

## Information on "J. S. Bach and His Boys for Violin and Harpsichord"

Born in Amsterdam, Jaap Schroeder has enjoyed a long and varied career as a violinist, conductor, teacher and writer. The overall objective of his teaching and performing continues to be the desire to cherish and transmit the unique French tradition of violin playing, well known for its emphasis on the art of bowing and on the cultivation of a highly articulate expressiveness. His achievements include some 150 recordings for various labels, conducting the Academy of Ancient Music, and leader of three successive string quartets: Netherlands Quartet, Quartetto Esterhazy and Smithsonian Quartet. Currently he leads the Skálholt (Iceland) Quartet and the Atlantis Trio. Pioneer in the Early Music movement of the last century, violinist Jaap Schroeder continues to perform and record works of the 17th Century Italian Baroque and on into the realm of Schubert's chamber music.

Irwin-Brandon is a performer on all early keyboard instruments. Her performances on harpsichord of J.S. Bach's Well Tempered Clavier in debut concerts in New York's Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall were received with critical acclaim. A concert recitalist in Europe and the Americas, she continues to explore the vast repertoire for early keyboards – harpsichord, organ, fortepiano and clavichord. She served on various faculties – Oberlin College Conservatory of Music, Mount Holyoke College, among others, and led the Arcadia Players Baroque Orchestra, Chorus and Chamber Ensembles in upwards of 200 different concert programs, produced Baroque opera and conducted the world premier of Richard Einhorn's score, *Voices of Light* to Carl Dreyer's classic silent film, *La Passion de Jeanne d'Arc*. As a Fulbright Scholar, her harpsichord studies culminated with Gustav Leonhardt in Amsterdam.