

**PHILHARMONIA BAROQUE ORCHESTRA
NOMINATED FOR
“BEST ORCHESTRAL PERFORMANCE”
GRAMMY AWARD FOR HAYDN SYMPHONIES CD**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – December 1, 2011 – Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra and Music Director Nicholas McGegan are thrilled to announce that the second release from their new Philharmonia Baroque Productions label, Haydn: Symphonies No. 104 “London,” No. 88, and No. 101 “The Clock” has been nominated for a Grammy[®] Award for Best Orchestral Performance by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. Winners will be announced on February 12, 2012 in Los Angeles. This is the second Grammy[®] nomination for Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra.

The CD was engineered and produced by David v.R. Bowles of Swineshead Productions. The three symphonies were recorded live at First Congregational Church in Berkeley between 2007 and 2009. This CD (released in June 2011) was greeted with critical acclaim, including the *New York Times* (“This recording sounded so fresh and vital... beautifully produced and engineered by David v. R. Bowles”) and *San Francisco Classical Voice* (“If you want to hear three of Haydn’s finest symphonies played with complete understanding and great skill, this ought to be your first stop.”)

Over the last three decades, McGegan and Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra have made dozens of highly regarded recordings for harmonia mundi, BMG and other labels. They include the Grammy-nominated 1990 recording of Handel’s oratorio *Susanna* with Hunt Lieberson – then a soprano named Lorraine Hunt – which won the prestigious *Gramophone* award for best Baroque vocal album in 1991. The new releases on the Philharmonia label are the first the orchestra has issued since 2007, when it self-released live recordings of Jake Heggie’s *To Hell and Back* and Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9. All three of the first Philharmonia Baroque recordings are produced and engineered by David v.R. Bowles, who has produced the orchestra's recordings since 1996. The two releases in addition to the Grammy[®]-nominated Haydn Symphonies are a live recording of Berlioz’ *Les Nuits d’été* and Handel arias featuring Lorraine Hunt Lieberson, and a studio recording of Vivaldi violin concerti (including *The Four Seasons*) featuring soloist Elizabeth Blumenstock.

Philharmonia Baroque’s recordings are made possible in part by a generous gift from the Waverly Foundation. These CDs are distributed in the U.S., U.K., Germany and Austria by harmonia mundi.

ALBUM INFORMATION

Haydn: Symphonies No. 104 “London”, No, 88, and No. 101 “The Clock”

Released June 14, 2011

Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra Nicholas McGegan, conductor

Philharmonia Baroque Productions

Recorded live February 10-11, 2007 (Symphony No. 104); November 15-16, 2008

(Symphony No. 88), and September 12-13, 2009 (Symphony No. 101) at First

Congregational Church, Berkeley, CA.

ABOUT PHILHARMONIA BAROQUE ORCHESTRA

Having just concluded its 30th Anniversary Season in 2010/11, San Francisco’s Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra is dedicated to historically-informed performance of Baroque, Classical and early Romantic music on period instruments. Led by Music Director Nicholas McGegan since 1985, Philharmonia Baroque is recognized as one of the finest chamber orchestras, as well as one of the most exciting period-instrument ensembles in the country. Drawing on musicians from all over the United States and abroad, Philharmonia Baroque performs eight concert programs in four Bay Area cities each season and regularly tours the U.S. and internationally. Attracting such talented guest artists as mezzo-soprano Susan Graham, conductor Jordi Savall, violinist Monica Huggett, recorder player Marion Verbruggen and soprano Isabel Bayrakdarian, the group has its own professional chorus, has commissioned new music for period instruments, and has collaborated with the Mark Morris Dance Group, Alonzo King LINES Ballet and Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco among others. Philharmonia Baroque’s 32 recordings have won or been nominated for numerous awards.

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