



**Back Bay Chorale**  
P.O. Box 61 – Back Bay Station  
Boston, MA 02117  
www.bbcoston.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Philip Sbaratta  
media@bbcboston.org

## **Back Bay Chorale Celebrates Its 35th Anniversary**

Celebrating 35 years of making music, the 100-member Back Bay Chorale, conducted by Music Director Scott Allen Jarrett, explores new works and returns to masterpieces of the choral repertoire. According to Robert Shaw, “It is the nature of music, unlike painting and most of literature, that its final creation is not its original creation . . . . In this sense, the composer literally must leave his work to be finished by others.” In this 35<sup>th</sup> season, Jarrett leads the Back Bay Chorale in the discovery of the timeless beauty and meaning of a wide range of choral music..

The season opens on November 8 with Music for Double Choir, featuring Bach’s *Singet dem -Herrn ein neues Lied*, along with double choir works by Schütz, Mendelssohn, and Rheinberger. Joining the Chorale will be Boston University’s Marsh Chapel Collegium Vocale. On December 20 and 21, the Chorale will celebrate the holiday season with music that has been part of the Christmas tradition for centuries. Accompanied by a baroque orchestra, the Chorale will perform selections from Handel’s *Messiah*, Bach’s *Christmas Oratorio*, along with the jewel-like *Christmas Concerto* by Corelli.

### **2008-2009 Season Details**

Saturday, Nov.8, 8:00 PM, Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston  
**Music for Double Choir: Work by Bach, Schütz, Mendelssohn, & Rheinberger**

Saturday, Dec. 20, 8:00 PM, Faneuil Hall., Boston  
Sunday, Dec. 21, 3:00 PM, Marsh Chapel, Boston University, Boston  
**An 18<sup>th</sup> Century Christmas: Works by Handel, Corelli, & Vivaldi**

Saturday, March 21, 8:00 PM, Sanders Theatre, Cambridge  
**Mozart and More: Mozart’s *Coronation Mass*, works by Finzi & Britten**

Saturday, May 16, 8:00 PM, Sanders Theatre, Cambridge  
**Brahms, *Ein Deutsches Requiem* and a premier of *My Dark-Eyed One...* by Julian Wachner**

Tickets may be purchased online at [www.bbcoston.org](http://www.bbcoston.org) or telephone

The centerpiece of the third concert on March 21 is *Coronation Mass* by Mozart, one of his most celebratory and beautifully crafted works. Also on the program is the rarely performed *Requiem da Camera* by Gerald Finzi and Britten’s *Psalm 70*.

The 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration culminates in the final concert on May 16, which brings together tradition and new direction. The Chorale will perform Brahms’s beloved *Ein Deutsches Requiem*. The longest single work by Brahms, the *Requiem* blends a deeply

religious sentiment with a humanist, secular point of view. On the same program is the Boston premier of a commissioned piece—*My Dark-eyed One*. . .—by composer and former Chorale music director Julian Wachner.

### **About Scott Allen Jarrett**

Recently lauded as “the most promising young figure to emerge on the local choral scene,” Scott Allen Jarrett has been Music Director of the Back Bay Chorale since 2004. Jarrett also is the Musical Director and Conductor of the Oratorio Singers of Charlotte, and Director of Music and University Organist and Choirmaster at Boston University’s Marsh Chapel. For eight summers, Jarrett served as the Assistant Conductor of Choirs at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute where he assisted Dr. Ann Howard Jones. Also at Tanglewood, Jarrett taught advanced music theory and history to the students in the Young Artist Vocal Program. He returns to Tanglewood this summer as Director of Choirs.

As a pianist, Jarrett frequently serves as rehearsal pianist and assistant for Ann Howard Jones. He also accompanied rehearsals for the late Robert Shaw during his Boston visits. As the rehearsal pianist for the Carnegie Hall Choral Workshop, Jarrett played rehearsals for Charles Dutoit. As a baritone, Jarrett has been a member of the Robert Shaw Festival Singers, the Boston Bach Ensemble, and Schola Cantorum of Boston.

A graduate of Furman University, Jarrett received a doctorate in conducting from Boston University where he holds adjunct faculty posts in both the School of Theology as a Lecturer in the Practice of Sacred Music and in the College of Fine Arts as Teaching Associate in Choral Conducting.

### **About the Back Bay Chorale**

The Back Bay Chorale is a 90-member chorus with a diverse membership drawn from communities throughout the Greater Boston area. Performing a repertoire of classical and contemporary choral music, the Back Bay Chorale strives to build community through musicality - fostering connection between choral and audience members.

Since its founding in 1973 by Larry Hill, the Back Bay Chorale has performed over a hundred concerts in such venues as Symphony Hall, Sanders Theatre at Harvard University, Emmanuel Church, St. Paul's Cathedral, the Church of the Covenant, the Hatch Shell on the Charles River Esplanade, New York's Cathedral of St. John the Divine, and Providence's Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul. In addition to performances with its past music directors, Larry Hill, Beverly Taylor, Julian Wachner, and James Olesen, the Chorale has appeared with the Boston Pops under John Williams and Keith Lockhart, the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra under Gunther Schuller and Gisele Ben-Dor, the Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra under David Commanday, and the Boston Modern Orchestra Project under Gil Rose. The Chorale has also collaborated with the Providence Singers, the Charles Street A.M.E. Church, the National Center of Afro-American Artists, the Boston Boy Choir, and the Boston Children’s Chorus.

The Back Bay Chorale's repertoire spans the full range of choral literature, from the masterworks of the Renaissance, baroque, classical, and modern periods to the most contemporary of compositions. In recent years, the Chorale has premiered several works written especially for it, including Marjorie Merryman's *Three Ballads*, James Russell Smith's *Canto V: The Second Circle*, Robert Kyr's *Unseen Rain* and *Passion According to Four Evangelists*, and Stephen Paulus's *Voices*, and Julian Wachner's *My Dark-eyed One* . . . .

The Chorale's discography includes recordings of John Knowles Paine's *St. Peter Oratorio* with Gunther Schuller conducting; James Yannatos's *Trinity Mass* with the Harvard Glee Club, the Radcliffe Choral Society, the Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicum, and the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra, under the direction of the composer; and, with conductor emerita Beverly Taylor, Robert Kyr's *Unseen Rain* and *Passion*. New recordings include Benjamin Britten's *Company of Heaven*, featuring the Chorale under the direction of Julian Wachner (2002), and Lukas Foss's *Griffelkin* with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project.