

## ROBERT QUINNEY, organist, choir director, & musicologist,

has directed New College Choir since 2014. Alongside his work with the choir he continues his career as a concert organist across the world, and combines this with his role as a Tutor of Music in New College and an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Music.



A noted performer of Bach's keyboard music, whose recordings have received critical acclaim, he has continued New College Choir's long tradition of expertise in 18th-century music, presenting regular liturgical performances of Bach's music alongside solo performances on the organ and harpsichord.



## Journeys of the Mind—Bach's Clavier-Übung

### A series of musical explorations

Bach waited until 1726 to publish his music, choosing a title in common usage in 18th-century Germany: *Clavier-Übung*, 'keyboard practice'. Behind the prosaic title lie four volumes of dazzlingly inventive music, diverse in style yet linked by certain guiding principles and Bach's characteristic search for completeness. In two organ recitals featuring the third book of *Clavier-Übung*, and a lecture-recital featuring performances on the harpsichord and organ, Robert Quinney explores this remarkable collection, its place in Bach's oeuvre, and the reconciliation it attempts between the didactic and the virtuosic.

### Choral Masterpieces

Join New College Choir for one of their regular Bach performances: termly *Cantata Vespers*, in which a cantata is presented in a liturgy based upon the Vespers Bach himself knew in Leipzig; the *St John Passion*, also presented liturgically in New College Chapel; and a concert performance in the University Church of Parts IV–VI of the *Christmas Oratorio*.

For full details of all services and concerts see [www.newcollegechoir.com](http://www.newcollegechoir.com)

## Bach in New College

TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 9.00pm  
Organ recital: Robert Quinney  
*Clavier-Übung* III, part 1

SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER 5.45pm  
Cantata Vespers  
*Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*, BWV 140

TUESDAY 17 DECEMBER 6.30pm  
Christmas Oratorio, Parts IV–VI  
University Church, Oxford  
Tickets from [ticketsource.co.uk](https://ticketsource.co.uk)

TUESDAY 21 JANUARY 8.45pm  
Lecture recital: Robert Quinney  
*Journeys of the mind–Bach's Clavier-Übung*

SUNDAY 26 JANUARY 5.45pm  
Cantata Vespers  
*Ich steh mit einem Fuss im Grabe*, BWV 156

SUNDAY 16 MARCH 5.00pm  
St John Passion  
with Instruments of Time & Truth

SUNDAY 4 MAY 5.45pm  
Cantata Vespers  
*Ihr werdet weinen und heulen*, BWV 103

WEDNESDAY 7 MAY 7.30pm  
BACH 1725 (full details inside)  
Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

TUESDAY 10 JUNE 9.00pm  
Organ recital: Robert Quinney  
*Clavier-Übung* III, part 2

WEDNESDAY 7 MAY  
BACH 1725

New College Choir  
Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment  
John Butt, director

A unique event marking 300 years since the first performance of Bach's 1725 Ascension Day Cantata, *Auf Christi Himmelfahrt allein*. The concert in the Sheldonian Theatre marks the arrival of the autograph MS in the Bodleian's collection.

Acclaimed Bach scholar and performer John Butt directs the performance, while Robert Quinney uses his extensive knowledge of the MS to prepare the choir.

6.15pm Manuscript viewing  
6.30pm Pre-concert talk  
7.30pm Concert

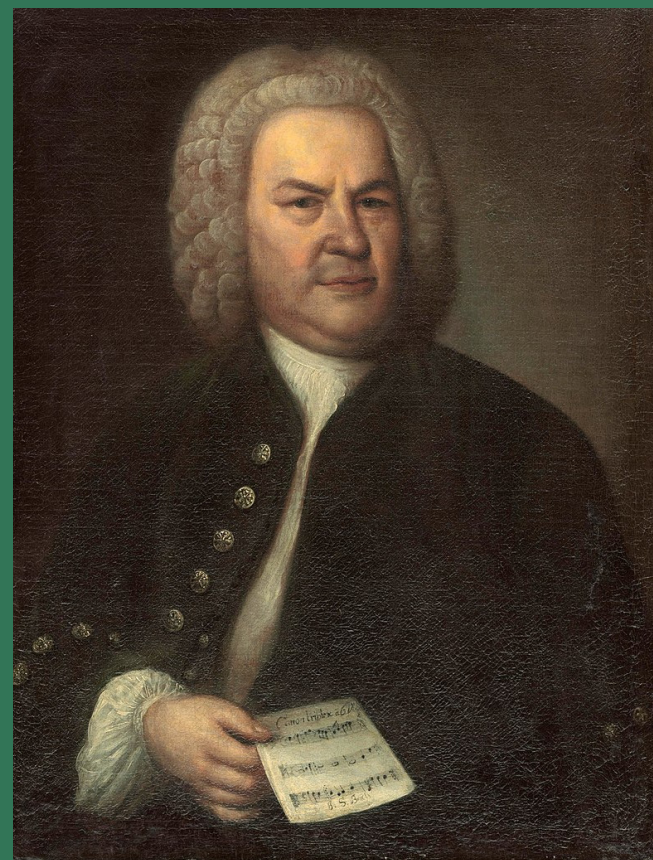
[oxfordculturalprogramme.org.uk/event/bach-1725](https://oxfordculturalprogramme.org.uk/event/bach-1725)



*'This manuscript is a jewel in the Bodleian Library's collection. Cantata 128 is one of a fascinating sequence of cantatas composed for Eastertide 1725 with texts by Marianne von Ziegler – Bach's only known female librettist. The music ranges from the dazzlingly energetic to the intimate and reflective, and will be heard alongside another cantata for Eastertide 1725.'*

Robert Quinney

# BACH at New College 2024–2025



[www.newcollegechoir.com](https://www.newcollegechoir.com)