The New England Philharmonic readies for 40th anniversary season celebration

The season will feature five world premieres of works from Bernie Hoffer, Andy Vores, Peter Child, David Rakowski and Richard Cornell, four of them past or present NEP composers-in-residence who have gifted these works in honor of the orchestra's anniversary.

BOSTON — The New England Philharmonic, under the direction of Richard Pittman, announced their 40th anniversary season that will commence on October 29 at the Tsai Performance Center. In keeping with the NEP’s commitment to “Innovation and Tradition in Concert,” the season will feature world premieres of works from Andy Vores, Peter Child and Richard Cornell, all past NEP composers-in-residence who have gifted these works in honor of the orchestra's anniversary, the world premiere of a new composition by Bernard Hoffer on the annual Family Concert, and masterpieces from the orchestral tradition of the twentieth century.

The season will feature all of NEP's hallmarks, including a presentation from the 22nd annual Young Artist Competition winner and a Boston premiere from the 31st annual Call for Scores winner. Present Composer-in-Residence David Rakowski, the eighth in NEP history, will also offer a new violin concerto written for and performed by NEP's concertmaster, Danielle Maddon, on April 29.

The March 4 concert, billed as the anniversary concert, will feature Michael Tippett’s “A Child of Our Time,” featuring the Chorus pro Musica under the direction of Jamie Kirsch. CpM performed with the NEP 20 years ago when the orchestra last performed the work.

Other area performances and collaborations are in the works and will be announced shortly. Tickets for all of NEP’s 2016-17 concerts will be on sale May 15 at NEPhilharmonic.org.

OCTOBER 29, 2016
Andy Vores Fanfare (2016); World premiere
Andrew Norman “Sacred Geometry” (2003)
Yehudi Wyner Piano Concerto “Chiavi in mano” (2004); Geoffrey Burleson, piano
Carl Ruggles “Evocations” (1934–43)
Béla Bartók Concerto for Orchestra (1943)

DECEMBER 11, 2016  Family Concert
William Schuman “Newsreel in 5 Shots” (1942)
Bernard Hoffer “Nocturne” (The Timber Wolf) (2016); World premiere
Andy Vores “Big Bad Wolf” (1996)
Paul Patterson “Little Red Riding Hood Song Book” (1994)

   Narrator TBA, Boston City Singers, Joshua DeWitte, Director
Concerto to be performed by the NEP Young Artist Competition Winner

MARCH 4, 2017  40th Anniversary Concert
Richard Cornell Fanfare (2017); World premiere
Gunther Schuller “Vertige d’Eros” (1945)
Michael Tippett “A Child of Our Time” (1939-41)

   Sarah Pelletier, soprano; Krista River, mezzo-soprano; Charles Blandy, tenor; bass TBA
   Chorus Pro Musica, Jamie Kirsch, Director

APRIL 29, 2017
Peter Child Fanfare (2017); World premiere
Aaron Copland Orchestral Variations (1957)
David Rakowski  
Violin Concerto (2017); NEP commission, world premiere
   Danielle Maddon, violin
Sebastian Currier  “Microsymph” (1997)
Zoltan Kodaly Peacock Variations (1939)
Call for Scores Winner To be announced

About the New England Philharmonic  
Embarking on its 40th season, the NEP, under the direction of Richard Pittman, is internationally renowned for its daring programming encompassing both contemporary and traditional works. The volunteer orchestra has earned nine ASCAP awards for Adventurous Programming and was included in the ArtsFuse’s top 10 list of notable classical music performances of 2014. The orchestra’s illustrious past includes the installation of three landmark programs. The NEP became the first orchestra of its size to support a composer-in-residence (1985), introduce a Call for Scores Program (1985), and establish a Young Artist Competition (1994), legacies that endure today.