

Editorial

Continuing our usual practice, this volume of *Understanding Bach* presents peer-reviewed contributions that originated from recent events organised or sponsored by Bach Network UK (BNUK).

First heard in July 2012 at the 15th Biennial International Conference on Baroque Music in Southampton, in a session sponsored by BNUK, the article by Mattias Lundberg pursues interesting links between the libretto of Bach's Cantata 10 and contemporary homiletic literature surrounding the Magnificat and the Feast of *Visitatio*. Its detailed exposition of these textual interrelationships furthers our understanding of the interpretative networks that operated in early eighteenth-century Lutheran theology.

The article by Ruth Tatlow originated from her presentation given at the Fifth Johann Sebastian Bach Dialogue Meeting of BNUK, held in Edinburgh, 12-14 August 2011. It crystallises the concept of 'historically informed theory', an approach that has the potential to clarify many topics that have caused confusion and scholarly debates in the past hundred years. Applying it to Bach studies, and using Bach's Christmas Oratorio as a case study, Tatlow powerfully asserts the importance of gaining a better understanding of the theoretical works of Bach's contemporaries, and offers a new vision for future Bach research.

Also originating from a BNUK session in Southampton, Susan McCormick's article examines the recently discovered *Choralbuch* compiled by Bach's last pupil, Johann Christian Kittel. Assessing its significance through the study of numerous other sources, she recognises it to be a valuable source for shed light on how chorales were used in studies on organ playing and composition in the decades following Johann Sebastian Bach's death.

Originally presented at the 2011 Edinburgh dialogue meeting, Tanja Kovačević's article discusses how Bach's music was used and appreciated in mid-nineteenth-century Bohemia. Carefully examining the hitherto little-known manuscripts in the Archive of the Prague Conservatoire, she successfully traces how BWV 898, the spurious Prelude and Fugue in B-flat major, came into vogue as an ensemble piece for thirty-two hands at the educational institution of Joseph Proksch's in Prague.

The two short articles offered in the 'Reports' section of the volume, are devoted to documents from the Mining Archive in Freiberg near Dresden, rediscovered in 2010. These concern Bach's investments in a silver mine in the last decade of his life. The first piece by Peter Smaill, whose contribution originates from his presentation at the 2012 Southampton conference, gives a broad background on recent research as well as a comprehensive analysis of Bach's

possible motives for this investment, while the second piece, by Eberhard Spree, presents his original research on the discovery and elaborates on its various implications, such as the fate of Bach's share in the mine, inherited by Anna Magdalena and his children in 1750, and the possible explanation for Bach's interest in the mine. Complementing each other, they clearly demonstrate a great potential for further research.

Preparing this volume, I was greatly assisted by a number of international scholars who kindly agreed to serve as anonymous peer reviewers. I wish to thank them wholeheartedly for their most generous and valuable advice.

During the past year we have been saddened by the passing of two scholars, who made significant contributions to Bach scholarship: Stephen Daw (28 May 1944 - 27 October 2012) and Yoshitake Kobayashi (10 June 1942 - 26 January 2013). I would like to acknowledge their passing and express gratitude for their life's work that will continue to enrich our understanding of Bach and his world.

The upcoming event of BNUK—the Sixth J. S. Bach Dialogue Meeting titled 'Bach looking East'—is to be held in Warsaw from Wednesday, 3 July, to Sunday, 7 July 2013. It is organised in association with the Institute of Musicology of the University of Warsaw and the Fryderyk Chopin Institute (Poland) with Szymon Paczkowski as convenor. The Warsaw meeting will include six sessions under our newly devised Dialogue Session Group scheme and six individual papers in two 'Burning Issues' sessions. There will also be a Young Scholars' Forum in which research students will present a short summary of their work, followed by a public discussion—an invaluable opportunity for young scholars to benefit from an open tutorial with leading Bach experts. Further details can be found on the website: <http://www.bach-dialogue-meeting.uw.edu.pl>. We look forward to many fascinating discussions with colleagues and friends over many aspects of Bach's life and works.

