



THE BOSTON CAMERATA

ANNE AZÉMA, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
JOEL COHEN, DIRECTOR EMERITUS

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CAMERATA EXPANDS CONCERT ACTIVITIES IN 2013-14

BOSTON, MA - The Boston Camerata is delighted to announce its upcoming season, the 59th since its founding. The expanded season includes four productions, two of them new to Boston, with repertoire spanning seven centuries. Medieval France and early America are the special focal points of Camerata's upcoming efforts in 2013-14.



In October the Camerata performs *Carmina Burana*, a concert evoking student life and loves in medieval Paris. The production returns to the original thirteenth-century manuscript that inspired twentieth-century composer Carl Orff to write an oratorio with the same name. "Our *Carmina Burana* is one of our favorites," remarked Camerata's Artistic Director, Anne Azéma. "The medieval tunes we'll sing are at least as catchy - no, more - than

those by Orff."

The Camerata's holiday production is *Noël, Noel: A French Christmas*, surveying the depth and breadth of holiday music and traditions of France, including medieval revels in the northern cathedral of Beauvais, Renaissance carols from Paris, and fifes and drums from the south. The program will be performed in Boston, Lexington, and Newbury.

Building on the success its recent performances of the Machaut Mass, the Camerata continues in April 2014 its cycle of works commissioned by the Reims Festival (France). *Portes du Ciel* is a program of French spiritual song sung entirely by women. "The women's voices are seraphic," Azéma said. "I'm delighted to introduce our Boston friends to the sublime music of Europe's great cathedral towns."

Also in April, the Camerata offers *Lovely Vine*, a production of early American song. The concert's repertoire is drawn largely from *The Christian Harmony* one of the rarest music books held by the Harvard Musical Association. Vermont tavern-keeper Jeremiah Ingalls

published this work in 1805, setting sacred texts to old English drinking songs, carols, and ballads. Audiences should be prepared to experience firsthand these rugged harmonies and hearty melodies. "We'll be including some vigorous sing-alongs," Azéma advises.

Carmina Burana will be performed on October 27. Performances of *Noël, Noel: A French Christmas* will occur on December 19-21, 2013. The Boston premiere of *Portes du Ciel* occurs on April 13, 2014. *Lovely Vine* will be performed on April 25. Additional information and tickets are available at bostoncamerata.org or [\(617\) 262-2092](tel:6172622092).

Founded in 1954 The Boston Camerata has been under the direction of French-born singer and scholar Anne Azéma since 2008. In recent seasons Camerata has won special attention for its programs of Medieval music, early American repertoires, and cross-cultural productions emphasizing bridges among Western and non-Western repertoires and cultures. The ensemble's performances and numerous recordings are highly regarded for their blend of spontaneity and meticulous scholarship. In addition to its Boston-area concert series, The Boston Camerata tours extensively in the U.S. and abroad.

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For additional information or to schedule an interview with Anne Azéma, contact Andrew Shryock at [\(617\) 262-2092](tel:6172622092) or andrew.shryock@bostoncamerata.org.

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