

# Munich Bach Choir

## Vita

Founded in 1954 by Karl Richter, the choir is internationally acclaimed for its Bach interpretations - performed worldwide from Paris to Moscow, Tokyo and New York - as well as its recordings of works by Bach and Handel.

After Richter's death, marked by a memorial concert conducted by Leonard Bernstein in May 1981, Hanns-Martin Schneidt took over as conductor. From 1984 to 2001 he brought his own artistic style to the choir, which continued to tour extensively. From 2001 onwards, baroque specialists such as Peter Schreier, Bruno Weil and Ralf Otto worked with the ensemble alongside other guest conductors.

At the beginning of the 2005/06 season, Hansjörg Albrecht became artistic director. The German daily *Süddeutsche Zeitung* described this as: „a stroke of luck for the Munich Bach Choir“. Under Albrecht, the choir developed a new artistic profile and a transparent choral sound quality that was widely praised by critics. It focused on lively, structured Bach interpretations inspired by historically informed performances. Unconventional programmes and a constantly expanding repertoire also became hallmarks of the ensemble.

The Munich Bach Choir often works with its longstanding partner, the Munich Bach Orchestra, as well as with other renowned European orchestras. Beyond performances in Munich's major concert halls, leading music venues and at international festivals, these inspiring encounters regularly lead to CD and DVD recordings.

When the pandemic interrupted cultural life in spring 2020, the Munich Bach Choir was in the middle of another fully booked season. This was preceded by two exciting years featuring concert tours to Russia and Italy, a couple of tours with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra under Zubin Mehta, a festive concert in the Otto-beuren Basilica and several performances in Leipzig's Thomaskirche.

After a short break, the choir returned to international stages at the start of the 2021/2022 season with several well-received performances. After singing Bach's St. John Passion at the George Enescu Festival in Bucharest and sacred works by Franz Schubert at the Anima Mundi Festival in Pisa, the choir gave several performances of works by Mozart, Bach, Orff, Beethoven and Mendelssohn at the new Isarphilharmonie in Munich.

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