



BACH AKADEMIE
CHARLOTTE

SCOTT ALLEN JARRETT | ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

*God's Time,
Bach's Tune:*
Discovering Cantata 106

Senior Scholars at Queens University
Friday, February 18, 2022 — 11:00a.m.

Scott Allen Jarrett *presenter*



An early masterpiece . . .

- Born in 1685, Bach composed BWV 106 at age 22
- Lasts about 20 minutes
- Scored for four part voices (SATB); 2 recorders; 2 violas da gamba; organ
- Written for a funeral in Mühlhausen in 1707
- A composite text mostly relying on Scripture, chorale adaptations
- “The *Actus Tragicus* belongs to the great musical literature of the world.” – Alfred Dürr

Law and Grace in dialectic . . .

- 1. Sonatina – 20 measures for instruments alone
THE OLD TESTAMENT: LAW
- 2a. Chorus – motet-style (Acts 17:28)
 - a. God's time is the best time
 - b. In Him, we *live* [triple meter; faster tempo; lively melisma on 'leben']
 - c. In him, we *die* [immediately slower – *adagio assai*; 'sterben' is set chromatically]
- 2b. Tenor – Psalm 90: 12 (Oh Lord, teach me to number my days, that we must die, and so that we become wise.)
- 2c. Bass – Isaiah 38:1 (Put your house in order, for you shall die, and not remain living.)
- 2d. Chorus + Soprano –
 - Ecclesiasticus 14:17 (It is the Old Covenant: Man, you must die) [ATB fugue]
 - Revelation 22:20 (Yes, come, Lord Jesus)
 - Instruments: Ich hab mein Sach heimgestellt (I put my things in your hand)*

Law and Grace in dialectic . . . (cont.)

THE NEW TESTAMENT: GRACE

- 3a. Alto – Psalm 31.5
(Words of Committal: *Into your hands I commit my spirit, for you have redeemed me, Lord, you faithful God*)
- 3b. Baritone (*Vox Christi*)
Luke 23:24 (*Today you will be with me in Paradise*)
Altos + Instruments: *Mit Fried und Freud ich fahr dahin* (Martin Luther, 1524)
- 4. Chorus – Vs 7 of *Ich dich hab ich gehoffet, Herr* (Adam Reusner, 1533)
Homophonic statements following by joyful fugato

Bach Akademie residency at Queens . . .

- A PANDEMIC REQUIEM - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24 AT 7:30PM – BELK CHAPEL
- Two years after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, we remember those we have lost. American composer Morten Lauridsen's moving, ethereal **Lux Aeterna**, a meditation on death and the promise of life beyond, as well as Bach's funeral **Cantata 106**, will be performed by Queens choirs and Bach Akademie Charlotte in the acoustically splendid Belk Chapel accompanied by musician of the Charlotte Bach Akademie playing period instruments. This Arts At Queens concert is presented by the Department of Art, Design and Music.
- Conducted by Scott Allen Jarrett and Justin Smith.
- Admission is free. Registration is required. Masks are mandatory.
- Register: <https://engage.queens.edu/register/pandemicrequiemconcert>
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