



# Message from the President of ABE

By Jason Baxter

## Upcoming Alberta Baroque Ensemble Concerts

**Robertson-Wesley United Church**  
10209 123 St., Edmonton  
(Sundays, 3 p.m.)

**November 18, 2018:**  
*Baroque Chamber Music Treasures*

**December 2, 2018:**  
*Music for a Festive Season*

**February 3, 2019:**  
*Baroque Musical Delights*

**March 17, 2019:**  
*From Salzburg to Vienna*

**April 14, 2019:**  
*Splendor of the Baroque*

As I look at the 39<sup>th</sup> season for the Alberta Baroque Ensemble, I am extremely energized and excited.

Once again we have amazing musicians and soloists, strong support from our donors, grant providers and volunteers and a strong and exuberant audience.

We had a wonderful start to the season with *Italian Masters* and the upcoming Chamber concert, *Baroque Chamber Music Treasures* is always an inspiring and intimate concert. As I look what is to come, I can't help but reflect as well.

For 39 years, Paul and the ABE have been offering Edmonton an avenue to explore and appreciate the wonderful music that is Baroque. Many different musicians, soloists, volunteers and audience members have weaved a narrative and a community that I count myself lucky to have been part of.

My own personal journey with the ABE started 19 years ago when I was asked by a good friend and former stage manager to help out with set up for the ensemble. Being a full-time student and a part-time theatre technician and musician, I jumped at the gig without any

sense of how it would change my life and how I would come to see the ABE and the Schieman family as part of my own family and my identity.

I am lucky enough to have great board members that make the job a pleasure, fantastic staff who handle all the details, an outstanding pool of volunteers that make the concerts happen and an amazing Artistic Director and friend who has the passion, knowledge and wherewithal to keep us focused and energized towards our common goal.

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## Paul Schieman — Founder and Artistic Director

After graduating from McGill University with a Bachelor of Music Degree double majoring in Organ and Oboe, Paul Schieman landed in Edmonton in 1978. He joined the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, where he still performs today as Second Principal Oboe and Principal English Horn, and quickly found a community interested in the era of music that first sparked his passion, the Baroque era.



Baroque Ensemble exploded and to this day still brings in more than 500 people per concert. During the late 1980s, Schieman formed the Alberta Baroque Music Society, the not-for-profit and registered charity whose mission is to not only support the Alberta Baroque Ensemble but also continue building the community and sharing the music and culture of the Baroque era.

Schieman's contributions to the Edmonton arts community have earned him multiple awards and recognitions including an induction into the Edmonton Hall of Fame (2001) and a named chair at the Francis Winspear Centre for Performing Arts (2012). He has performed nationally and internationally, including a trip to New York with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra to perform at Carnegie Hall.

Today, Schieman still calls the Capital Region home where he lives with his wife of more than 40 years, Janet (Business Manager with the Alberta Baroque Music Society) and his two dogs. His three grown sons each have their own active involvement in the Edmonton arts community.

# Next season marks 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Alberta Baroque Ensemble

So, what do the Alberta Baroque Ensemble and the Edmonton Oilers have in common? How about four decades of being a part of Alberta's Capital City!

That's right, aside from having a huge Edmonton fan base, the common thread between these two local treasures is that both organizations are celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversaries in 2019. The Edmonton Oilers joined the NHL and the ABE formed in 1979. Though, the ABE has had a much better record!

That's probably where the comparisons end, but the truth is that both organizations have now been entertaining Edmonton audiences for four decades.

In anticipation of this 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary starting in fall 2019, the ABE is planning a special commissioned work by one of Canada's busiest composers and the Dean of Fine Arts and Communications at MacEwan University, Dr. Allan Gilliland (shown right).

"Looking ahead to our milestone 40<sup>th</sup> season, it's all been made possible by the hard work of everybody involved," says Artistic Director and Founder Paul Schieman. "This includes the musicians, audience members, subscribers, donors and board members."



## **First concert of 2018/19 season a huge success!**

A total of 517 audience members enjoyed the first concert of the season on Sunday, October 21. This was one of the highest audience figures for a season debut ever for the ABE.

## **(President's Message continued from page 1)**

I never would have imagined that I would still be involved almost 20 years later when I showed up that first day but I quickly discovered that there is an energy and community around the ABE that is infectious and a positive factor in life.

I would like to thank everyone who attends the concerts and supports the Alberta Baroque Society for your patronage, energy and your friendship for the past 39 years. I look forward to sharing many more seasons of outstanding music and companionship to come.

## **ABE's Susan Flook**

A native of Sudbury, Ontario, ABE Concertmaster Susan Flook holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Western Ontario.



Upon graduating, she won a position with Orchestra London Canada.

In 1987 Flook won a position in the First Violin Section of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra and in 1994 she became Assistant Principal Second Violin.

Today, Flook continues to call Edmonton home where she lives with her husband and three children.

## **ABE Contact Info:**

<https://www.facebook.com/AlbertaBaroqueEnsemble/>

<https://www.albertabaroque.com/albertabaroque@shaw.ca>

*We are always on the lookout for enthusiastic and friendly volunteers.*

*If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering with the ABE, please see a board member or contact Business Manager Janet Schieman directly at:*

[albertabaroque@shaw.ca](mailto:albertabaroque@shaw.ca)

[780-467-6531](tel:780-467-6531)

## **ABE Reaches Out!**

More than 100 people attended a special performance of the ABE in Beaumont on Sunday, November 4. By invitation of the Beaumont Society of the Arts, the ABE performed its *Italian Masters* program.

On November 11, members of the ABE also participated in a performance of the Richard Eaton singers program, "Last Light Above the World."