

# Boston Early Music Festival

INTERNATIONAL BAROQUE OPERA • CELEBRATED CONCERTS • WORLD-FAMOUS EXHIBITION

**Boston Early Music Festival**  
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## **Boston Early Music Festival artists and directors honored at a celebration of BEMF's first GRAMMY® Award for Best Opera Recording for Charpentier's *La Descente d'Orphée aux Enfers* and *La Couronne de Fleurs***

Cambridge, MA – The **Boston Early Music Festival** celebrated its **2015 GRAMMY® Award** in the category of **Best Opera Recording** on Saturday, April 11 with a special luncheon at Dante Restaurant at the Royal Sonesta Cambridge Hotel. More than 60 performers, directors, members of the Board, Overseers, Trustees, staff, and other esteemed guests including Mr. Fabien Fieschi, Consul General of France in Boston were on hand to toast this historic achievement in BEMF's illustrious 34 year history.

BEMF Executive Director Kathleen Fay led the festivities with a congratulations of the four GRAMMY honorees—BEMF Artistic Directors and conductors **Paul O'Dette** and **Stephen Stubbs**, Producer **Renate Wolter-SeEVERS**, and principal soloist on the recording, tenor **Aaron Sheehan**—and offered thanks to the many esteemed benefactors who supported BEMF's recording of **Marc-Antoine Charpentier's *La Descente d'Orphée aux Enfers* and *La Couronne de Fleurs*** for CPO (Classic Produktion Osnabrück). This was BEMF's fourth GRAMMY® nomination for its series of Baroque Opera recordings and its first win following nods in the same category for Conradi's *Ariadne* in 2006, Lully's *Thésée* in 2007, and Lully's *Psyché* in 2008. With a breathtaking view of the Charles River and the Boston skyline, the assembled guests raised their glasses to toast all of the exceptional artists who took part in the GRAMMY Award-winning recording.

Paul O'Dette, Stephen Stubbs, and Aaron Sheehan were all in attendance to accept the glowing congratulations and entertain the assembled crowd with their own experiences at the 57<sup>th</sup> GRAMMY® Awards ceremony this past February in Los Angeles. A highlight of the affair was a spectacular cake in the shape of the iconic gramophone trophy created by Cathyann Swindlehurst, Pastry Chef for Cygnet Bakery, Marblehead.

### **ABOUT THE BOSTON EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL:**

Recognized as the preeminent early music presenter and Baroque opera producer in North America, the **Boston Early Music Festival (BEMF)** has been credited with securing Boston's reputation as "America's early music capital" (*The Boston Globe*). Founded in 1981, BEMF offers diverse programs and activities, including one GRAMMY® Award-winning and three GRAMMY® Award-nominated opera recordings, an annual concert series that brings early music's brightest stars to the Boston and New York concert stages, and a biennial week-long Festival and Exhibition recognized as the "world's leading festival of early music" (*The Times*, London). The 18<sup>th</sup> Boston Early Music Festival will take place from June 7–14, 2015, and will be highlighted by Claudio Monteverdi's trilogy of operas: *Orfeo*, *Il Ritorno d'Ulisse in Patria*, and *L'Incoronazione di Poppea*. BEMF's Artistic Leadership includes Artistic Directors **Paul O'Dette** and **Stephen Stubbs**, Opera Director **Gilbert Blin**, and Orchestra Director **Robert Mealy**.

**For more information, images, or to schedule an interview, please contact Kathleen Fay at 617-661-1812 or email [kathy@bemf.org](mailto:kathy@bemf.org).**

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