FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 7, 2020

Boston Early Music Festival presents recorder virtuoso Stefan Temmingh, and soprano Dorothee Mields – Friday, January 31, in Harvard Square

ARTISTS:
Stefan Temmingh, *recorder*
Dorothee Mields, *soprano*

The Gentleman’s Band
Domen Marinčič, *viola da gamba*
Wiebke Weidanz, *harpsichord*
Michael Dücker, *lute*

WHEN:
Friday, January 31, 2020 at 8pm
First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, 11 Garden Street

PROGRAM: Inspired by Song: Music of Dowland, Purcell, Geminiani, and others

Johann Adolph Hasse: *Cantata per flauto*
Anonymous: *De Nachtegael*
Jacob van Eyck: *Engels Nachtegaeltje*
Alessandro Scarlatti: *Piu non m’alleta*
Francesco Geminiani: *An Irish Tune*
Traditional: *Lady Ann Bothwel’s Lament*
Geminiani: *Lady Ann Bothwel’s Lament*
John Dowland: *Flow my Tears*
Johan Schop: *Lachrimae Pavan*
Anonymous: *Greensleeves*
Frederik Nussen: *Can Love be controul’d?*
Johann Christophe Pepusch: *Can Love be controul’d by Advice?*
Anonymous: *Faronells Ground*
Thomas D’Urfey: *The King’s Health to Farrinels Ground (La Follia)*

TICKETS: Tickets are priced at $20, $39, $51, and $70 each, and can be purchased at [BEMF.org](http://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 2019-2020 Season.
ABOUT THE PROGRAM:
The “cover song” is not a recent invention—Baroque composers relished the opportunity to explore popular folk songs with their own flamboyant renditions. The results were overflowing with intense emotions, from joyous humor to passionate love and desperate sorrow. After making his American début at our June 2019 Festival, thrilling recorder virtuoso Stefan Temmingh makes a triumphant return in a program alternating English folk songs with masterpieces by Dowland, Purcell, D’Urfey, Geminiani, and others. He is joined by the astonishing German soprano and past BEMF artist Dorothee Mields and his regular collaborators, The Gentleman’s Band.

Stefan describes the program as “conveying a genuine love of life,” explaining that “the words of these songs were always very basic and down to earth: the feeling of being loved in *John, Come Kiss Me Now*; the frustration of a mother trying to get her child to sleep in *Lady Ann Bothwel’s Lament*; the grief of a spurned lover in *Greensleeves*...These are emotions and situations in life that are familiar to each and every one of us.” These popular songs made the virtuoso embellishments and complex harmonies of the variations more accessible to the Baroque listener as they do to us today. “Everyone is invited.”

ASSOCIATED EVENTS:
There will be a pre-concert talk with Stefan Temmingh and Dorothee Mields at 7pm.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS:
South African recorder player Stefan Temmingh is one of the leading international soloists in his field. Now living in Munich, his concerts and recordings show him to be an artist who is not simply following well-known paths: he is setting new standards for his instrument and creating a new recorder tradition. With his remarkable début album *Corelli à la mode* he succeeded in crossing the boundaries of repertoire and sound. His recordings with soprano Dorothee Mields, *Inspired by Song* and *BIRDS*, were critically acclaimed and brought him the prestigious ECHO Klassik Award as Instrumentalist of the Year (Flute) 2016. In 2018, his Vivaldi disc was awarded an International Classical Music Award, the Editor’s Choice Award from Gramophone Magazine, and a Diapason d’or as “the new reference for this repertoire” (Diapason). He performs internationally both as a soloist and with his baroque ensemble The Gentleman’s Band, and increasingly conducts from the soloist desk. He also initiates and participates in numerous projects and premieres of contemporary music.

Soprano Dorothee Mields is one of the leading interpreters of 17th- and 18th-century music and is admired for her unique timbre and moving interpretations. She appears regularly with the Collegium Vocale Gent, Netherlands Bach Society, Freiburger Barockorchester, Collegium Japan, Orchestra of the 18th Century, Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra Toronto, and The English Concert. Mields is a welcome guest at international festivals, including the Leipzig Bach Festival, Suntory Music Foundation Summer Festival in Japan, Boston Early Music Festival, Flanders Festival, Wiener Festwochen, the Handel Festival in Halle, Musikfest Bremen, Niedersächsische Musiktage, and Mainzer Musiksommer. She is a devoted chamber musician and offers a range of projects such as *Lord Nelson at the river Nile* (music by Haydn and contemporaries dealing with the battles of Lord Nelson), *White as Lillies was her Face* with songs by John Dowland and texts by Heinrich Heine, *Mort exquisite, mort parfumé* with French impressionistic compositions, as well as *Birds* with flutist Stefan Temmingh.
For years Stefan Temmingh has been working closely with a regular group of musician friends. All members of his ensemble are early music specialists and active on the international concert stages - each of them is one of the leading exponents of his or her instrument. Since 2013 the ensemble has been called The Gentleman's Band at their own request - inspired by the title of Stefan Temmingh's second CD, The Gentleman's Flute. In addition to Stefan Temmingh, the ensemble includes soprano Dorothee Mields, who is one of the leading singers in her field, lutenist Michael Dücker, and viola da gamba player and baroque cellist Domen Marinčič - all part of the regular line-up heard at the most important early music festivals and concert series around the world. The ensemble is completed by harpsichordist Wiebke Weidanz, with whom Stefan also performs as a duo. Wiebke is a regular guest with the leading German baroque orchestras as a soloist and basso continuo specialist.

RESOURCES:

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 Award-winning and four GRAMMY Award-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 21st Boston Early Music Festival – themed A Celebration of Women in the Arts – will take place from June 6–13, 2021, and feature the fully staged North American premiere of Henry Desmarest’s Circé. 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 2019-2020 Boston Early Music Festival Concert Series is presented with support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, National Endowment for the Arts, Constellation Charitable Foundation, and WGBH Radio Boston, as well as a number of generous foundations and individuals from around the world.

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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