



THE BOSTON CAMERATA

CREATING TIMELESS MUSICAL JOURNEYS SINCE 1954

ANNE AZÉMA ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

# Free America!

## Early Songs of Resistance & Rebellion (1790–1860)

*This was the Boston Camerata at its best* — Alan Kozinn

16 July 2026 | 8pm

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center  
297 West Street, Lenox, MA 01240

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*For immediate release* (Boston, MA) – On 16 July 2026, under the direction of Anne Azéma, The Boston Camerata returns to the Tanglewood Music Festival and perform ***Free America: Early Songs of Resistance and Rebellion (1790–1860)*** at Seiji Ozawa Hall.

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".

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 go on sale through the [Boston Symphony Orchestra](#) on March 5 at 10am EDT. Join us to rejoice in Yankee flair, thumbing our noses at all autocrats and tyrants!

Previous Tanglewood performances by Camerata include *Nueva España: Baroque Fiestas in the New World* (1992), *In Yonder Valley: Folk hymns and spirituals of New England and New York* (1994), and *Carmina Burana* (1995) with Joel Cohen at the helm.

# 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](mailto:director@bostoncamerata.org)

For press questions, please reach out to Public Relations, Dagny von Mering: [communications@bostoncamerata.org](mailto:communications@bostoncamerata.org)

For all other questions, please reach out to Executive Director, Annick Lapôtre: [admin@bostoncamerata.org](mailto:admin@bostoncamerata.org)

## BSO Press Contacts

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The BSO prefers email to phone; however, if you would like to leave them a phone message, call their voice mailbox:  
617-638-9280.

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