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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS  
THE 2008 BERKELEY FESTIVAL & EXHIBITION OF EARLY MUSIC,  
TUESDAY–SUNDAY, JUNE 3–8**

NINTH FESTIVAL FEATURES THE AMERICAN PREMIERE OF THE REDISCOVERED  
16TH-CENTURY MASS IN 40 & 60 VOICES BY ALESSANDRO STRIGGIO AND  
THE WORLD PREMIERE OF LE POÈME HARMONIQUE'S  
THEATRICAL PRODUCTION *VENEZIA DELLE STRADE AI PALAZZI*  
FEATURING THE MUSIC OF MONTEVERDI & MANELLI

*PLUS*

PERFORMANCES BY THE CONCORD ENSEMBLE; PIFFARO, THE RENAISSANCE BAND;  
PHILHARMONIA CHAMBER PLAYERS AND OTHERS FILL A WEEK OF  
EARLY MUSIC CONCERTS AND ACTIVITIES

**Festival events include American Bach Soloists International Young Artists Competition for Baroque Violin; Early Music America's annual conference and marketplace of music, instruments, and merchandise; and lectures and master classes, among other events**

**BERKELEY, CA**—Early music lovers will rejoice when the ninth **Berkeley Festival & Exhibition** gets underway **June 3–8, 2008**. Since its inauguration in 1990, the Berkeley Festival & Exhibition has been regarded as one of the premier events of its kind, as early music performers, scholars, instrument makers, publishers, and enthusiasts gather for a week of concerts, lectures, and master classes on and around the University of California, Berkeley campus. *The Berkeley Festival & Exhibition is produced by Cal Performances in association with the San Francisco Early Music Society, Early Music America, Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, American Bach Soloists, and the Department of Music at UC Berkeley.*

The 2008 Berkeley Festival & Exhibition features 12 main-stage performances highlighted by two premieres presented by Cal Performances: the American premiere of **Alessandro Striggio**'s long-lost *Missa sopra Ecco sì beato giorno* in 40 and 60 parts, the largest known contrapuntal choral work in Western music; and the world premiere of **Le Poème**

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**Harmonique's** *Venezia delle strade ai Palazzi*, a staged performance evoking the spirit of the Golden Age of Venice through the music of Claudio Monteverdi and Francesco Manelli.

The **Berkeley Festival Exhibition & Music Marketplace, Thursday–Saturday, June 5–7**, sponsored by Early Music America, includes handcrafted musical instruments, sheet music, accessories, recordings, new and rare publications, and “mini-concert” demonstrations of instruments; and dozens of “fringe” events will take place in the vicinity of the UCB campus.

“The hallmark of the Berkeley Festival & Exhibition is impeccable musicianship fused with revelatory scholarship. The two premieres exemplify just that,” says **Robert Cole**, Director of Cal Performances and founder of the Berkeley Festival & Exhibit. “The 16th-century Mass by Alessandro Striggio for 40 and 60 voices was recently rediscovered in France by **Davitt Moroney**, Professor of Music at UC Berkeley. And from Paris comes the first performances of **Le Poème Harmonique's** *Venezia delle strade ai Palazzi* costumed and staged to capture the character of 17th-century Venice from its streets to its palaces. Additionally, with our partner San Francisco Early Music Society, we will present concerts by **Wildcat Viols, The Concord Ensemble, Piffaro, The Renaissance Band** and a special family concert.”

The Berkeley Festival & Exhibition draws international talent and visitors to the Bay Area. In addition to the concerts, conference, and exhibition, **American Bach Soloists (ABS)** will hold its International Bach Competition, this year focusing on the baroque violin. The competition has been renamed in honor of Dr. Henry I. Goldberg, who served as Board President of ABS from 2002 to 2005. Semi-finals will be held **Thursday, June 5** at **5:00 p.m.** at Hertz Hall; and the Final competition will be held **Sunday, June 8** at **3:00 p.m.** at Hertz Hall.

