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The University of Dayton News Release

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BACH SOCIETY TO BEGIN SEASON WITH 'CORONATION' MASS BY MOZART

DAYTON, Ohio -- The Dayton Bach Society's first concert of the 1991-92 season will feature Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Coronation" Mass on Sunday, Nov. 3, at 4 p.m. at the Kettering Seventh-day Adventist Church, Stroop Road at Southern Blvd. Also included on the program will be J.S. Bach's Cantata No. 40 and the eight-part motet "Venite populi" by Mozart. Tickets will be available at the door ($9 general admission; $5 students).

Soloists for the concert include soprano Deborah Martin, a graduate of Wright State University; mezzo-soprano Mary Henderson of the voice faculty of the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music (CCM); tenor John Wright, a student at CCM; baritone Scott Hawkins, a Bach Society member and graduate of Miami University; and bass Douglas Crawley, minister of music at Far Hills Baptist Church and a graduate of Indiana University.

"The 'Coronation' Mass is the best-known of Mozart's many sacred works written while he was in Salzburg," said Bach Society conductor Richard Benedum.

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"Originally written for the dedication..., the work was also performed in 1791 for the coronation of the Hapsburg ruler, Leopold II--conducted on that occasion by none other than Mozart’s rival Antonio Salieri. Mozart must have especially liked the work, for six years later he recast the solo soprano section of the closing movement, the 'Agnus Dei,' as the famous soprano solo 'Dove sono' in 'The Marriage of Figaro.' This was very unusual for Mozart--normally it was as easy for him to write something completely new as it would have been to readapt an earlier piece."

Later concerts in the Bach Society season include a Nov. 24 concert of Baroque chamber music performed on period instruments; the annual "Messiah" Sing-In on Dec. 1; programs of holiday music on Dec. 8 and 15; performances of small-scale instrumental and choral music written by Mozart and others on Feb. 22-23; Bach’s "Passion According to St. Matthew" with tenor David Adams as Evangelist on April 12; and a concert of choral waltzes, featuring the chorus of Central State University, on May 17.

The Dayton Bach Society is an associate member of ArtsDayton and receives funding from the Ohio Arts Council and the Miami Valley Arts Council.

Tickets for the Dayton Bach Society are available by calling 256-BACH.