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The Boston Baroque's Season Begins



EDITED BY JAMES HOLDEN



BOSTON BAROQUE CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA
PHOTOGRAPHY BY KATHY WITTMAN



GRAMMY®-nominated Boston Baroque has announced the start of its 2019-2020 season—led by founding music director and conductor Martin Pearlman. Showcasing some of the most beloved music of the repertoire performed by a roster of renowned soloists and the ensemble’s celebrated orchestra and chorus, this year’s musical season will include its annual *Messiah* and New Year’s Eve performances, along with Vivaldi’s, *The Four Seasons*, featuring concertmaster Christina Day Martinson.

The season opens on Friday, October 25 and Sunday, October 27, with a program that brings together the music of the operatic and symphonic stages.



Martin Pearlman will lead the Boston Baroque orchestra in performances of Mozart’s *“Linz” Symphony No. 36 in C*, and Haydn’s *Symphony No. 102 in B flat*, with soprano Amanda Forsythe joining the ensemble for a selection of dazzling arias from *Il Re Pastore*, *Zaide*, and Haydn’s oft-overlooked oratorio *Il Ritorno di Tobia* among others.

Then Boston Baroque rings in the holiday season with two December programs that have become holiday traditions; Handel’s *Messiah* and the New Year’s Eve Celebration Concert. This year’s *Messiah*, which will take place on December 6 and 7 at New England Conservatory’s Jordan Hall, will feature an all-star cast of soloists including Amanda Forsythe, soprano; Ann McMahon Quintero, mezzo-soprano; Thomas Cooley, tenor; and Andrew Garland, baritone.

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The New Year's Eve Celebration program includes a pair of Baroque gems by Bach—his *Concerto in D for Three Violins* and *Orchestral Suite No. 4 in D*—as well as an orchestral suite by Rameau, *Corelli's Concerto Grosso No. 6.*, and Vivaldi's glittering motet, *Nulla in Mundo pax sincera* with soprano Maggie Finnegan.

As winter winds down and spring is in the air, Boston Baroque returns to two of Vivaldi's masterworks for its spring concerts on March 27 and 29 with *The Four Seasons*—Vivaldi's quartet of concerti Grossi, each elucidating on the nature of the seasons—will feature GRAMMY[®]-nominated concertmaster Christina Day Martinson. The program will also include Vivaldi's *Gloria in D*, featuring Boston Baroque's celebrated chorus.

Finally, as the season comes to a glorious finale, two semi-staged performances of Handel's *Ariodante*, are planned for April 24 and 25. The all-star cast of singers includes; Paula Murrin— in the title role; Kiera Duffy as Ginevra; Sonja Tengblad as Dalinda; Ann McMahon Quintero as Polinesso; Rufus Müller making his Boston Baroque debut as Lurcanio; Matthew Brook performing his signature interpretation of the King of Scotland; and Jonas Budris as Odoardo.

With a plot rife with moonlight encounters, attempted seductions, and star-crossed lovers, Handel's seldom-performed masterwork will come to glorious life in the hands of a stellar cast, Boston Baroque's acclaimed chorus and orchestra, and Maestro Pearlman. ★

For tickets, season subscriptions or for more information about this marvelous musical company, visit bostonbaroque.org or call 617-987-8600.