### **BERKELEY FESTIVAL CONCERT SCHEDULE**

The Festival opens **Tuesday, June 3** at **8:00 p.m.** at UC Berkeley's Hertz Hall when **Wildcat Viols** perform *The Great Set—English Music for Six Viols: Brade, Byrd, Gibbons, Jenkins, Lawes*. Seventeenth-century England's most perfect chamber ensemble, the six-part viol consort, inspired ambitious and imaginative music from the best composers of the age. Wildcat Viols explore this richly varied repertoire, from William Brade's lively dances to the

elegant fantasies of William Byrd, Orlando Gibbons and John Jenkins to the uniquely sublime and quirky fantasy-suites of William Lawes. *Early Music America* magazine called Wildcat Viols debut concert a “wonderful offering...beautifully played.” The trio of Wildcat musicians—**Joanna Blendulf**, treble viol; **Julie Jeffrey**, tenor viol; and **Elisabeth Reed**, bass viol—will be joined by guest artists **Steven Lehning**, tenor viol and G violone; **David Morris**, treble viol; and **William Skeen**, bass viol. This concert is presented by San Francisco Early Music Society.

**Wednesday, June 4** at 8:00 p.m. at Zellerbach Playhouse Cal Performances presents the world premiere of **Le Poème Harmonique**'s *Venezia delle strade ai Palazzi* featuring the music of Claudio Monteverdi and Francesco Manelli. The award-winning Paris-based company of musicians and vocalists made its West Coast debut at the 2006 Berkeley Festival & Exhibit with *Baroque Carnival* which was—like this year's contribution—part concert, part theater; it was “inventive and charming to witness....The musicians, under guitarist Vincent Dumestre's direction and nimble finger-work, were lively and adroit” (*San Francisco Chronicle*). Founded by **Vincent Dumestre** to promote the authenticity and eloquence of the works of innovative 17th-century composers, Le Poème Harmonique has created a new production that is once again more than a concert; it is a theatrical event with special lighting, costumes and Baroque gestures employed to evoke the spirit of Venice at a time when art music and popular forms mixed, creating artistic freedom of a new order. *Venezia delle strade ai Palazzi* includes **Claire Lefilliâtre**'s much-admired rendition of Monteverdi's *Lamento della Ninfa*; music by Manelli, who introduced Venice to opera; canzonettes, bergamasques and many other facets of an art that was constantly evolving. The ensemble features soprano Lefilliâtre; tenor **Jan van Elsacker**; tenor **Serge Goubioud**; bass **Arnaud Marzorati**; **Mira Glodeanu**, violin; **Lucas Guimaraes**, treble and bass viol; **Françoise Enock**, violone; **Joël Grare**, percussion; and **Jean-Luc Tamby**, colascione and guitar. The production is directed by **Benjamin Lazar**.

Also on **Wednesday, June 4** at 8:00 p.m. at Hertz Hall, San Francisco Early Music Society presents the American male-voice **Concord Ensemble**'s *El Despertar del Alma: The Silver Lining of Spanish Secular Music During the Golden Age*. The period in Spanish history known as the Golden Age boasted the highest and most important cultural achievements of the

country's history, including the crowning achievement of Cervantes' literary masterpiece, *Don Quixote*, and Garcilaso de la Vega's poetry. An independent movement arose to contrast the somber and austere quality of church music with the sentimental and rhythmically animated works of Juan Vásquez and Cristóbal de Morales. This concert features the vocal music of these two masters with interspersed glimpses of poetic genius from the era. "Clearly a group to watch out for" (*Goldberg Magazine*), the vocalists include **Paul Flight** (countertenor); **Daniel Carberg, Pablo Corá** and **N. Lincoln Hanks** (tenors); **Aaron Caine** (baritone); and **Scott Graff** (bass-baritone). This concert is presented by San Francisco Early Music Society.

**Thursday, June 5** at **3:00 p.m.** at UC Berkeley's Wheeler Auditorium, Le Poème Harmonique's Director **Vincent Dumestre** will give a talk on the music and inspiration of his new production *Monteverdi & Manelli: Venezia delle strade ai Palazzi*.

On **Thursday, June 5** at **5:00 p.m.** in Hertz Hall, the **American Bach Soloists & Henry I. Goldberg International Young Artists Competition for Baroque Violin** will begin. Six talented young violinists on the verge of major careers in early music will compete in the semi-finals. These musicians will come from around the globe to perform works by Bach and to secure a chance to win the Laurette Goldberg First Prize. The Competition for Baroque Violin is presented by American Bach Soloists.

**Thursday, June 5** at 8:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Playhouse, Le Poème Harmonique will give the second performance of *Monteverdi & Manelli: Venezia delle strade ai Palazzi* (see June 4).

