

BACH 4 / 2

Marnix De Cat (organ) & Romina Lischka (Viols)
in a festive '**Bach for two**' program.

We all know Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750), the virtuosic organist and composer. Since many organs are too small to do justice to his larger organ works, Marnix De Cat and Romina Lischka have created a program that presents the master's music in original form and in arrangements for the exquisite combination of organ and viola da gamba.

Bach is a genius in head and heart.

His music is like a tall cathedral, a perfectly balanced architectural structure while simultaneously combining incredible delicacy and depth rooted in a knowledge of mankind and the cosmos.

Bach is primarily known for his cantatas and passions, sacred music that he wrote as a cantor in Leipzig. Today we hear how the text and melodies of his organ chorales transport the listener to small musical universes. Bach takes us on many inner and outer journeys:

Musical joy in his sonatas and dance suites, the recognition of all kinds of restless emotions to inner peace, comfort in our searchings and in our grief; in short, our deepest self is moved...

That is what Bach, the sound magician, can do.

Two historical instruments,
Two modern-day musicians,
And Bach...



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Romina Lischka was awarded for her viola da gamba soloist diploma "with distinction" in 2006 at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis (Basel, Switzerland) and received her Master's diploma "with distinction" in 2008 at the Royal Conservatory in Brussels.

Since graduation, Romina has worked as a free-lance gambist with ensembles such as Collegium Vocale (Philippe Herreweghe), Gli Angeli Genève, etc. Her concert activities have brought her to prestigious concert halls and festivals throughout Europe, Russia, Asia, North and South America.

In the 2012-13 concert season, Romina was chosen as the early music "ECHO Rising Star" by the BOZAR (Brussels) and Concertgebouw (Amsterdam), which resulted in solo performances at various European concert venues.

Her debut CD Pièces de viole de Sieur de Machy received the top 5 star rating by Diapason. The CD En Suite - Marin Marais, Sainte Colombe & Robert de Visée was awarded the Klara prize for "best classical CD of 2015."

Alongside her activities as a gambist, Romina also studied North Indian classical singing (dhrupad) at the World Music department at the Rotterdam Conservatory (Bachelor, 2010) and in India (Delhi and Pune) with Ustad Fariduddin Dagar en Uday Bhawalkar.

Combining all her musical interests, Romina formed the Hathor Consort in 2012 to perform not only Renaissance and Baroque consort music, but also modern works and world music.

www.rominalischka.eu

The Belgian counter-tenor, conductor, organist and percussion player, **Marnix De Cat**, graduated from the Lemmensinstitute Leuven, earning 1st Prizes in organ, choral conducting, harmony and counterpoint. He also studied singing, percussion and fugue.

Marnix is a permanent member of the Gesualdo Consort Amsterdam and was a core member of Capilla Flamenca for about 20 years, participating in its worldwide concert-tours. He grounded his own Pluto-ensemble in 2010, often working together with the gamba Hathor Consort.

De Cat regularly sings with Collegium Vocale Gent, Currende ensemble, Weser Renaissance, Huelgasensemble... and performed as a soloist with Ph. Herreweghe, G. Leonhardt, J. Van Immerseel... Several modern dance performances co-opted him as a singer: 'lets op Bach' (Ballets Cde la B), 'Foi' (Cherkaoui), and 'Bâche'. You can hear Marnix on about 90 CD-recordings, with music from the 14th till 18th century. He formed the duo OrgaX with Hugo Boogaerts, combination of organ and saxophones with accent on improvisation and mix of styles, and also the project BACH 4/2 with Romina Lischka on viols. To cap it all, he's also active as a composer, vocal ensemble coach, and collaborates on music projects for young people.

www.marnixdecat.be