

BACH AT LEIPZIG

by Itamar Moses

Directed by Brendon Fox

**pacific
stages**

presents The Salon Staged Readings

Producer
Jeryll W Adler

Artistic Advisors
Brendon Fox & Michael Jaeger

Associate Producer
Jelayne Miles

Production Intern
Lisa Cirincione

Cast of Characters
in order of appearance

Johann Friedrich Fasch..... Victor Talmadge
Georg Balthasar Schott..... Stephen Wadsworth
Georg Lenck..... Matt Gaydos
Johann Martin Steindorff..... Michael Medico
Georg Friedrich Kaufmann..... Gregory Jbara
Johann Christoph Graupner..... Michael Winters
The Greatest Organist in Germany..... Victor Rivers
Stage Directions..... Lisa Cirincione

Matt Gaydos Regional Credits include: *Moonlight and Magnolias*, Dallas Theater Center; *Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge*, City Theatre; *The Comedy of Errors*, *Macbeth*, *The Two Noble Kinsmen*, *Antony and Cleopatra*, *As You Like It*, The Old Globe. Other Credits include: *Mary Stuart*, *The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial*, LA Theatre Works; *The Pillowman*, *The School for Scandal*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Hamlet*, *Major Barbara*, Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre; *The Winter's Tale*, Unseam'd Shakespeare Co.

Gregory Jbara Broadway credits include originating roles in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Victor/Victoria*, *Damn Yankees* and replacing James Naughton as "Billy Flynn" in *Chicago*. LA Theatre: *Precious Sons*, *House That Jack Built* and *First Lady Suite* for The Blank Theatre Company and *Felix & Oscar* at The Geffen. Upcoming films: *Out Of Step*, *Hellbounds* (working title), *Enchanted*, *Ira & Abby*. Other films include *In & Out*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *First 20 Million...*, *World Trade Center*, *Out-Of-Towners*. TV recurring roles on *Grounded For Life*, *That's Life*, *The Drew Carey Show* and *All My Children*. TV guest starring roles include *Twenty Good Years*, *Conviction*, *Friends*, *Century City*, *The West Wing*, *Without A Trace*, *Touched By An Angel*, *Crossing Jordan*, *Providence*, *Ally Mcbeal*, *Malcolm In The Middle*, *Frasier*, *Family Guy*, *American Dad*, *Rocket Power* and *Come On Over*. Juilliard graduate. www.GregoryJbara.com.

Michael Medico* Credits include LA Theatre: *All in the Timing* (Rubicon Theatre.) and *Three Grooms and a Bride* (The Coast Playhouse). Off Broadway: The US premier of *Murder in Mind* (La Mama). Regional theatre: Old Globe, San Jose Rep, Huntington Theatre Co., McCarter Theatre, Arden Theatre, The Shakespeare Theatre, and Saratoga Shakespeare Co.. Television: *House M.D.*, *The New Adventures of Old Christine*, *Will and Grace*, *The Practice*, *Frasier*, *Sex and the City*, *Law and Order:SVU*, *Roswell*, and *Angel*. Films: *Kiss the Bride*, *Life's Too Good*, and the spoof *Queer Eye for the Homeless Guy*. Michael is also the creator and producer of the benefit *Hot in Hollywood* (Hotinhollywood.ORG)

Victor Rivers* a veteran film star of more than two dozen movies, most recognized for: *The Mask Of Zorro*, as Antonio Banderas's ill-fated brother, as Magic Mike in Taylor Hackford's *Blood-In/Blood-Out*, as Eddie Murphy's sidekick in *The Distinguished Gentleman*, and as part of the acclaimed ensemble of *What's Cooking?*. Victor's TV credits include such hit shows as *24*, *Csi:Miami*, *Numbers*, *Star Trek*, and *Miami Vice*. On stage, he has appeared in productions at A.C.T. under the direction of Arthur Mendoza, and most recently in *The Black Cat* at Edgemar Theatre. The author of the memoir *A Private Family Matter*, Victor is the national spokesperson for the *National Network to End Domestic Violence*. www.victorrivers.com

Victor Talmadge* is an actor, playwright, and director. He has performed on the New York stage and in regional theaters throughout the country including The Stratford Theatre Festival of Canada. Mr. Talmadge extensive film and television credits include working with such notable directors as Francis Ford Coppola, William Friedkin, David Fincher, Michael Apted and Chantal Ackerman, among others. His play, *The Gate of Heaven*, was awarded The Nakashima Peace Prize and has been produced at The U.S. Holocaust Memorial, The Old Globe, Ford's Theater, and The Annenberg Center, and other venues around the country. As a director, Mr. Talmadge has presented both experimental and classical pieces on both coasts, and most recently Off-Broadway, he directed *Kronos and Krainos* at the Signature Theater. This season he directed and acted in Arthur Miller's, *The Ride Down Mt. Morgan* for Pacific Stages.

Stephen Wadsworth*, director, writer and occasional actor, is an acknowledged master of the classical repertoire from Aeschylus to Wilde. He directed and appeared in Pacific Stages' recent reading of Beth Henley's *Impossible Marriage*, which he directed the first production of at the Roundabout in New York. His work has also been seen at the Mark Taper Forum, Berkeley Rep, Seattle Rep, the Shakespeare Theatre, the Old Globe and the McCarter, among many others. His translations of plays by Moliere and Marivaux, which he directed around the country in the 1990s, earned him many honors including the Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters from the French government. He is one of the leading opera directors of the day and has directed at the Metropolitan Opera, La Scala Milan, the Vienna State Opera and London's Royal Opera, among others. He wrote the opera *A Quiet Place* with Leonard Bernstein.