**Friday, June 6** at **8:00 p.m.** at Hertz Hall **Piffaro, The Renaissance Band, and The Concord Ensemble**, combine forces to present *Trionfo d'Amore e della Morte: Florentine Music for a Medici Procession*. The concert features the music of carnival time in Florence complete with lascivious songs mocking the lanzi, songs of the penitents, motets, and lively dances. Concord Ensemble's six vocalists include countertenor **Paul Flight**; tenors **Pablo Corá, N. Lincoln Hanks** and **Daniel Carberg**; baritone **Matthew Leese**; and bass-baritone **Scott Graff**. Piffaro contributes a wind band made up of **Grant Herreid** (lute and guitar), **Greg Ingles** (sackbut and percussion), **Joan Kimball**, shawm (recorder and bagpipe), **Christa Patton**

(shawm, harp and bagpipe), **Robert Wiemken** (shawm, dulcian recorder and percussion), **Priscilla Smith** (shawm and recorder), and **Tom Zajac** (sackbut, recorder, bagpipe and percussion). This concert is presented by San Francisco Early Music Society.

**Friday, June 6 at 10:30 p.m.** at First Congregational Church, **Philharmonia Chamber Players**, a group comprising ten principal artists from Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, perform *Corelli by Candlelight*, three works by Arcangelo Corelli. His favored Opus 6 *Concerti grossi* is described by the prominent 17th-century English writer and music lover Roger North as “to musicians like the bread of life.” The program also features Francesco Geminiani’s popular arrangement of Corelli’s “La Folia” variations, plus the lesser known but equally delightful variations “L’arte del arco” by Giuseppi Tartini, based on the gavotte from Corelli’s sonata Op. 5, No. 10. The ensemble includes **Jolianne von Einem**, **Lisa Grodin**, **Katherine Kyme**, and **Carla Moore** (violin); **David Daniel Bowes** (viola); **William Skeen** and **Tanya Tomkins** (violoncello); **Kristin Zoernig** (double-bass); **David Tayler** (archlute); and **Rodney Gehrke** (organ). This concert is presented by Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra.

The band **Piffaro**, **The Renaissance Band** returns **Saturday, June 7 at 11:00 a.m.** at Hertz Hall with *Pied-Pipers of the Renaissance: A Colorful Tour of Instruments and Music*, a journey into the world of the music of the 15th and 16th centuries presented on a vast and varied collection of Renaissance instruments. The audience will hear and see shawms, sackbuts, slide trumpets, dulcians, krumhorns, recorders, bagpipes, harp, lutes, guitars and all manner of percussion in this program produced to intrigue and engage children and adults. This performance is a Family Fare event, featuring half-price tickets for children 16 and under. The concert is presented by San Francisco Early Music Society.

**Saturday, June 7 at 3:00 p.m.** in UC Berkeley's Wheeler Auditorium, **Davitt Moroney**, Professor of Music, UC Berkeley, will talk about the rescue of Alessandro Striggio’s long-lost Mass in 40 and 60 parts. His lecture is titled “The Pope, The Emperor and the Grand Duke: The Rediscovery of a Masterpiece from Renaissance Florence.”

In the evening, **Saturday, June 7** at **5:00 p.m.** at Zellerbach Playhouse, **Le Poème Harmonique** gives its third and final performance of *Monteverdi & Manelli: Venezia delle strade ai Palazzi*. (see June 4).

**Saturday, June 7** at **8:00 p.m.** at First Congregational Church the American premiere of **Alessandro Striggio's** *Missa sopra Ecco sì beato giorno* will be given. Although most of Striggio's piece is in 40 different voice parts, the last movement is for 60 separate voices (five 12-part choirs), and is the only known contrapuntal choral work of this complexity in the history of Western music. Written under the auspices of 16th-century Medici court, the work was recently discovered in the Bibliothèque Nationale de France by UC Berkeley musicologist and renowned harpsichordist **Davitt Moroney**. "There are other large choral works, but Striggio's Mass is unique, with its five eight-part choirs. This is Florentine art at its most spectacular," says Moroney. "Striggio's work is a masterpiece...not just the choral event of the year but possibly of the decade," wrote London's *Guardian* at the work's modern day premiere at the BBC Proms in 2007. Moroney conducts the musical force, which will include **His Majestys Sagbutts and Cornetts** from the U.K.; **Wim Becu** (double-bass trombone); and six choirs including **Magnificat** (Warren Stewart, artistic director); **Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra Choir** (Bruce Lamott, chorale director); **American Bach Soloists Choir** (Jeffrey Thomas, artistic director); **Schola Cantorum San Francisco**; **Perfect Fifth** (UC Choral Ensembles); and assembled community and university student singers. This event is produced by Cal Performances in association with the UC Berkeley Department of Music.

