

# Boston Early Music Festival

INTERNATIONAL BAROQUE OPERA • CELEBRATED CONCERTS • WORLD-FAMOUS EXHIBITION

**Boston Early Music Festival**  
43 Thorndike Street, Suite 302  
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617-661-1812 | [www.bemf.org](http://www.bemf.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** October 31, 2013

## **MEDIA ALERT: 2012 Gramophone Early Music Award winners Ensemble Plus Ultra make their BEMF début on Saturday, November 9, 2013**

**ARTIST:** Ensemble Plus Ultra (United Kingdom)

Katie Trethewey, Martha McLorinan, David Martin, William Balkwill, Simon Wall,  
Jonathan Brown, James Birchall, Michael Noone

**WHEN:** **Saturday, November 9, 2013 at 8pm**  
St. Paul Church, Bow & Arrow Streets, Harvard Square, Cambridge, MA

**PROGRAM:** *Discovering Renaissance Treasure*

Cristóbal de Morales: Lamentation: Et factum est postquam  
Francisco Guerrero: Conditor alme siderum  
Morales: Lamentation: Coph. Vocavi amicos meos  
Bernardino de Ribera: Rex autem David  
Ribera: Vox in Rama  
Guerrero: Beata Dei genitrix  
Tomás Luis de Victoria: Lamentation: Incipit oratio Jeremiae  
Victoria: Alma redemptoris mater  
Victoria: Vadam et circuido civitatem  
Victoria: O magnum mysterium  
Victoria: Duo seraphim  
Victoria: Surrexit pastor bonus  
Victoria: Nigra sum sed formosa

**TICKETS:** Tickets are priced at **\$19, \$38, \$49, and \$66** each, and can be purchased at **WWW.BEMF.ORG** and **617-661-1812**; a \$5 discount for students, seniors, and groups is offered by calling 617-661-1812. Subscription discounts of 10% are available with the purchase of three or more programs.

### **ABOUT THE PROGRAM:**

Winner of *Gramophone Magazine's* 2012 Early Music Award, the singers of **Ensemble Plus Ultra** have specialized in pristinely gorgeous performances that unearth jewels of the Spanish Renaissance, breathing life into masterpieces that have been lost to time in the libraries and archives of some of Spain's grandest palaces and cathedrals. For their eagerly anticipated BEMF début, they allow us all to share in this treasure with rarely heard works of astonishing passion and sorrow by Victoria, Morales, Ribera, and Guerrero, including Victoria's transcendently beautiful *O magnum mysterium*.

“Our journey this evening seeks to place the great Spanish composer Tomás Luis de Victoria within the context of the Spanish polyphonists who preceded him and who so decisively influenced him,” remarks Ensemble Plus Ultra’s **David Martin**. Esteemed musicologist **Michael Noone**, who will co-direct this program with Mr. Martin, uncovered a number of badly damaged manuscripts by Victoria’s forbears at the cathedral in Toledo, including previously unknown works by Morales and Guerrero as well as a manuscript choir containing almost all the known works of Bernardino de Ribera. This program offers not only a truly rare chance to hear these magnificent pieces, but to see their influence on the Spanish Renaissance’s most revered composer, Victoria.

**ABOUT THE ENSEMBLE:**

Founded in 2001, **Ensemble Plus Ultra** is “a crack squad of the finest British early music singers” (*Early Music Today*) whose quest is the promotion of historically-aware performances of liturgical marvels from the Renaissance. The ensemble is organized not as a choir, but as a consort of chamber musicians whose innovative performances always display rigorous attention to musical and historical detail. The group benefits from a close association with several noted scholars specializing in Renaissance vocal music, allowing it to call upon the latest musicological research and ensuring its repertoire is always unique and driven by a spirit of discovery, of unveiling musical treasures from the past. In recognition of its unique approach, Ensemble Plus Ultra was awarded the prestigious Gramophone Award for Early Music in 2012 for its ten-disc box set of the music of Tomás Luis de Victoria, recorded for the Deutsche Grammophon Archiv label. Ensemble Plus Ultra has toured widely in Europe and North America. The group has recently given concerts throughout Spain, at festivals in Regensburg, Utrecht, London and Cambridge, and made its US debut in October 2011.

**RESOURCES:**

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

*Ensemble Plus Ultra Website:* <http://www.ensembleplusultra.com/>

**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 three 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 18<sup>th</sup> Boston Early Music Festival will take place from June 7–14, 2015, and will be highlighted by Claudio Monteverdi’s trilogy of operas: *Orfeo*, *Il Ritorno d’Ulisse in Patria*, and *L’Incoronazione di Poppea*. BEMF’s Artistic Leadership includes Artistic Directors **Paul O’Dette** and **Stephen Stubbs**, Opera Director **Gilbert Blin**, and Orchestra Director **Robert Mealy**.

**For more information, images, press tickets, or to schedule an interview, please contact Kathleen Fay at 617-661-1812 or email [kathy@bemf.org](mailto:kathy@bemf.org).**

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