stretch away from the performer. The main feature of the harpsichord is that the strings are **PLUCKED** rather than struck.



An **organ** is a keyboard **instrument** in which sound is produced by sending air through pipes or reeds. The organist plays the **instrument** using keys as well as buttons and levers.



If you'd like to hear musicians play J.S. Bach's son, Johann Christian Bach's, composition, Sonata for organ and harpsichord Op.15 No. 5 in G major, go to this site: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SMOZZtH9MDw</u> Johann Christian was J. S. Bach's 18<sup>th</sup> son!!!!



It's fun to perform music with friends!

Draw a line from the word boxes to the correct picture.

If I play music by myself, I am playing a...

If I play music with ONE friend, I am playing a....

If I play with TWO friends, I am playing a...

If I play with THREE friends, I am playing a...











# SYMPHONY KIDS





Allan R. Scott, *music director* Barbara Berg, *narrator & writer* Michael Mleko, *conductor* 



#### Actors

Pat Keim, Rehanna Olson, Scott Pargot, Mēghan Scott, Katy Wright

#### Musicians



Becky Tipler, oboe Dana Nehring, bassoon Stephen Cepeda, Richard Ferguson, Brian Rogge, Ali Schultz Levesque, Ellie Parker, Chelsea Pierce, violins Sara Schultz Levesque, Braelyn Germaine, violas Linda Kuhn, Zachary Boles, cellos Trebor Riddle, bass June Lee, organ and harpsichord



The Helena Symphony's SYMPHONY KIDS program is made possible with additional significant support from:

Piccolo's Music Edge Marketing and Design St. Paul's United Methodist Church