

Bach Festival Society OF WINTER PARK

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 27, 2007

Bach Festival Society Presents The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields Chamber Ensemble

Winter Park, FL The Bach Festival Society of Winter Park is pleased to announce that **The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields Chamber Ensemble** will open both the Visiting Artist Series and the Fred Rogers Family Series for its 2007-2008 performance season. The Academy's program will include works by Dvořák, Shostakovich, and Mendelssohn.

The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields Chamber Ensemble was created in 1967 to perform the larger chamber works—from quintets to octets—with players who customarily work together, instead of the usual string quartet with additional guests. Drawn from the principal players of The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields Orchestra, the Chamber Ensemble tours as a string octet, string sextet, and in other configurations including winds. "This group is one of the great chamber ensembles from one of the great cities in the world. The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields continues to set the standard of excellence," said Artistic Director Dr. John Sinclair.

The works that the Chamber Ensemble will be playing are all unique in their own ways. Mendelssohn was a mere 16 years old when he wrote the *Octet for Strings in E-flat Major, Op. 20*, and Shostakovich only 19 when he wrote his *Prelude and Scherzo, Op. 11*. Though

Dvořák was older when he composed his *Sextet for Strings in A Major, Op. 48* (38 years old), he wrote it in only 14 days.

The Bach Festival Society's **Visiting Artists Series** highlights visiting soloists or small ensembles, each of which has performed in the world's greatest concert halls, performing quality classical music and the work of talented new composers. These performances take place in the 400-seat John M. Tiedtke Concert Hall, an acoustically magnificent setting. "Artists performing on the Visiting Artists Series routinely play in 1,000+ seat concert halls. The quality and intimacy of the Bach Festival's Visiting Artists Series is truly an extraordinary benefit for the residents and visitors to our region," said Elizabeth Gwinn, the Bach Festival Society's Executive Director.

The **Fred Rogers Family Series**, now entering its third season, features some of the world's best soloists and ensembles in wonderful hour-long programs that are both entertaining and interactive. These concerts introduce children and their families to various music styles and instruments through direct interaction with professional musicians. Artists share information with audience members about the music, the composers, and their instruments in a very informal and enlightening program. This series pays tribute to Fred Rogers, a graduate of Rollins College and creator and star of public television's *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood*, as well as his family for their support of the Bach Festival Society, the College, and its music programs.

Performance Information

What: The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields Chamber Ensemble—an internationally famous group of 8 players—in concert, performing works by Dvořák, Shostakovich, and Mendelssohn. The Academy will perform on the Visiting Artists Series and the Fred Rogers Family Series.

Where: John M. Tiedtke Concert Hall, Rollins College

When: Friday, October 12, 2007, at 8:00pm and Saturday, October 13, 2007, at 11:00am

Tickets: Visiting Artists Series: \$40 and \$30 depending on seat location; Fred Rogers Family Series: \$15 adults; \$10 under 18.

About the Bach Festival Society

The Bach Festival Society, located in Winter Park, Florida, is one of the longest continuously operating Bach Festivals in the country and among America's great oratorio societies. The Bach Festival Society brings the highest caliber of classical music to Central Florida. Performances are held in the intimate settings of the Tiedtke Concert Hall and Knowles Memorial Chapel on the beautiful campus of Rollins College.

For more information regarding the upcoming season or to order tickets, please call the Bach Festival Society at 407-646-2182 or visit us online at www.bachfestivalflorida.org

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