

Free America!

Early Songs of Resistance & Rebellion (1790–1860)

“The Boston Camerata at its best.”

– Alan Kozinn, *The Portland Press Herald*

12 July 2026 | 2pm

Alna Meetinghouse

1789 Alna Road, Alna, ME 04535

For immediate release – In advance of The Boston Camerata’s return to Tanglewood this summer, the performers of *Free America: Early Songs of Resistance and Rebellion (1790–1860)* will head north. Partnering with [Historic Alna](#), the Camerata will present the very same program at the beautiful Alna Meetinghouse, one of the oldest in Maine.

First commissioned by the Paris Philharmonie in 2018, this program explores, in a present moment when American ideals are undergoing such deep challenges, the vital and life-affirming sounds of the young Republic, as its citizens sang and played forth their love of freedom and their rejection of tyranny.

These songs, both written and from oral traditions, offer an enlarged perspective on the music played and sung in the early republic's first century. Marches, anthems, spirituals and ballads, restate our commitment to democracy. The rough-hewn sounds of New England citizen-composers still ring true and strong to our contemporary ears. And so do Liberty’s attendants -- feminists, abolitionists, freed slaves, religious minorities and the insolent scallywags of "Yankee Doodle".



The Boston Camerata performs *Free America!* at Faneuil Hall (2019)

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Alna Meetinghouse pulpit
© Anne Azéma

In 2019, *Free America!* was released as a CD by Harmonia Mundi, currently available for [streaming](#). Most of the original recording cast will reprise their roles for Camerata's July performance.

Tickets are now [on sale](#). Join us to rejoice in Yankee flair, thumbing our noses at all autocrats and tyrants!

The Alna Meetinghouse is a 1789 historic building with features typical of its era — steps at the entrance, fixed pew seating, and narrow aisles — and is not fully wheelchair

accessible. Visitors with specific accessibility needs are encouraged to contact us in advance at historicalna@gmail.com to discuss any accommodations.

Performers

Anne Azéma, *Artistic Director & voice*

Phillip Bullock, Joel Frederiksen, Dan Hershey, Ryan Lustgarten, MaKayla McDonald, Camila Parias, and Deborah Rentz-Moore, *voices*

with

Eric Martin, *fiddle*

Andrew Koutroubas, *cello*

Kelsey Burhnam, *flutes*

Dave Cabral, Sarah MacConduibh, and Heather Taskovics, *fifes*

Kyle Forsthoff, *percussion*

Camerata Contacts

For artistic questions, please reach out to Artistic Director, Anne Azéma: director@bostoncamerata.org

For press questions, please reach out to Public Relations, Dagny von Mering: communications@bostoncamerata.org

For all other questions, please reach out to Executive Director, Annick Lapôtre: admin@bostoncamerata.org

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