

Free America!

Early Songs of Resistance & Rebellion

“Ever thrilling, gripping”

– Anne Davenport, *The Boston Musical Intelligencer*

25 October 2026 | 4:30pm
Harvard Memorial Church
1 Harvard Yard, Cambridge, MA 02138

For immediate release – Returning from brilliant summer performances in Tanglewood and Maine, *Free America: Early Songs of Resistance and Rebellion* will return to Cambridge, MA on October 25, 2026.



Camerata vocalists on stage at Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center (*Free America!* – July 2026)
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First commissioned to Anne Azéma by the Paris Philharmonie in 2018 and released as a CD in 2019 by Harmonia Mundi. This program, now a party of the Camerata’s large trove of early American music, 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".



Camerata instrumentalists on stage at Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center (*Free America!* – July 2026)
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A superbly unfolding narrative with a cast of 15, accompanied by the Harvard Ferris Choral Fellows, directed by Edward Elwyn Jones. Radiant solitary voices, energetic instrumental sounds, and powerfully blended ensembles (sometimes joined by the public!) take turn in sharing the challenges of the young Republic, all with strong company spirit.

This concert is dedicated to the loving memory of the Camerata's Music Director Emeritus, Joel Cohen (1942-2026).

Tickets are available [HERE](#).

CAST

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*

Victor Canciello, *flutes*

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

Kyle Forsthoff, *percussion*

joined by

Ferris Choral Fellows

Edward Elwyn Jones, *Director*

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