

Boston Early Music Festival

INTERNATIONAL BAROQUE OPERA • CELEBRATED CONCERTS • WORLD-FAMOUS EXHIBITION

Boston Early Music Festival
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 16, 2016

BEMF presents The London Haydn Quartet and clarinetist Eric Hoerich in a program of virtuosic music by Haydn, Beethoven, and Weber—January 12 in New York City, and January 13 in Cambridge.

ARTISTS: **London Haydn Quartet**
Catherine Manson & Michael Gurevich, *violin*
John Crockatt, *viola*; Jonathan Manson, *violoncello*

Eric Hoerich, *clarinet*

WHEN: **Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 7:30pm**
Gilder Lehrman Hall at The Morgan Library and Museum, 225 Madison Avenue at 36th Street, New York, NY

Friday, January 13, 2017 at 8pm
First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, 11 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA

PROGRAM: **Verve, Veritas, and Virtuosity: Music of Haydn, Beethoven, and Weber**

Franz Joseph Haydn: String Quartet in F Major, Op. 77, No. 2
Ludwig van Beethoven: String Quartet in G Major, Op. 18, No. 2
Carl Maria von Weber: Clarinet Quintet in B-flat Major, Op. 34

TICKETS: Tickets for the New York performance are priced at \$35 for Morgan members and \$45 for non-members, and can be purchased at www.themorgan.org/bemf and at **212-685-0008 ext. 560**.

Tickets for the Boston performance are priced at **\$20, \$39, \$51, and \$70** each, and can be purchased at www.BEMF.org and **617-661-1812**; a \$5 discount for students, seniors, and groups is available by calling 617-661-1812. Subscription discounts are available with the purchase of three or more programs on the 2016–2017 Season.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

Following their 2014 BEMF début in Boston and New York City, the London Haydn Quartet were hailed by *The New York Times* for their “exquisitely rendered interpretations” and “deeply committed music making.” This January, they return to Cambridge with their frequent collaborator, world-renowned historical clarinet virtuoso Eric Hoerich, in a program of gorgeous string quartets by Haydn and Beethoven, and Weber’s elegant Clarinet Quintet.

Both written at the turn of the 19th century, the Haydn and Beethoven Quartets represent the passing of the baton from the older generation to the new. Haydn’s last completed quartet, the Op. 77 No. 2,

with its extroverted character and magnificent variation-style slow movement, is considered among his greatest works in the genre. Beethoven's Op. 18 – his first set of quartets, still heavily influenced by those of his predecessors – exhibits the expressive contrast so characteristic of his work. In the words of 20th century composer Robert Simpson, the “scherzo is brilliantly unpredictable, thematically and harmonically...[it is] the answer to Haydn's wistful, ‘I wish someone would show us a new way to write minuets’”. Weber's characteristic work was in opera and orchestral music, and the clarinet quintet bears the mark of this preference, with its vocal melodic lines, dramatic pathos, and all the virtuosity of a full concerto.

ASSOCIATED EVENTS:

There will be a Pre-Concert Talk at 7pm with clarinetist **Eric Hoeplich** and violinist **Catherine Manson**.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS:

The London Haydn Quartet was born out of a passion for Haydn's string quartets. Highly acclaimed for their series of Haydn recordings on the Hyperion label, they have received invitations to many of the most important concert series in the United Kingdom, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, Switzerland, Finland, North America, and Australia. They have started several of their own concert series, on which they have performed the complete cycle of Haydn quartets. They have given recitals at New York's Carnegie Hall, Wigmore Hall, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, Cheltenham International Festival, the Granada International Festival, at Haydn festivals in Esterháza, Lincoln and Lyon, and at the English Haydn Festival. In collaboration with period clarinetist Eric Hoeplich, with whom they recorded the Brahms and Mozart quintets on the Glossa label, their recent concerts have included tours of the USA and Canada, and appearances in Serbia, Switzerland, France, Germany and the Czech Republic.

Eric Hoeplich is a specialist on historical clarinets in music from the Baroque to the late Romantic. Educated at Harvard University and the Royal Conservatory of Music in The Hague, he is currently on the faculties of the Paris Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique, the Royal Conservatory of Music (The Hague), Indiana University (Bloomington) & the Royal Academy in London. A founding member of Frans Brüggen's *Orchestra of the 18th Century*, Hoeplich has performed frequently as a soloist with this orchestra, as well as many major early music ensembles and ‘modern’ orchestras. Collaborations with string quartets, chamber ensembles and vocal soloists also feature regularly on his calendar. Recent additions to his extensive discography include the clarinet quintets of Mozart and Brahms with the *London Haydn Quartet (Glossa)*, the three clarinet concertos by Bernhard Crusell with *Kölner Akademie (ARS Production)*, and “Sei Sinfonia” by J.C. Bach with his wind ensemble, *Nachtmusique (Glossa)*. Yale University Press published his comprehensive monograph, *The Clarinet*. Hoeplich is also a noted collector and builder of historical clarinets.

RESOURCES:

Download artist photos: <http://www.bemf.org/pages/press/images.htm>

BEMF's 2016–2017 Season Press Release: http://www.bemf.org/pages/press/052416_1617season.htm

ABOUT THE MORGAN LIBRARY & MUSEUM:

The Morgan Library & Museum began as the private library of financier Pierpont Morgan, one of the preeminent collectors and cultural benefactors in the United States. Today, more than a century after its founding, The Morgan serves as a museum, independent research library, musical venue, architectural landmark, and historical site. Located at Madison Avenue and 36th Street, its collection includes world-

renowned collections of drawings, literary and historical manuscripts, musical scores, medieval and Renaissance manuscripts, printed books, photography, and ancient near Eastern seals and tablets. Gilder Lehrman Hall, designed by renowned architect Renzo Piano, was opened by the Morgan in May 2006, and seats 264 people, providing a uniquely intimate concert venue. This marks the Boston Early Music Festival's 11th season of concerts at the Morgan Library & Museum.

ABOUT THE BOSTON EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL:

Recognized as the preeminent early music presenter and Baroque opera producer in North America, the **Boston Early Music Festival (BEMF)** has been credited with securing Boston's reputation as "America's early music capital" (*The Boston Globe*). Founded in 1981, BEMF offers diverse programs and activities, including one GRAMMY Award-winning and four GRAMMY Award-nominated opera recordings, an annual concert series that brings early music's brightest stars to the Boston and New York concert stages, and a biennial week-long Festival and Exhibition recognized as the "world's leading festival of early music" (*The Times*, London). The 19th Boston Early Music Festival will take place from June 11–18, 2017, and will feature fully staged performances of André Campra's *Le Carnaval de Venise* as the Centerpiece Opera. BEMF's Artistic Leadership includes Artistic Directors **Paul O'Dette** and **Stephen Stubbs**, Opera Director **Gilbert Blin**, Orchestra Director **Robert Mealy**, and Dance Director **Melinda Sullivan**.

The 2016–2017 Boston Early Music Festival Concert Series is presented with support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, National Endowment for the Arts, ConstellationCenter, WGBH Radio Boston, Harpsichord Clearing House, Zuckermann Harpsichords International, and The Gregory E. Bulger Foundation.

For more information, images, press tickets, or to schedule an interview, please contact Kathleen Fay at 617-661-1812 or email kathy@bemf.org.

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