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Category: Arts/Classical Music

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NEW TRINITY BAROQUE EXPLORES 17TH CENTURY GERMAN BAROQUE IN "BAROQUE BEFORE BACH"

*Atlanta's leading early music ensemble to present the fourth concert of the season,
featuring baroque specialist, soprano Jennifer Ellis*

(*Atlanta – January 31, 2006*) – New Trinity Baroque, which was last month described by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution as Atlanta's "most exciting" music ensemble, will present the fourth concert of its season on Saturday, February 11th, 2006, at 8:00 pm, at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 1790 LaVista Road, Atlanta. The concert is entitled "BAROQUE BEFORE BACH".

For this occasion, New Trinity Baroque musicians will be joined by soprano soloist and early music specialist, Jennifer Ellis. Led by co-directors John Holloway and Predrag Gosta, together New Trinity Baroque and Jennifer Ellis will explore exciting repertoire from 17th century Germany, including compositions of Johann Michael Bach and Johann Christoph Bach and other predecessors to Johann Sebastian Bach.

Born in San Francisco and a graduate of the University of Michigan and the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London, England, **Jennifer Ellis** is emerging as one of America's leading interpreters of the Baroque repertoire. Described as a singer who "offers a freshness of voice, fineness of timbre, and ease of production that place her in the front rank of early-music sopranos" (andante.com), she has been heard in many concert series and festivals throughout the country, including Aston Magna, Houston Early Music, Music Before 1800, Connecticut Early Music, Carmel Bach, and the Berkeley and Boston Early Music Festivals. She has performed with leading early music specialists, including Andrew Parrott, Andrew Lawrence-King, and Nicholas McGegan, and has recorded for Koch, Eclترا and Hungaroton. The ensembles that had the pleasure of working with her include the Washington Bach Consort, the New York Collegium, American Bach Soloists, Portland Baroque Orchestra, Opera Lafayette, Apollo's Fire, Musica Angelica, and now – New Trinity Baroque.

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Musicians of New Trinity Baroque are very excited about the upcoming project. This season's first two projects have featured music of Italian Baroque, and in December they presented a German Christmas program that offered a foretaste of the music that will be explored in the February 11th concert. Although music of the late German Baroque – including music by its greatest representative, Johann Sebastian Bach – can be often heard in Atlanta, it is the music of composers that will be featured at New Trinity Baroque's upcoming concert that inspired and influenced Johann Sebastian and the whole generation of late Baroque composers. What and who has influenced Bach will be answered on February 11th as the audience will be able to hear compositions by Johann Sebastian's immediate preceding family, his two uncles, Johann Michael (father of his first wife, Maria Barbara) and Johann Christoph (Johann Michael's brother and Maria Barbara's uncle). The program will also include cantatas and instrumental compositions by Dietrich Buxtehude and Georg Muffat, as well as Austrian violin virtuoso Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber, and Johann Kuhnau, who worked at the Church of St. Thomas in the years before Bach.

Almost all of the compositions will be presented in Atlanta for the very first time. Premiering the works of Baroque era has become a regular practice for New Trinity Baroque, which is why NTB has been described by *Gramophone* magazine as an ensemble that “dusts off the obscure scores and puts life in them”

As always, the musicians of New Trinity Baroque will perform with instruments and techniques appropriate to the period of the music. New Trinity Baroque will be once again jointly led by Gramophone Award winning British violinist, **John Holloway**, and NTB founder and harpsichordist **Predrag Gosta**. Other musicians will include violinists Carrie Krause, William Bauer and Daniel Golleher, cellist Christina Babich, viola da gamba & double bass player Martha Bishop, and organist Brad Hughley.

The sponsors of this concert season are Atlanta's Four Seasons Hotel, Ameriprise Financial, and BestAtlantaRealty.com. The media sponsor is WABE 90.1. The organizer is Early Music Network.

For more information and tickets, please visit New Trinity Baroque's website, www.newtrinitybaroque.org.

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