I would like to end this brief note with my expression of thanks to my colleagues of BNUK, particularly Ruth Tatlow and Tanja Kovačević, my editorial teammates, without whose support and help I could not have produced this volume in time to celebrate J. S. Bach's 328th birthday.

Yo Tomita (Volume Editor)
Newtownabbey, 21 March 2013

Abbreviations

- BDok I** Werner Neumann and Hans-Joachim Schulze (eds.), *Schriftstücke von der Hand Johann Sebastian Bachs*. Bach-Dokumente, I (Leipzig: VEB Deutscher Verlag für Musik; Kassel: Bärenreiter, 1963)
- BDok II** Werner Neumann and Hans-Joachim Schulze (eds.), *Fremdschriftliche und gedruckte Dokumente zur Lebensgeschichte Johann Sebastian Bachs 1685–1750*. Bach-Dokumente, II (Leipzig: VEB Deutscher Verlag für Musik; Kassel: Bärenreiter, 1969)
- BDok III** Hans-Joachim Schulze (ed.), *Dokumente zum Nachwirken Johann Sebastian Bachs 1750–1800*. Bach-Dokumente, III (Leipzig: VEB Deutscher Verlag für Musik; Kassel: Bärenreiter, 1972)
- BDok V** Hans-Joachim Schulze (ed.), *Dokumente zu Leben, Werk und Nachwirken Johann Sebastian Bachs 1685–1800. Neue Dokumente Nachträge und Berichtungen zu Band I-III*. Bach-Dokumente, V (Kassel: Bärenreiter, 2007)
- BDok VI** Andreas Glöckner, Anselm Hartinger and Karen Lehmann (eds.), *Ausgewählte Dokumente zum Nachwirken Johann Sebastian Bachs 1801–1850*. Bach-Dokumente, VI (Kassel: Bärenreiter, 2007)
- BDok VII** Johann Nicolaus Forkel, *Ueber Johann Sebastian Bachs Leben, Kunst und Kunstwerke (Leipzig 1802). Edition - Quellen - Materialien*. Vorgelegt und erl. von Christoph Wolff. Unter Mitarb. von Michael Maul. Bach-Dokumente, VII (Kassel: Bärenreiter, 2008)
- NBA** [Neue Bach-Ausgabe] Johann Sebastian Bach. *Neue Ausgabe Sämtlicher Werke* (Kassel: Bärenreiter, 1954–2008)
- NBA KB** *Kritischer Bericht (Critical Report) of NBA*
- BWV** Wolfgang Schmieder (ed.), *Thematisch-systematisches Verzeichnis der musikalischen Werke von Johann Sebastian Bach. Bach-Werke-Verzeichnis 'BWV'* (Wiesbaden: Breitkopf & Härtel; Leipzig: VEB Deutscher Verlag für Musik, 1950);
- BWV2** Wolfgang Schmieder (ed.), *Thematisch-systematisches Verzeichnis der musikalischen Werke von Johann Sebastian Bach. Bach-Werke-Verzeichnis 'BWV'*, 2nd rev. and enl. edn (Wiesbaden: Breitkopf & Härtel, 1990)
- BWV2a** A. Dürr, Y. Kobayashi and K. Beißwenger (eds.), *Bach-Werke-Verzeichnis: Kleine Ausgabe (BWV 2a). Nach der von Wolfgang Schmieder vorgelegten 2. Ausgabe* (Wiesbaden: Breitkopf & Härtel, 1998)
- MGG** Friedrich Blume (ed.), *Die Musik in Geschichte und Gegenwart. Allgemeine Enzyklopädie der Musik* (Kassel: Bärenreiter, 1949–1986)
- MGG2** Ludwig Finscher (ed.), *Die Musik in Geschichte und Gegenwart. Allgemeine Enzyklopädie der Musik*, 2nd edn (Kassel: Bärenreiter, 1994–2008)
- NBR** Hans T. David and Arthur Mendel (eds.), Christoph Wolff (rev. and enl.), *The New Bach Reader. A Life of Johann Sebastian Bach in Letters and Documents* (New York: W. W. Norton, 1998)