

# Boston Early Music Festival

INTERNATIONAL BAROQUE OPERA • CELEBRATED CONCERTS • WORLD-FAMOUS EXHIBITION

**Boston Early Music Festival**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **Boston Early Music Festival November–December 2016 Calendar**

Cambridge, MA—The holiday season is approaching and the Boston Early Music Festival brings a trio of incredible programs to Boston and Cambridge later this year. Tickets and subscription packages for BEMF's 2016–2017 Season are now on sale through the BEMF Box Office at **617-661-1812** or online at [www.BEMF.org](http://www.BEMF.org). Discounted subscription packages start as low as \$54 for three programs.

### **Bach: Mass in B Minor**

**Juilliard 415 & The Royal Conservatoire of the Hague**

**Ton Koopman**, *director*

**Friday, November 18, 2016 at 8pm** | St. Paul Church (29 Mt. Auburn Street, Cambridge, MA)

November brings a truly unique collaboration between one of the world's most legendary figures in Early Music, and the burgeoning Early Music stars of tomorrow. Founder and conductor of the Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra & Choir, **Ton Koopman** joins with singers and instrumentalists from **Juilliard 415** and **The Royal Conservatoire of the Hague**—making their BEMF Concert Series début—in a special performance of **J.S. Bach's Mass in B Minor** on **Friday, November 18, 2016 at 8pm** at St. Paul Church in Harvard Square, Cambridge. Tickets start at \$25.

### **VERSAILLES: Portrait of a Royal Domain**

**Boston Early Music Festival Chamber Opera Series**

**Paul O'Dette & Stephen Stubbs**, *Musical Directors* | **Gilbert Blin**, *Stage Director*

**Saturday, November 26, 2016, 8pm** | **Sunday, November 27, 2016, 3pm**

New England Conservatory's Jordan Hall (30 Gainsborough Street, Boston, MA)

BEMF's own GRAMMY Award-winning Chamber Opera Series returns with an all-new production entitled **VERSAILLES: Portrait of a Royal Domain**, featuring two chamber operas by Charpentier and Lalande exalting the splendor and majesty of the palace of Versailles, as well as excerpts from Lully's *Atys*. Don't miss this "popular tradition among local early music fans" (*The Boston Globe*) on Thanksgiving weekend, **Saturday, November 26, 2016** at 8pm and **Sunday, November 27, 2016** at 3pm at NEC's Jordan Hall. GRAMMY Award-winning Musical Directors **Paul O'Dette** and **Stephen Stubbs**, along with renowned Stage Director **Gilbert Blin**, lead a spectacular new production of these intimate masterworks with a stellar cast of BEMF favorites, including GRAMMY Award-winning tenor **Aaron Sheehan**, soprano **Mireille Asselin**, tenor **Jason McStoots**, and baritone **Jesse Blumberg**, among others. Additional members of the directorial team for the production include: **Robert Mealy**, Concertmaster of the **BEMF Chamber Ensemble**; **Anna Watkins**, *Costume Designer*; **Carlos Fittante**, *Choreographer* and lead dancer; and **Melinda Sullivan**, Director of the BEMF Dance Company.

## The Tallis Scholars

**Peter Phillips**, *director*

**Friday, December 9, 2016 at 8pm** | St. Paul Church (29 Mt. Auburn Street, Cambridge, MA)

With more than 2,000 concert performances around the globe, director **Peter Phillips** and **The Tallis Scholars** continue to be one of Early Music's most essential ensembles. A fixture of the BEMF concert stage for 28 consecutive years, they return this holiday season on **Friday, December 9, 2016 at 8pm** at St. Paul Church in Cambridge, with a festive program of Renaissance masterworks including Josquin's Christmas motet *Praeter rerum seriem*, Taverner's elaborate *O splendor gloriae*, and more from de Rore, Victoria, de Sermisy, and Renaissance Mexican master Hernando Franco.

### 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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**, and Orchestra Director **Robert Mealy**.

**For more information, images, press tickets, or to schedule an interview, please contact Kathleen Fay at 617-661-1812 or email [kathy@bemf.org](mailto:kathy@bemf.org).**

*Dates, times, venues, artists, and programs are subject to change.*

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