The **American Bach Soloists & Henry I. Goldberg International Young Artists Competition for Baroque Violin** will continue **Sunday, June 8** at **3:00 p.m.** in Hertz Hall. The three finalists compete for the Laurette Goldberg First Prize and a featured appearance in an American Bach Soloists concert. At the competition, the violinists will perform works by J. S. Bach with the American Bach Soloists.

Concluding the Festival concert series is the second performance of the Striggio Mass for 40 and 60 voices **Sunday, June 8** at **7:00 p.m.** at First Congregational Church (see June 7).

## **BERKELEY FESTIVAL EXHIBITION & MARKETPLACE**

The Berkeley Festival Exhibition & Marketplace, featuring instruments made by many of the world's finest craftsmen and builders, publications, recordings, accessories, "mini-concerts" demonstrations of instruments, will be held in First Congregational Church **Thursday, June 5**, 12:00 noon–6:00 p.m.; **Friday, June 6**, 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.; and **Saturday, June 7**, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Sponsored by Early Music America, the exhibit is free and open to the public. For further information write [info@earlymusic.org](mailto:info@earlymusic.org).

### **CONCURRENT EVENTS**

**Historical Harp Society's 25th Annual Workshop & Conference** will be held **Wednesday–Saturday, June 4–7**, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. at First Congregational Church. Workshop classes, scholarly presentations and panel discussions are included. Harp concerts will be given on **Friday & Saturday, June 6 & 7** at 7:00 p.m. in the Loper Chapel. Faculty and performers will include **William Taylor** (Scotland, wire strung and bray harp); **Therese Honey** (Renaissance harp); **Egberto Bermudez** and **Ron Cook** (medieval harp and story telling); **Cheryl Ann Fulton** (Welsh triple harp); and **Christa Patton** and **Paula Fagerberger** (arpa doppia). For further information, contact Cheryl Ann Fulton at [harpnhorse@sonic.net](mailto:harpnhorse@sonic.net).

**American Recorder Society** will hold its events on **Saturday, June 7** at St. Mark's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. At 1:30 p.m., a concert titled "Crystal Ball" will give a taste of the recorder's future and the next generation of players. Following is a roundtable discussion at 2:45 p.m. titled Early Music Is Hot! How Do We Make the Recorder Sizzle? The events conclude at 4:00 p.m. with a coached playing session. All players with recorders and a music stand welcome. For further information, contact Letitia Berlin at (510) 559-4670 or email [ars.recorder@americanrecorder.org](mailto:ars.recorder@americanrecorder.org).

An assortment of self-produced "fringe" concerts and events scheduled in conjunction with the 2008 Berkeley Festival & Exhibition and organized by **San Francisco Early Music Society** will be held during the Festival week. Further information and schedule of concerts is available at [www.sfems.org/fringe2008.htm](http://www.sfems.org/fringe2008.htm)

Other early music organizations, including the **Western Early Keyboard Association** and the **Viola da Gamba Society** will convene at the Festival, with events and schedules to be announced. Further information on all Festival, Exhibition and Fringe information will be posted as it becomes available at [www.bfx.berkeley.edu](http://www.bfx.berkeley.edu) and at Zellerbach Hall Ticket Office.

### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Subscriptions and single tickets for the Berkeley Festival & Exhibition are on sale now at the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall. Individual ticket prices range from **\$16.00** to **\$56.00** (see calendar). Tickets are available by phone at 510.642.9988; at <http://bfx.berkeley.edu>; and at the door. Subscribers receive a 10% discount off the single ticket price when purchasing tickets for three or more events. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students for all performances, and for children 16 and under for the Piffaro, The Renaissance Band performance Saturday, June 7 at 11:00 a.m. UC Berkeley faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and California Alumni Association members receive a \$5 discount. For more information, call Cal Performances at 510.642.9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org).

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior and community Rush Tickets. Rush Tickets are announced two hours prior to a performance and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; quantities may be limited. Rush Ticket sales are limited to one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. Rush Ticket prices are \$10.00 for UCB students; \$15.00 for UCB faculty and staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20.00 for all other community members. Information is available at 510-642-9988, press 2 for the Rush hotline, two hours prior to a performance only.

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