

PETER SCHICKELE

"As a musical humorist, Mr. Schickele is without peer and irreplaceable." – The New York Times



photos: Peter Schaaaf

For decades, Peter Schickele has kept audiences rolling in the aisles with his rib-tickling presentations of the alleged music of P.D.Q. Bach, classical music's answer to the Marx Brothers. He has appeared with community, university and major symphony orchestras including Atlanta, Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York and Phoenix, among many others. Since taking a sabbatical from touring to concentrate on his acclaimed nationally syndicated radio program "Schickele Mix," Professor Schickele has successfully returned to the stage with fresh programs – with and without orchestra – featuring the egregiously irresponsible music of P.D.Q. Bach.

P.D.Q. BACH: 40 YEARS OF MUSICAL MAYHEM (with orchestra)

Imagine a world without cell phones, chocolate martinis and Paris Hilton. That's what it was like in 1965, when the first public, above-ground, government-sanctioned P.D.Q. Bach concert took place. The good Professor is now offering a NEW AND HILARIOUS orchestral program featuring a tackily-staged rendition of "A Little Nightmare Music," (an opera in one irrevocable act); (the Suite from) "The Civilian Barber"; and "Eine Kleine Kiddiemusic," scored for a room full of toys and orchestra. Also included: the Professor's "Unbegun" Symphony, containing no—count them, zero—original melodies.

P.D.Q. BACH: THE "WHAT'S YOUR SIGN?" TOUR (without orchestra)

This offering features the "Twelve Quite Heavenly Songs," a dangerously ambitious song-cycle based on the signs of the zodiac, and a piece for plumber and piano, among other musical lapses from the world's most justly neglected composer. Three musicians have been persuaded, through gentle blackmail, to join Professor Schickele in this program.

ALSO AVAILABLE:

P.D.Q. BACH: THE VEGAS YEARS (with orchestra)

A program featuring P.D.Q.'s shameless oratorio, "Oedipus Tex," and Schickele's infamous "Songs from Shakespeare," in which some of the Bard's best-known speeches are dropped into a seething vat of 1950's pop music styles. Chorus optional.

P.D.Q. BACH STRIKES BACK (with orchestra)

Highlights include P.D.Q.'s "Howdy" Symphony (the minimeister's answer to Haydn's "Farewell" Symphony). Schickele also conducts his "Uptown Hoedown," which deftly incorporates well-known classical themes into popular square dance tunes.

P.D.Q. BACH & PETER SCHICKELE: THE JEKYL & HYDE TOUR (without orchestra)

Audiences experience (among other delicacies) "Shepherd on the Rocks, With a Twist" and excerpts from the "Little Notebook for 'Piggy' Bach."

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