



HOLIDAY ARTS PREVIEW 2016

Holiday Arts Preview: Classical picks

By Zoë Madonna | GLOBE STAFF NOVEMBER 18, 2016

BOSTON POPS The Boston Pops begin their yearly takeover of Symphony Hall starting Nov. 30, with the orchestra led by Keith Lockhart. Santa appears at all Holiday Pops performances. *Through Dec. 24, Symphony Hall. 888-266-1200, www.bso.org*

BOSTON CAMERATA Boston Camerata presents two holiday programs this year. “Puer Natus Est: A Medieval Christmas” features a trio of women’s voices with winds, harp, and the violin ancestor vielle, performing music from medieval France, England, and Italy. “In Dulci Jubilo: A German Christmas” explores music from the 15th to early 17th centuries with a mixed five-voice consort and the Boston Camerata Wind Ensemble. *“Puer Natus Est”*: Dec. 2-4, various locations. *“In Dulci Jubilo”*: Dec. 19, First Church in Cambridge. 617-262-2092, www.bostoncamerata.com

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THE TALLIS SCHOLARS Comments The English choir returns for its yearly Boston Early Music Festival holiday program. This year brings Christmas motets by Josquin, Taverner, and Renaissance Mexican composer Hernando Franco. *Dec. 9, St. Paul Church, Cambridge. 617-661-1812, www.bemf.org*

BOSTON BAROQUE The period-instrument ensemble presents its annual performance of Handel's Messiah under Martin Pearlman, this year with soloists Amanda Forsythe (soprano), Ann McMahon Quintero (mezzo-soprano), Keith Jameson (tenor), and Andrew Garland (baritone). *Dec. 9-10, Jordan Hall. 617-987-8600, www.bostonbaroque.org*

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MISTRAL This year's Baroque Big Band holiday program includes concerti by Bach, Vivaldi, Handel, and Telemann, with an array of soloists. *Dec. 10, St. Paul's Church, Brookline. Dec. 11, West Parish Church, Andover. 978-474-6222, www.mistralmusic.org*



Messiah: A Field Guide

Comments Over the holiday season, the Boston area hosts a multitude of “Messiah” performances in chapels, cathedrals, and concert halls.

See the full holiday arts preview

HANDEL AND HAYDN SOCIETY: BACH CHRISTMAS In addition to its November performance of Messiah, the Handel and Haydn Society presents a concert of three seasonal Bach cantatas and additional selections by Bach contemporaries Telemann and Graupner. Ian Watson conducts. *Dec. 15 and 18, Jordan Hall. 617-262-1815, www.handelandhaydn.org*

CANTATA SINGERS Led by David Hoose, the ensemble presents a program of sacred music for the holidays from the 16th to 20th centuries. *Dec. 16, Cary Hall, Lexington. Dec. 17, St. Paul Church, Cambridge. 617-868-5885, www.cantatasingers.org*

BLUE HERON Early music specialist Blue Heron carries on its holiday tradition of zooming in on one region and time period. This year, the program focuses on music by 15th-century French and Flemish masters including Dufay and Josquin. *Dec. 16-17, First Church in Cambridge. 617-960-7956, www.blueheronchoir.org.*

MUSICIANS OF THE OLD POST ROAD As part of its “Musical Migrations” themed 2016-17 season, the period-instrument ensemble presents “Christmas in the New World,” with festive selections from 18th-century Central and South America. Donations of hats, mittens, and gloves for the Refugee and Immigrant Assistance Center are encouraged. *Dec. 17, Emmanuel Church. Dec. 18, First Unitarian Church, Worcester. 781-466-6694, www.oldpostroad.org*

ATELIER SCHUBERTREISE Schubert’s “Winterreise,” fully staged and transplanted to an urban setting, the end product of an experiential learning course taught by Jane Struss. Featuring 15 singers and accompanying multimedia. *Dec. 18, Longy School of Music, Cambridge. 617-876-0956, www.longy.edu/events*

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