

# Bach, Beethoven, & Brahms Society Season 2021-2022

Tickets available at www.bbbsociety.org

# MARCH 27, 2022

"ROMANTIC STRINGS TAKEOVER"

Teresa Carreño: Andante

Antonin Dvorak: Serenade for Strings

Grace Williams: Elegy

Pyotr Tchaikovsky: Serenade for Strings

# **APRIL 24, 2022**

"REVITALIZING SPRING"

Herbert Voigt Memorial Concert

Howard Frazin: New overture \*

Ludwig van Beethoven: Violin Concerto soloist Julian Rhee

Ludwig van Beethoven: Symphony No. 8

Beethoven, & Brahms Society made possible by the support of our generous donors.

\*Special commission written for the Bach,

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at Faneuil Hall



Music Director STEVEN LIPSITT The BACH, BEETHOVEN, & BRAHMS SOCIETY ORCHESTRA with members of THE HERITAGE CHORALE, The APOLLO CLUB, and VOICES Boston



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# A note from the music director...

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our annual holiday concert, when members of the BB&B orchestra are joined by singers from some of Boston's wonderful choirs, this year members of The Apollo Club, The Heritage Chorale, and VOICES Boston.

The instrumental centerpiece of the afternoon is Beethoven's high-spirited masterpiece Wind Octet (op. 103), written long after his move from Bonn to Vienna, and continuing our pandemic-delayed celebration of his 250<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Vienna was birthplace of the waltz, and we visit it through music of Johann Strauss Jr. ("The Waltz King") as well as Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel and Clara Wieck Schumann. And we sample earlier minuets by Bach (written a year before he moved to Leipzig) and Mozart (written after his move from Salzburg to Vienna). And since Vienna was also the political and cultural capital of the old Austro-Hungarian Empire, we thought it only fair (and fun) to play one of Brahms' popular Hungarian Dances.

Our choral friends will help us cast a festive wider net, collaborating in seasonal music of Florence Price and her student Margaret Bonds, beloved Renaissance songs, popular swing tunes, and our sing-along of traditional Christmas carols.

On this Sunday before Christmas and Kwanzaa, two weeks after Chanukah, two days before the Winter Solstice, we wish you a season filled with light, love, and music!

Warmest wishes,

### Steve

# **Our Mission**

The BB&B Society presents imaginatively programmed orchestral concerts, with the goal of providing an intimate musical experience for the audience. Performances are held in historic Faneuil Hall, a setting that imparts a close connection among the audience and the orchestra and soloists.

# **Our History**

The Bach, Beethoven, & Brahms Society (BB&B) was formed in the spring of 2016 by Steven Lipsitt and the musicians of the former Boston Classical Orchestra. Determined to save a beloved and time-honored tradition of great, expertly performed orchestral concerts presented in one of America's most historic spaces, Boston's Faneuil Hall, these artists established a Board of Directors and a network of colleagues who are dedicated to the goals of musical excellence and an intimate listening experience. Following debut concerts in March and April of 2016, and thanks to the generosity and loyalty of supporters, BB&B presented a full 2016 – 2017 season of subscription concerts to excited, enthusiastic audiences. Sharing the stunning musical virtuosity of its own professional musicians, world-class guest soloists, and a level of quality that has been the hallmark of concerts in its Faneuil Hall home for many years, BB&B renewed old friendships and developed new ones, laying the groundwork for a bright future as Boston's newest professional orchestra.

# The Orchestra

The musicians of the BB&B Orchestra are among the Boston area's finest and most experienced freelance instrumentalists. A core group of the musicians has been playing together for many years, which gives the orchestra a deep rapport and an ability to focus on the substance of making music from the very beginning of the rehearsal process.

When not playing with BB&B at Faneuil Hall, these musicians can be heard performing with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra, Boston Lyric Opera Orchestra, Boston Ballet Orchestra, Handel and Haydn Society, Emmanuel Music, A Far Cry, BMOP, and many others throughout New England. Many are also active in the pit for shows at the Colonial, Emerson Majestic, Huntington, Shubert, Boston Opera House, and Wang Center theaters. These dedicated and versatile musicians teach privately and at area music schools, including New England Conservatory, Boston University, Boston Conservatory, Longy School of Music, Berklee College of Music, Harvard, MIT, Wellesley, and Smith, among others. All BB&B orchestra players are members of the Boston Musicians' Association, Local 9-535 of the American Federation of Musicians.

