Early Music Seattle Announces End of Alexander Weimann’s 8-Year Tenure as Music Director of the Seattle Baroque Orchestra

Early Music Seattle (EMS) announces the end of Alexander Weimann’s 8-year tenure as Music Director of the Seattle Baroque Orchestra. Since joining the orchestra in 2015, Weimann embraced the players in residence in Seattle as he augmented the orchestra with key visiting artists—bringing his impeccable musical sensibilities to the already fine ensemble.

One of his significant achievements is the refashioning of the ensemble in response to the pandemic. Weimann’s more concise, flexible model relies on a smaller core of virtuosos—both making use of the high level of artistry found locally while also reflecting the economic priorities of the new and evolving arts landscape.

Alexander Weimann is leaving in order to focus on various music composition projects, as well as his teaching duties at the University of British Columbia. His engagement with SBO will end at the conclusion of the 2022/23 season.

Of his decision to step away, Weimann said, “I did what I could to help the SBO being an artistically, musically strong body, set up resilient and creative in facing current and future challenges in our arts world. The well-being of the orchestra is important to me, and I will follow its future with warmth, curiosity, and my continuous best wishes.”

EMS Board President Aly Gardner-Shelby said, “It has been an honor and a pleasure for us to work with Alex, and we are grateful for his tremendous artistic contributions to SBO, and to EMS. We know that we’ll be staying in contact, and we will all be following Alex’s new endeavors with excitement and applause.” SBO continues its commitment to delivering great music to Pacific Northwest audiences with Alexander Weimann for the remainder of this season. Next season, as we begin this transition, a selection of guest music directors will curate and lead individual programs. This approach will grant our artists and audiences exposure to a wide array of new and exciting collaborative opportunities.

The search for a full-time SBO Music Director will begin after the EMS Board of Directors appoints a new Executive Director, who will work alongside August Denhard as he transitions from Executive Director to Artistic Director.

Seattle audiences have an upcoming opportunity to see Alexander Weimann lead the Seattle Baroque Orchestra. On November 12 & 13, 2022 the ensemble performs The World of Joseph Bologne at Bastyr University Chapel and Town Hall Seattle.