The Thirty-first Season of the Kalamazoo Bach Festival Society will feature several compositions by Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach. Since instituting the music of the Bach Family of Musicians in 1969, the Society has presented a variety of works from this musical kin, but this is the first time a musical relative of J. S. Bach has been featured solely as a major offering. The AUERSTEHUNG UND HIMMELFAHRT JESU is, to our knowledge, the first United States performance of the complete work.
Russell A. Hammar, Musical Director and Conductor of the Bach Festival Society, and Professor of Music at Kalamazoo College, is well known in the United States and Europe as a vocal clinician, pedagogist and choral editor. His diversified musical life has included concert, radio, television and recording work as well as conductor of numerous vocal and instrumental ensembles. The Bach Festival Society, begun in 1946 by Henry Overley, has continued to flourish and develop under the direction of Dr. Hammar into one of the major festivals in this country and is also well-known abroad. The introduction of AUFERSTEHUNG UND HIMMELFAHRT JESU to us is another example of the innovative leadership which Dr. Hammar has brought to Kalamazoo audiences during the past sixteen years.

The popular Young Artists' Auditions and Concerts are examples of the variety of music presented annually by the Bach Society. It was introduced in 1965 as a means of encouraging young people to become involved in the exploration and performance of music of the Baroque era, especially that of J. S. Bach and the Bach family. Each season has witnessed intensified interest on the part of the participants and festival audiences. This year, the Young Artists' Committee received sixty-eight applications for the '77 competition, involving over 170 young performers from throughout the State of Michigan.

After a first screening of the tapes submitted to the Society's Young Artists' Committee, approximately thirty outstanding finalists were selected to compete on January 29th. From 8:30 A.M. to 6:30 P.M. at Stetson Chapel, three distinguished adjudicators from Chicago Musical College of Roosevelt University will hear these young people. Because of the high quality of the performances of these young people, the committee again feels obliged to provide for two concerts in order to serve the objective of recognizing the musical achievements of these young artists.

The public is cordially invited to attend the adjudications free of charge.
Chamber Music Concert Artists

Barry Ross, concertmaster of the Kalamazoo Symphony and Bach Festival orchestras, is an Assistant Professor of Music at Kalamazoo College. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Yale School of Music. After extensive concertizing in the East, Dr. Ross has appeared as soloist in Michigan with the Kalamazoo and Twin Cities Symphony Orchestras. An artist of exceptional versatility, he is comfortable performing as a jazz violinist as well as with music of the great masters.

Mary Beth Birch, member of the DAILY NOONTIME CONCERTS faculty, teaching piano a Graduate of the School of Music, Northwestern University, where she studied with Gui Mombaerts. A founder of the Chamber Music Society of Kalamazoo, she has concertized with that organization, the Bach Festival Society, and many other groups throughout the midwest.

Harry and Beatrice Ray, duo-pianists, began their musical partnership more than thirty years ago when they were youthful piano students of H. Glenn Henderson in Kalamazoo, a collaboration which resulted later in the formation of a marital team as well. In the years since then, both have continued their studies with other teachers, she with Frederick Baldwin and he with Bruce Simonds, John Kallen, and Bela Nagy. In 1951 the Rays returned to Kalamazoo when Dr. Ray joined the music faculty at Kalamazoo College, where he is presently Professor of Music, and Mrs. Ray is a member of the piano staff.

Remaining program to be announced.

Fortepiano used in this concert, courtesy Thomas McCobb, builder, "K" '74

MEMBERSHIP IN THE BACH SOCIETY

GUARANTORS $100 and over, PATRONS $50, SPONSORS $35. Guarantors, Patrons and Sponsors are entitled to two complimentary tickets for each of the Bach Festival Week concerts in a SPECIAL RESERVED SECTION. Call 616 - 342-8272 or USE MAIL ORDER FORM.

TICKETS FOR INTERMISSION DINNER (available to everyone for your convenience) on Saturday, March 5 at 6:30 P.M., Welles Hall, adjacent to Stetson Chapel, are available at $4.50 each. Advance purchase necessary prior to Tuesday, March 1st.

STUDENT SERIES TICKETS at $5.00 each are offered to college, university and high school students and are available at the Bach office. No mail orders.

SERIES AND INDIVIDUAL CONCERT TICKETS as well as student series and intermission dinner tickets are available at the Bach Office, Room 210, Light Fine Arts Building, Kalamazoo College, or by using the mail order form.

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  - Chamber Music Concert ($4.00)
    4:00 P.M. Sunday, February 27 .......................... $
  - AUERSTEHUNG UND HIMMELFAHRT JESU
    (Resurrection and Ascension)
    5:00 P.M. and 8:15 P.M.,
    Saturday, March 5 ($5.00) .......................... $
    (Tickets for each half not sold separately)
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    6:30 P.M. ($4.50 each) .......................... $

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Bach Office, Room 210, Light Fine Arts Building, will be open from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, beginning February 1, and from 9:00 to 12:00 Saturday mornings, February 18 and 25 and March 5.
Participating Artists

Martha Herr Hanneman, lyric soprano, has appeared in Carnegie Hall and various New York concerts under the auspices of the Center for the Creative and Performing Arts and the Creative Associates where she is presently serving a fellowship. In January she will perform the world premiere of Morton Feldman's ELEMENTAL PROCEDURES in Köln, Germany. In May she will premiere Feldman's opera NEITHER in Rome. She has studied voice with Russell Hammar, Sylvia Dimiziani and Heinz Rehfuss. A former Kalamazoo College student, Ms. Hanneman was a Bach Young Artist Competition winner and a first place winner in the Michigan NATS Adjudications.

Richard Dale Sjoerdsm, tenor, is a Grand Rapids native and a graduate of Calvin College. He has combined scholarship and performing ability to become Chairman of the Music Department of Carthage College and a recitalist of international reputation. Dr. Sjoerdsm has been the recipient of several awards, among them the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst. His many critical reviews reveal that he is an artist with "... an extraordinary feeling for style ... a definite freshness and vibrancy ... a ringing, sweet tenor that was a delight to hear."

Bruce Abel, baritone, returns to Kalamazoo from Germany for his third performance with the Bach Festival, having sung the J. S. Bach and C. Ph. E. Bach MAGNIFICATS in 1972 and the ST. JOHN PASSION in 1973. A resident of Stuttgart, Mr. Abel has become known throughout Europe as one of America's leading concert and recital singers and has recorded a wide variety of religious and secular music. Particularly identified with the Passions and cantatas of J. S. Bach, he has sung with many important Bach interpreters at the major French and German festivals. Mr. Abel was a soloist in the premiere European recording of AUERSTEHUNG UND HIMMELFAHRT JESU, performing from C. Ph. E. Bach's original manuscripts.