

Joel Lester

UMass Amherst Bach Symposium, April 2023

Evening Panel Talk:

“Timbre and the music of J.S. Bach—thoughts from centuries later.”

During my 15-minute talk, I hope to muse about how we in the twenty-first century probably think about seemingly obvious aspects (especially timbral) of Bach’s music in ways that would have been quite different—perhaps even incomprehensible—to what musicians of Bach’s time might have thought, and about how being aware of such differences is helpful to us as scholars and musicians.