

# **J. S. Bach: St. Matthew Passion**

**Featuring: Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Conductor  
& The Bach Consort Chorus & Orchestra**

**Venue: Eglinton St. George's United Church, 35 Lytton Boulevard  
Friday, February 15, 2008 at 7.30 PM**

Dear Bach Lovers,

January 4, 2008

Holy smokes do we have a concert for you! You do not want to miss this **Bach Consort** performance. On February 15, 2008 our friend **Yannick Nézet-Séguin** is returning in triumph to conduct Bach's magnificent **St. Matthew Passion**.

I say "in triumph" because in addition to being appointed the principal conductor of the **Rotterdam Philharmonic** he has also been recently named as the principal guest conductor of the **London Philharmonic Orchestra**. No Canadian-born conductor has scaled these heights before.

Folks, the Europeans won't easily let go of our boy Yannick. **Get out and hear him while you can.** February's concert is a rare opportunity to see what all the fuss is about. Yannick will also be conducting the **TSO** that week. Some of us **Bach Consort** musicians from the Toronto Symphony will get to perform two different programmes with him. I urge you to come to both the **Bach Consort** and the **TSO** concerts that week.

Performers are often asked what difference a conductor makes. The musicians already know the music – why do they need a conductor?

In answer, I liken the orchestra to a piano - we musicians are the keys and the conductor plays us like a pianist. You may have had the experience of hearing the same piece of music played by two different pianists. One might move you to tears and the other has you checking your watch. The notes are the same but it can be as different as night and day. Only by experiencing this magic will you know the difference.

To perform the **St. Matthew Passion** on this occasion the **Bach Consort** has enlisted 80 performers – two orchestras, two choirs, the Toronto Children's Chorus and six brilliant soloists. Then add the icing on the cake - a great leader who can make sense of this incredible and incredibly demanding score. In Yannick we have our man and we can't wait to show you the result. On top of this, all of the performers are donating their services to the charities **Eva's Initiatives** and the **TSO Adopt a Player** programme.

See you there!

Cheers, Tim Dawson  
Bach Consort bassist and head dreamer

THE  
**Bach**  
CONSORT  
CHORUS & ORCHESTRA

# St. Matthew Passion

**BY J.S. BACH**

CONDUCTOR

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin**

SOPRANO

**Monica Whicher**

CONTRALTO

**Elizabeth Turnbull**

TENORS

**Lawrence Wiliford** *Evangelist*

**Colin Ainsworth** *Arias*

BASSES

**Alex Dobson** *Jesus*

**Russell Braun** *Arias*



**Toronto Children's Chorus**

**Friday, February 15, 2008 at 7:30 pm**

**Eglinton St. George's United Church**

**35 Lytton Boulevard**

Halfway between the Lawrence and Eglinton Subway Stations and one block west of Yonge

**TICKETS (including beverage): \$60 PER PERSON**

**DRESS REHEARSAL TICKETS: \$20**

**To reserve tickets, call 416-481-1141, ext. 250**

**Visa and MasterCard**



Proceeds shared by youth programmes of **Eva's Phoenix**  
and **Toronto Symphony Adopt-A-Player**