

PhilharmoniaBaroqueOrchestra

Nicholas McGegan, Music Director

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PBO “a marvel” writes *The New York Times*

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – Last week, the Bay Area’s Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra [PBO] and Music Director Nicholas McGegan traveled to New York to perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City and Cornell University in Ithaca. *New York Times* critic Steve Smith described the concert as “powerful... ineffable... a marvel... outstanding.”

PBO performed a program featuring instrumental works by Corelli and Vivaldi and vocal works by Handel and Pergolesi, accompanying soprano Carolyn Sampson and countertenor Robin Blaze.

Freelance critic Gene Gaudette wrote of the New York City concert, “One would be hard-pressed to match this combination of musicianship, that combines ‘authentic’ practise with first-tier artistry, and that connects on such a direct level, one of the most satisfying Baroque programs that this listener has experienced in a very long time.”

PBO performs Handel’s opera *L’Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato* in collaboration with the Mark Morris Dance Group and Cal Performances at Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley on May 28-31. The period-instrument orchestra returns with five Bay Area performances in September 2009 to launch their “Season of Stars,” featuring mezzo-soprano Susan Graham, cellist Steven Isserlis, violinists Viktoria Mullova and Elizabeth Wallfisch and renowned early music specialists Nicholas McGegan and Jordi Savall.

Read *The New York Times* Review:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/02/arts/music/02baro.html? r=1&ref=arts>

Read the *ClassicalSource.com* Review:

http://www.classicalsource.com/db_control/db_concert_review.php?id=7041

ABOUT PBO:

For the last 28 years, San Francisco’s Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra (PBO) has been dedicated to historically-informed performance of Baroque, Classical and early Romantic music on original instruments. Led by Music Director Nicholas McGegan since 1985, PBO is frequently recognized as one of the finest chamber orchestras, as well as one of the most exciting period-instrument ensembles. Drawing on a sizable pool of musicians from all over the U.S., PBO performs seven concert programs in four Bay Area cities each season, as well as tours the U.S. and internationally. The group has its own professional chorus, has commissioned new music for period instruments, and has collaborated with the Mark Morris Dance Group among others. Their 24 recordings have

won or been nominated for numerous awards.

For full biography: <http://www.philharmonia.org/bio.html>

To learn more and hear music: www.philharmonia.org

Access high-resolution pictures: <http://www.philharmonia.org/resources.html>

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