PRAGUE ACADEMY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

26th International Conference on Transparent Optical Networks

ICTON 2026

CHAMBER CONCERT

Jan Zach
(1713 – 1773)

Symphony for Strings in A major
- Allegro (Alla breve)
- Andante
- Tempo di Minuetto

Johan Sebastian Bach
(1685 – 1750)

Concerto for Two Violins and Strings in D minor, BWV 1043
- Vivace
- Largo ma non tanto
- Allegro

Solo Violins **Tereza Cachová**, **Jiří Čtyroký**

Karl Wiliam Jenkins
(*1943)

Palladio for String Orchestra
- Allegretto
- Largo
- Vivace

String Ensemble of the
Prague Academy Chamber Orchestra
Conductor **Pavel Hryzák**

Minorite friary of St James
Malá Štupartská 635, Praha 1

Wednesday, July 15, 2026
7:15 p.m.

Jan Zach (also known in German as Johann Zach) was a Czech composer, violinist and organist. Born in Dehtáry (near Brandýs nad Labem, Bohemia), he moved to Prague soon and started working as violinist at St Gallus and at St Martin; his career as organist started at St Martin. In 1745 he left Prague and became a choir director in Mainz (Germany). Although he was a gifted and versatile composer capable of writing both in baroque and classical idioms, his eccentric personality led to numerous conflicts and loss of that prestigious position in 1750. From 1756 he had no permanent job and supported himself by traveling around Europe to earn royalties for his compositions. In addition to other German cities, he visited Italy and Austria in particular. He died in 1773 on a journey, at Ellwangen (Germany) and was buried in the local church of St Wolfgang.

Johann Sebastian Bach composed the ***Concerto for Two Violins and Orchestra in D minor****, BWV 1043* around 1730 for the Leipzig student music society *Collegium musicum*, which he had taken over shortly before after its founder G. F. Telemann (1681 – 1767). At that time, the *Collegium musicum*, under Bach's leadership, significantly contributed to the formation of the aesthetic values of Leipzig's concert life. This *Double-violin Concerto* is said to have been Bach's original response to the compositional style of the Italian composer Antonio Vivaldi (1678 – 1741) and became one of the best known (and most successful) works of this type.

Karl Wiliam Jenkins, OBE, is one of the most frequently performed composers of our time. He studied at Cardiff University and then at the Royal Academy of Music. He began his musical career as an oboist in the National Youth Orchestra of Wales but soon became famous as a jazz and jazz-rock player (saxophone, oboe, keyboards). He was awarded the OBE in 2005 "for services to music".

Palladio is a composition in three movements in the form of a *concerto grosso,* completed in 1995, with the title referring to the Italian Renaissance architect Andrea Palladio (1508 – 1580). According to the composer´s statement: "*Palladio was inspired by the sixteenth-century Italian architect Andrea Palladio, whose work embodies the Renaissance celebration of harmony and order. Two of Palladio's hallmarks are mathematical harmony and architectural elements borrowed from classical antiquity, a philosophy which I feel reflects my own approach to composition."*

Harmonious proportions and mathematics play a role in music as in architecture. The architect Palladio based his designs on antique Roman models and studied especially the measurements of Vitruvius. Jenkins in turn based his music on Palladio's "harmonious mathematical principles".