

## BOSTON BAROQUE CELEBRATES FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Boston Baroque, America's first permanent baroque orchestra, will celebrate its fortieth anniversary in their upcoming season, beginning on 8 November. An all-Beethoven programme at Jordan Hall at Boston's New England Conservatory includes the rarely performed *Elegischer Gesang* (Elegiac Song) and Symphony No. 9. The latter is the only Beethoven symphony the orchestra has never performed.

The season continues with Boston Baroque's annual performance of Handel's *Messiah* on 13 and 14 December; all-Bach programmes on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day including *Brandenburg Concertos* 3 and 4; and a French baroque programme taking place on 14 and 16 February 2014. This will feature Charpentier's *Te Deum* and Rameau's opera *La Guirlande*.

The season concludes with Monteverdi's *Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria* on 25 and 26 April. Artists performing in the fortieth-anniversary season include Portuguese tenor Fernando Guimarães, making his US performance debut with Boston Baroque, and Metropolitan Opera soloists soprano Leah Partridge, mezzo-soprano Kate



Lindsey and tenor William Burden.

As part of a drive to widen access to early music, the season includes a free community concert of Beethoven's Symphony No.9 in a deprived area of Boston. Further audience development plans include a 'social hour' before concerts as an incentive to audience members under the age of 40.

Martin Pearlman, founder and music director of Boston Baroque, said: 'This season is not only a milestone for us, but it is also the fortieth anniversary of the wider field of period instrument orchestras on this side of the Atlantic. It's been an exciting 40 years – and the ride continues.' [www.bostonbaroque.org](http://www.bostonbaroque.org)

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