



Bach the Vocalist

Bachhaus 4:

Workshop & masterclass on the organ music of Johann Sebastian Bach.

Johann Sebastian Bach.

Saturday, 1 February 2025, Tring, Hertfordshire.

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Following the success of our previous *Bachhaus* days, you are invited to a workshop and masterclass on the organ music of Johann Sebastian Bach around the relaxed environment of a house organ. We are delighted to welcome again Daniel Moulton, Head of Organ Studies, The Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. Dan is both an inspiring teacher and a wonderful musician (<https://fuguestatefilms.co.uk/product/bach-and-expression/> <https://fuguestatefilms.co.uk/product/bach-great-toccat/>). The organ is the beautiful mechanical action 1994 William Drake house organ which is now in Tring, Hertfordshire.

Writing and performing vocal music was central to Bach's life. Many compositions for organ demand of the performer a singing line and one that would have been very familiar to his audience. But how are we to play this on a keyboard instrument? Understanding these influences can greatly help to communicate the music, especially on the organ which Stravinsky famously described as *'the monster that never breathes'*. To explore this theme, the day will include a workshop on the influence of Bach's vocal writing and performance practice on his organ music. The workshop will be followed by a masterclass for up to six players and four non-playing observers. ***We encourage applications from state secondary school students (see below).** The aim of the day is to explore playing styles and techniques and to give practical guidance and coaching by one of Europe's top experts and players of 18th century music.

Format:

1030: Arrival and refreshments

1100: Workshop. Illustrated talk and demonstration by Daniel Moulton

1200: Lunch (opportunity for brief organ familiarisation for masterclass participants)

1300: Masterclass 1. Three participants, 30 minutes each

1430: Break.

1445: Masterclass 2. Three participants, 30 minutes each

1615: Close

Please feel free to call us to discuss the event or your piece on 01442 825648, evenings 8.00-9.00pm, Ian and Hilary Needleman.

Supported by The Champniss Foundation and The Royal College of Organists



The cost for masterclass participants will be £55, and £25 for non-playing observers, which includes lunch and refreshments. We hope to provide each participant with an iPad-recorded video of their own masterclass session. If you would like to participate, please email us a completed registration form. We will circulate the pieces to be performed before the day. This is a not-for-profit event.

***Two of the six places will be reserved for organ students at state secondary schools. Please get in touch with us if you are a student, parent/carer or teacher if you would like more information. The costs for these places, including travel, are generously supported by the Champniss Foundation and promoted by Royal College of Organists. We are extremely grateful for their support.**

Daniel Moult



““Daniel Moult is an astounding organist.” (Fanfare)

Daniel Moult, renowned concert organist, recording artist and film presenter, is known as “one of the finest organists of our time” (The Organ). Famed for his virtuosic, intelligent and engaging performances, his musicianship has been praised as “exhilarating” (Gramophone), “dazzling” (The Organ), and “formidable” (Organists' Review). He plays "with intelligence, agility, and a lightly worn but altogether becoming authority" (Choir and Organ).

Daniel’s innovative approach to the promotion of organ music has seen him present and perform in a range of films, of which the most recent is The English Organ. This is the largest film project ever made about the instrument, with a crowdfunded budget of £200,000. The project provides a detailed history of English organ-building, and Daniel performs twelve hours of music from Tudor times to the present, spanning 500 years of repertoire and filmed in 33 locations in the UK, USA, Australia and New Zealand. “Simply put, this is one of the most important organ recordings of all time” (Fanfare). He is “an ideal advocate for the English organ ... Every one of his performances here is highly recommendable” (Gramophone).

Previous film work includes Virtuoso! Music for Organ, a film featuring some of the most demanding organ repertoire of the twentieth-century, and The Elusive English Organ, a journey through English organ music from Byrd to Wesley. He has also made several CDs, including the first solo recording of the newly-restored organ of Arundel Cathedral, and one of Handel's organ concerti with the London Early Opera Orchestra for the Signum Classics release Handel at Vauxhall.

As a soloist, Daniel has performed at major venues and festivals in the UK, Europe, Asia and Australia as well as concerti appearances in various countries. Born in Manchester and now based in London, Daniel studied at Oxford University and the Amsterdam Conservatorium. He is Head of Organ at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, where he directs the highly-acclaimed organ department and has spearheaded the commissioning of three significant new organs. He teaches and leads masterclasses, workshops and courses around the world. Daniel has published several editions, including the Easy Bach and the Easy Handel albums for Bärenreiter. He broadcasts frequently on BBC television and radio and has recorded for various record labels including Sony BMG, Signum, Regent, and Fugue State Films.

www.danielmoult.com

1994 William Drake house organ



Manual I GG/AA – g ³	Manual II C – g ³	Pedals C – d ¹
Stopt Diapason (8')	Stopt Diapason (8')	*Pedal Pipes (16')
Principal (4')	Flute (4')	
Twelfth (2 2/3')		
Fifteenth (2')		
Tierce (1 3/5')		
Temperament: Grosvenor	Couplers: I/P, II/P, II/I from g	
		*(C – F# as 5 1/3, G – d1 as 8ve tr. from I, additional G#)

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I would like to participate in the workshop and masterclass as (please indicate):

- a. Player participant
- b. Non-player observer

First name	
Surname	
Address	
Email	
Landline	
Mobile phone	

Brief information about you for the programme

What is your current activity with the organ?	
Who is your current organ teacher (if appropriate?)	
What would you like to get out of the event?	
For masterclass performers	
*What will you be playing at the masterclass?	

Please email completed form to: Ian and Hilary Needleman: ineedleman@aol.com

Telephone: 01442 825648