

Boston Early Music Festival

INTERNATIONAL BAROQUE OPERA • CELEBRATED CONCERTS • WORLD-FAMOUS EXHIBITION

Boston Early Music Festival
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 22, 2018

Boston Early Music Festival presents Stile Antico in a program of vocal music for Holy Week by Spanish Renaissance Master Tomás Luis de Victoria – April 7 in Harvard Square

ARTISTS: Stile Antico (*United Kingdom*)

WHEN: Saturday, April 7, 2018 at 8pm
St. Paul Church, Bow & Arrow Streets, Cambridge, MA

PROGRAM: Tenebrae Responsories: Tomás Luis de Victoria

Tomás Luis de Victoria: *Tenebrae Responsories*
Victoria: *O Domine Jesu Christe*
Francisco Guerrero: *Maria Magdalene*

TICKETS: Tickets are priced at **\$20, \$39, \$51, and \$70** each, and can be purchased at www.BEMF.org and **617-661-1812**; a \$5 discount for students, seniors, and groups is available by calling 617-661-1812. Subscription discounts are available with the purchase of three or more programs on the 2017-2018 Season.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

The singers of Stile Antico have established themselves as one of the world's most vibrant and expressive vocal ensembles. Working without a conductor, these superb musicians approach Renaissance polyphony with the intimacy and subtlety of chamber music. Having made their North American debut with BEMF in 2009, they return to Boston with a program of Spanish Renaissance master Tomás Luis de Victoria's extraordinary and intense settings of the Tenebrae Responsories.

Arguably among the finest works of the Spanish Renaissance, these emotionally charged motets anchor the observance of Holy Week. Written for the matins services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, they follow the passion story from betrayal to burial, and display a composer at the height of his powers. In the words of one reviewer, "[the listener is] transfixed, as if the breath of God itself was creating these entrancing sounds" (Jean-Yves Duperron, *Classical Music Sentinel*).

ASSOCIATED EVENTS:

There will a Pre-Concert Talk at 7pm by members of the ensemble.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS:

Stile Antico is firmly established as one of the world's most accomplished and innovative vocal ensembles. Working without a conductor, its twelve members have thrilled audiences throughout Europe and North America with their fresh, vibrant, and moving performances of Renaissance polyphony. Based in London, the group enjoys a particularly close association with Wigmore Hall, and has appeared at the BBC Proms and Buckingham Palace. Stile Antico is frequently invited to perform at Europe's leading festivals, including the Antwerp, Barcelona, Bruges, Granada, Utrecht and York Early Music Festivals. Since making its North American debut at the Boston Early Music Festival in 2009, the ensemble has appeared on New York City's Music Before 1800 series, at Washington National Cathedral, the Library of Congress, Vancouver's Chan Centre, the Quebec Festival of Sacred Music, and as a part of the 60th GRAMMY Awards ceremony. Its bestselling recordings on the Harmonia Mundi label have earned accolades such as the Gramophone Award for Early Music, the Diapason d'or de l'année, the Edison Klassiek Award, and the Preis der deutschen Schallplattenkritik, and three Grammy nominations.

RESOURCES:

Download artist photos: <http://www.bemf.org/pages/press/images.htm>

BEMF's 2017–2018 Season Press Release: http://www.bemf.org/pages/press/082317_1718season.htm

ABOUT THE BOSTON EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL:

Recognized as the preeminent early music presenter and Baroque opera producer in North America, the **Boston Early Music Festival (BEMF)** has been credited with securing Boston's reputation as "America's early music capital" (*The Boston Globe*). Founded in 1981, BEMF offers diverse programs and activities, including one GRAMMY-winning and four GRAMMY-nominated opera recordings, an annual concert series that brings early music's brightest stars to the Boston and New York concert stages, and a biennial week-long Festival and Exhibition recognized as the "world's leading festival of early music" (*The Times*, London). The 20th Boston Early Music Festival will take place from June 9-16, 2019, and will feature fully staged performances of Agostino Steffani's *Orlando generoso* as the centerpiece opera. BEMF's Artistic Leadership includes Artistic Directors **Paul O'Dette** and **Stephen Stubbs**, Opera Director **Gilbert Blin**, Orchestra Director **Robert Mealy**, and Dance Director **Melinda Sullivan**.

The 2017–2018 Boston Early Music Festival Concert Series is presented with support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, National Endowment for the Arts, ConstellationCenter, WGBH Radio Boston, Harpsichord Clearing House, and The Gregory E. Bulger Foundation.

For more information, images, press tickets, or to schedule an interview, please contact Kathleen Fay at 617-661-1812 or email kathy@bemf.org.

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