

Bach Chorale hosts unique fundraiser—a Concerto Auction

By LYNNE BAILLIE
Georgetown Bach Chorale

On Saturday, May 8, the Georgetown Bach Chorale is hosting a unique event, a Concerto Auction. Audience members are invited to participate in an auction of the movements from a series of well-known piano concertos. The winning bids will determine the program for the evening. The selection of concertos— nine in total— encompasses a diverse range of works.



RON GREIDANUS

Bach's *Concerto No. 1 in d minor* (originally written for violin, transposed for the harpsichord and finally for the piano), Beethoven's second piano concerto (which he actually wrote before the first), Chopin's *Concerto No. 1 in e minor* (which he actually wrote second) and the notoriously difficult Hummel's *Concerto No. 2 in a minor* are up for bidding. Both Rachmaninoff's famous second and third piano concerti and works by Grieg, Tchaikovsky and Mozart will also be on the auction block.

The concertos will be offered in lots of three, linked by style and period— classical, romantic and post romantic. They will be auctioned off, first movements together, then the second and finally the third.

The winning bids will determine the choice of movement from each of the three works. In this fashion audience members may hear the first movement of a concerto by Bach, the second of one by Mozart and the third movement of one of Beethoven's works. Conversely, they may hear all three movements of one concerto.

Once the winners are determined the Chorale's music director Ron Greidanus will play them from memory, accompanied on a second piano by guest pianist Kathryn Tremills.

It will be an especially challenging performance for the pianists as they won't know until the auction is over
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Bach Chorale event to dazzle with 'musical virtuosity'

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exactly which movements from the nine concertos they will be playing that evening. They will need to have all nine complete concertos polished and ready to go.

The event will start with sparkling wine and hors d'oeuvres while audience members preview the potential program. Wine and hors d'oeuvres follow at each intermission while the audience contemplates their bids on each subsequent lot.

It promises to be an evening of high excitement and fun with a dazzling display of musical virtuosity by the performers. There will be coffee and tea afterwards and an opportunity to mingle with the performers.



KATHRYN TREMILLS

Bidding is likely to be fierce at times as audience members compete for the opportunity to hear their favourites or something completely new.

The evening starts at 7 p.m. and interested participants are advised to get their tickets early as the seats are limited to 50 and they're moving briskly.

The concert/auction will take place at 157 Main Street South, music director Ron Greidanus's home, an especially popular venue for Bach Chorale events. Tickets are \$50 each and are available at two locations in downtown Georgetown, Foodstuffs and The Freckled Lion or by credit card on the Chorale's website, www.georgetownbachchorale.com.

Grate Groan Up Spelling Bee buzzes in May 6

Literacy North Halton presents the 7th annual Grate Groan Up Spelling Bee on Thursday, May 6, at Halton Hills Banquet Hall on Steeles Ave, in Milton at 5 p.m. BEE THERE!

Buy a ticket, \$30, and join in the fun. Enjoy dinner and watch the action on stage and browse the silent auction. Info: Literacy North Halton, 905-873-2200. All proceeds go towards the Read*Spell*Write program.

