

Christopher M. Cock, Conductor



The Valparaiso University Bach Choir is an auditioned ensemble serving the Bach Institute at Valparaiso University. Comprised of VU faculty, staff, and members of the wider Chicagoland community, the choir made its debut in the 2001 performance of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, and participated in the inauguration of the Bach Institute in January 2004, performing Bach's *Mass in B Minor*, both under the direction of Maestro Helmuth Rilling. In July 2006, the Bach Choir performed at the opening worship of the American Guild of Organists' national convention. Performing motets by J.S. Bach, Felix Mendelssohn and two world premieres, their performance was reviewed in the *American Organist* as offering "flawless diction, impeccable intonation -- rich and stunning."

Bach Choir Auditions for *St. Matthew Passion*: Auditions for the Bach Choir will be held on Monday, September 21, 6:15 – 8:00 p.m. and Monday, September 28, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Valparaiso University Center for the Arts. The Bach Choir holds regular rehearsals on Monday nights, 7:00-9:15 p.m. These rehearsals will begin on Monday, October 12, 2009. For the audition, please bring one piece of prepared vocal literature (2-3 minutes) plus an extra copy for the accompanist. You will be asked to do some brief vocalization, sight-reading, sing your part on *St. Matthew Passion* #45b (excerpt provided in the VUCA office) and read some German aloud. Each audition will be scheduled for six minutes.

To schedule an audition, please email Dr. Christopher Cock (christopher.cock@valpo.edu), Director of the Bach Institute at Valparaiso University.