# **BB&B Holiday Concert**

December 19th, 2021

Prelude: O come, O come, Emmanuel/Shalom Khaverim Traditional

Octet in E-flat major, op. 103 Beethoven

Allegro

Andante

Allegro Minuetto

Finale Presto

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming Praetorius
The Christmas Song (Chestnuts roasting...) Tormé & Wells

It's Beginning to Look Like Christmas

Meredith Willson

I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm

Irving Berlin

Minuets

Three Minuets (BWV 841 – 843) J.S. Bach
Menuetto (from Serenade, KV 375) Mozart

Shiru L'Adonai (Psalm 96) David Neches

Coventry Carol Traditional
Song for Snow Florence Price

Go Tell It On the Mountain (arr.) Margaret Bonds

Waltzes

Caprice Clara Schumann
Waltz Fanny Mendelssohn
La Viennoise (Polka-Mazurka) Johann Strauss Jr.

Wiener Blut ("Vienna Life") | Johann Strauss Jr.

Hungarian Dance No. 5 Brahms

Five Traditional Christmas Carols (sing along!)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

O Come, All Ye Faithful

I. Reading

O Little Town of Bethlehem Lewis Redner

Silent Night Franz Grüber loy to the World G. F. Handel

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# Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, Glory to the new-born king; Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled! Joyful all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies, With th'angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem. Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn king. Mild he lays his glory by, Born that man no more may die, Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth! Ris'n with healing in his wings, Light and life to all he brings; Hail the Son of Righteousness, Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace. Hark! the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn king.

# O, Come, All Ye Faithful

O, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold him. born the king of angels: O, come, let us adore Him, O, come, let us adore Him, O. come. let us adore Him. Christ the Lord. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above; Glory to God in the Highest: O. come. let us adore Him. 0, come, let us adore Him, 0, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

### O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep

The silent stars go by.

Yet in the dark streets shineth

The everlasting light;

The hopes and fears of all the years

Are met in thee tonight.

O holy child of Bethlehem,

Descend to us, we pray;

Cast out our sin, and enter in;

Be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels

The great, glad tidings tell;

Oh, come to us, abide with us.

# **Silent Night**

Our Lord Emmanuel!

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright;
Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.
Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia,
Christ, the Savior is born!

# Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:

Let earth receive her king;

Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,

And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love!



# Steven Lipsitt, conductor

Founding conductor Steven Lipsitt is widely recognized for his ability to combine precision and passion, intelligence, and invigoration. His performances have been hailed as "a major triumph...the orchestra performed beautifully"; "an incisive performance"; "an eloquent account of this remarkable score"; "conducted with intelligence and energy"; "Lipsitt and his players brought it all to vibrant life"; "Lipsitt's rendering carried the pace and warmth of someone with an intimate knowledge of the score"; "Lipsitt conducted the orchestra as if the music were in his blood".

First Prize Laureate of the inaugural "Dimitris Mitropoulos" International Conducting Competition in November 1996, Steven Lipsitt made his Russian debut with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic in 1997, and has been guest conductor of orchestras in North America, South America, Europe, and Asia. Foreign critics have hailed his "exalted and well-structured interpretations" (Paris) and "soaring conductor-debut" (Zurich) and praised his "technically and expressively balanced interpretations", observing that "[his] technical precision makes possible the realization of his expressive framework" and "the drama and the familiar playful Mozartean mood were combined in ideal proportions" (Athens).

Music director of the Boston Classical Orchestra for seventeen seasons (1999 – 2016), Steven Lipsitt brought that professional chamber orchestra to the front ranks of Boston's musical life with freshly designed, vividly realized programs of four centuries of music. Audiences and critics remarked his "razor-sharp intelligence, balanced by a generosity of spirit," his "committed, vigorous, and often driving performance," his "impressive demonstration of talent and discipline," and the fact that "the program was put together with imagination and taste" and "this orchestra and Lipsitt are capable of taking on big challenges." Steven Lipsitt's work has twice been recognized as the "Best in Classical Music" by The Boston Globe's year-end wrap-up.



# **BB&B Wind Octet**

**Oboes Bassoons** 

Nancy Dimock Gregory Newton Kristen Severson Sally Merriman

**Clarinets Horns** 

Steven Lipsitt Robert Marlatt
Aline Benoit Frederick Aldrich

# members of VOICES Boston

Daniel P. Ryan, artistic director Kathryn DiMaria, executive director Emily Vincent, program manager

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Michael Bergin Lil Kuklewicz
Abby Brown Audrey Navarette
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