Michael Winters* divides his time between Los Angeles and Seattle, where he has appeared at A.C.T., Intiman, The Seattle Rep & Book-It. In LA he has been seen in *The Kentucky Cycle* and *Cider House Rules* at the Taper and *The Seagull* at the Matrix. He has also appeared in *The Prince of LA* at the Old Globe. He has worked in the companies at A.C.T. in San Francisco, Denver Center Theatre Co., Arizona Theatre Co. & San Jose Rep., among others. He appeared very briefly on Broadway in *Wrong Mountain*. He also directs occasionally at A Noise Within, and has been seen on television, most recently in a recurring role on *The Gilmore Girls*. Michael is the grateful recipient of a Fox Fellowship.

Actors appear courtesy of Actor's Equity Association - * Member of Pacific Stages Artists Company.

Pacific Stages

The Salon Series

April 15th, 2007
Raleigh Studios, Manhattan Beach

The Event Committee
Jeryll W. Adler, Executive Director, Pacific Stages
Karen & Tom Ackland
Sherry & Ian Kramer
Kelly McDowell, Mayor of El Segundo
Jelayne Miles, Associate Producer
Mim Eichler Rivas
Karol & Greg Shrodes
Cindy & John Smet
Melinda & John Watson
April & Gary Wayland

Our April performance features the madcap comedy *BACH AT LEIPZIG* by Itamar Moses, directed by Brendon Fox. Leipzig, Germany, 1722: Johann Kuhnau, revered organist of the Thomaskirche, suddenly dies, leaving his post vacant. In order to fill the position, the city council invites a small number of musicians to audition for the appointment, including Johann Sebastian Bach. This, however, is not his story. Based on actual events, *Bach at Leipzig* re-imagines with uncommon intelligence and wit how six little-known musicians resorted to bribery, blackmail, and betrayal in an attempt to secure the most coveted musical post in all of Europe.

Itamar Moses' work for the stage includes the full-length plays *Outrage*, *Bach at Leipzig*, *Celebrity Row*, and *The Four of Us*; the one-act plays *Authorial Intent* and *Idea*; and the book for the musical *The Hook*. His work has been produced and developed regionally by the Wilma Theater, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, the Hangar Theatre, Florida Stage, ACT Seattle, Portland Center Stage, the American Conservatory Theatre, and the McCarter Theatre, and developed in New York by the Manhattan Theatre Club, the Underwood Theatre, New York Theatre Workshop, New York Stage and Film, HERE Center for the Performing Arts, and La Mama Etc. Mr. Moses has received new play commissions from Playwrights Horizons, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, the Wilma Theater, and the Manhattan Theatre Club. He holds an M.F.A. in Dramatic Writing from NYU, has taught playwriting at Yale and NYU, and is a New York Theatre Workshop Usual Suspect.

Our director, Brendon Fox, is the Associate Producer of L.A. Theatre Works. He has previously directed for LATW two national tours: *The Prisoner of Second Avenue* (starring Hector Elizondo) and *Private Lives*; also for LATW: *The Ruby Sunrise*, *Worksong*, *Arms and the Man*, *Antigone*, and *Spinning Into Butter*, among others. Previously, Mr. Fox served for seven years as the Associate Director for the Old Globe Theatre, where he directed a range of work, including: *Sky Girls*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Beyond Therapy*, *The Countess*, *Private Eyes*, and *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. At The Old Globe/University of San Diego Professional Actor Training Program Mr. Fox directed *Sir Patient Fancy* and *Getting Married*. His regional directing credits include: *What the Butler Saw*, Two River Theatre Company; *Arms and the Man*, Moonlight Stage Productions & Alabama Shakespeare Festival; *Much Ado About Nothing*, LA Shakespeare Festival; and *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Floatplane Notebooks*, Cape Fear Regional Theatre. Additional credits include: *The Smell of the Kill*, North Coast Repertory Theatre; *Much Ado About Nothing*, Borealis Theatre Co; *Arms and the Man* and *Pericles*, greasy joan & co; *Richard II*, Writers Theatre Chicago; *Don Juan in Hell*, Bailiwick Rep; *A Bright Room Called Day* (2006 Award, Best Ensemble), *Cloud 9*, Diversionsary Theatre; and *Sir Patient Fancy*, The Juilliard School. Brendon is an Artistic Advisor and Resident Director to Pacific Stages and a member of the Artists Company.

Flowers donated by Bristol Farms, Manhattan Beach.

Wine donated by Manhattan Fine Wines.

Venue donated by Raleigh Studios, Manhattan Beach

Gift donations by Hillside Pharmacy and Murad Medical Spa.

Logo & graphic design services donated by Alan Otto.

Website design donated by Brad Winslow. Photography donated by April Halprin Wayland.

A very special thanks to all who have donated their hard work and heart to this Salon series, and to the wonderful actors and directors who have so graciously shared their talent.

We applaud your vision and generosity.

We also thank Melanie & Richard Lundquist, and Continental Development Corporation. You are home to our dreams, and an exceptional example of the best our community has to offer.

We welcome you all.

info@pacificstages.org

www.pacificstages.org

Pacific Stages is a 501c3 not-for-profit corporation.