

“Music and Humanities in Bach’s Passion” appreciation talks to be held in May

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department will organise "Music and Humanities in Bach's Passion" appreciation talks in May. This lecture series consists of three sessions featuring broadcaster Calvin Lai and vocal professor Stephen Ng as speakers. A glossary of Bach's passions will be presented, and the multiple layers of musical meanings in both "St. John Passion" and "St. Matthew Passion" will be described to the audience. Members of the SingFest Choral Academy will perform for the live demonstration.

Details of the talk series are as follows:

First session: A Glossary

May 3 (Friday), 7.30pm; Lecture Hall, Hong Kong Space Museum

Speaker: Calvin Lai

Content: From the musical terms to understanding the basic structure of Bach's passions with live demonstration by vocalists.

Ticket price: \$50 (free seating)

Second session: The Story and the Characters

May 10 (Friday), 7.30pm; Lecture Hall, Hong Kong Space Museum

Speaker: Calvin Lai

Content: Providing an understanding of Bach's intriguing way of telling Biblical story, as well as how characters were developed by giving them singing passages uniquely their own. The programme includes demonstration by soloists and a vocal ensemble.

Ticket price: \$50 (free seating)

Third session: Dramatic Choral Scenes

May 16 (Thursday), 8pm; Studio Theatre, Hong Kong Cultural Centre

Speaker: Stephen Ng

Content: The dramatic choir scenes in the two passions will be the highlight of the evening. These include the impactful "Yelling of Crucifying Jesus" choruses, and the earthquake following Jesus's death. The programme includes demonstration by soloists, a choir and an orchestra to be conducted by Dominic Lam.

Ticket price: \$80

Tickets are now available at URBIX (www.urbtix.hk). For telephone credit card bookings, please call 2111 5999. For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2268 7321 or visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService/Programme/en/music/programs_782.html.