

## **Projects Completed in 2013**

## Acquisition of Choral Performance Material

As early as January 2013 we were able to achieve an ambitious goal:



The museum Bachhaus Eisenach requested support for the acquisition of choral performance material that had been used by the choral society Sing-Akademie zu Berlin for a restaging of Bach's St. Matthew Passion under Felix Mendelssohn on 11 March 1829 – a precious collection of 62 part original handwritten books that Mendelssohn had had prepared from the score for his performance. These books were used for the performances in Berlin and again in 1841 for Mendelssohn's

performance of the St. Matthew Passion at the Thomaskirche (St. Thomas Church) in Leipzig. After Mendelssohn's death, the materials were taken to London. There, the British Bach Society used the part books in 1854 for the first performance of the *St. Matthew Passion* in Great Britain.

The Bachhaus has now succeeded in acquiring a large number of these part books, thereby adding important original materials to its collection. The Johann Sebastian Bach Foundation made a significant contribution towards the purchase of this material by donating  $\in$  12,000.

## Purchase of 14 Copperplate Engravings for the Bachhaus



The Johann Sebastian Bach Foundation contributed €1,000 towards the purchase of 14 copperplate engravings for the exhibition *Bach & Friends*, which ran from 31 May 2013 to 28 February 2014 at the museum Bachhaus Eisenach, with copperplate engravings illustrating Bach's biography.

This contribution enabled the Bachhaus to present an essentially complete biographical portrayal of Bach.

## Purchase of a Pastel Portrait for the Bach Biography



The museum Bachhaus Eisenach has added a new painting to its collection of portraits. The recently purchased pastel was one of the portraits discussed in the 20th century in the context of the Bach iconography. Our Foundation contributed €5,000 towards the acquisition.

The portrait first appeared in 1927/28 in the collection of Manfred Gorke, who owned one of the last large collections of Bachiana in the early 20th century. When this collection was broken up in the late 1930s, the portrait went to a private individual in Berlin and vanished from public view.

In December 2013 it was purchased from a private collection by the Bachhaus Eisenach.

The Bachhaus Eisenach first presented the newly acquired painting at the six-week exhibition *Echt Bach!* (*Really Bach!*), which opened on 13 March 2014 at the Berliner Dom (Berlin Cathedral). Since 1 May 2014 the portrait has been part of the Eisenach exhibition.

We are very pleased that our Foundation, together with the Neue Bachgesellschaft e.V., was able to offer financial support for this purchase.