FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 27, 2021

Boston Early Music Festival presents Piffaro in a program of Renaissance counterpoint for wind instruments in Boston and online

ARTISTS: Piffaro
Joan Kimball & Bob Wiemken, Artistic Directors

Grant Herreid, lute, guitar, recorders, shawm & percussion;
Priscilla Herreid, shawm, schalmei, recorders, krumhorn & bagpipe;
Greg Ingles, sackbut, straight trumpet, recorders & krumhorn;
Joan Kimball, shawm, dulcian, recorder, krumhorn & bagpipes;
Erik Schmalz, sackbut, straight trumpet, recorders, krumhorn & string drum;
Bob Wiemken, dulcians, recorders & krumhorn;
Fiona Last, shawms, dulcian, recorders & bagpipe

LOCATION: Sunday, November 14, 2021 at 4pm
First Lutheran Church, 299 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA

Virtual Premiere: Friday, November 26, 2021 at 8pm ET
Available until Saturday, December 9, 2021 at 11:59pm ET

PROGRAM: Point/Counterpoint: Fuguing in Renaissance Music
Arr. Piffaro: Fanfare
Jakob Obrecht: Fuga
Glogauer Liederbuch: Christ is erstanden à3
Heinrich Isaac: Christ ist erstanden à4
Heinrich Finck: Christ ist erstanden à5
Stephen Mahu: Christ ist erstanden à5
Johann Walter: Christ ist erstanden à4 “auf Bergreihenweis”
Walter: Christ ist erstanden Chorale à4
Johann Sebastian Bach: Christ ist erstanden Chorale BWV 276
Arr. Piffaro: Innsbruck, ich muess dich lassen
Isaac: Isprugk ick muess dich lassen
Anon. 16th c.: Bruder Conrads Tantzmass
Anon. 11th c.: A solis ortus cardine
Anon. 15th c.: A solis ortus cardine
Walter: Christum wir sollen loben schon à4
Walter: Christum wir sollen loben schon à5
Praetorius: A solus ortus cardine à4
Samuel Scheidt: A solus ortus cardine à4
Bach: Christum wir sollen loben schon à4
Arr. Piffaro: Hildebrandslied – Es taget vor dem Walde – Zart liep
Thomas Stoltzer: Octo Tenorum Melodia, Septimi Toni
Orlande de Lassus: Carmina chromatico, Prologue
Lassus: Musica, Dei donum optimi
Josquin Despres: Il Fantazies du Joskin
Costanzo Festa: Contraponto Ottogesima Prima
Costanzo Antegnati: Canzon La borga
Claudio Merulo: Canzona Prima
Praetorius: Pazzameze
Scheidt: Alamande
Praetorius: Volta

TICKETS: Limited $30 tickets are available for the in-person performance; tickets for the virtual event are $15. Virtual tickets are included free with all in-person tickets or can be purchased on their own. To purchase tickets, visit BEMF.org or call the BEMF Box Office at 617-661-1812; a $5 discount for students and seniors is available for in-person tickets. Subscription discounts are available with the purchase of three or more programs in the 2021–2022 Season.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM
Since 1980, the multi-instrumentalists of Piffaro have delighted audiences with polished performances of the diverse wind music of the late Medieval and Renaissance periods. In Piffaro’s final season with retiring founders and Artistic Directors Joan Kimball and Bob Wiemken, the ensemble returns to BEMF with a compositional journey featuring a vibrant selection of Renaissance counterpoint from Josquin, Lassus, Praetorius, and many others. With varied treatments of popular tunes from the 15th to the 18th centuries, these brilliant musicians demonstrate the techniques which developed into the formal Baroque fugal structures on which Bach built The Art of Fugue.

COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS
As we return to in-person performances with our 2021–2022 Season, the health and safety of our audience, employees, and artists is our highest priority. BEMF is joining many of our colleagues around Boston in requiring patrons to provide proof that they are fully vaccinated. Patrons may use either paper or electronic documentation. Exceptions will be made for children under 12 and persons with a medical condition or a sincerely held religious belief that prevents vaccination. Patrons who require an exception will need to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours of the performance. All staff and musicians will also be required to be vaccinated.

In addition, we will require patrons to wear a well-fitted mask covering their nose and mouth at ALL times at the concert venue, including throughout the performance. We will be reducing capacity significantly to ensure socially distanced seating at all venues and will not be offering ticket sales or ticket pick-up at the concert venue. For our patrons who cannot—or chose not to—attend a performance after a ticket purchase has been made, we are offering free ticket
exchanges and refunds for all in-person performances up to 2 hours before concert start time, as well as Virtual Ticket options for all events.

As the global pandemic is still a developing situation, we anticipate these protocols will evolve in the months ahead. Visit BEMF.org/safety to review our current safety policies.

ASSOCIATED EVENTS
A pre-concert video featuring Piffaro Artistic Directors Joan Kimball and Bob Wiemken, moderated by BEMF Orchestra bassoon player Dominic Teresi, will be released on Monday, November 8.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS
Piffaro, The Renaissance Band delights audiences with highly polished recreations of the rustic music of the peasantry and the elegant sounds of the official wind bands of the late Medieval and Renaissance periods. Its ever-expanding instrumentarium includes shawms, dulcians, sackbuts, recorders, krumhorns, bagpipes, lutes, guitars, harps, and a variety of percussion—all careful reconstructions of instruments from the period. Under the direction of Artistic Directors Joan Kimball and Bob Wiemken, the world renowned pied-pipers of Early Music present an annual subscription concert series in the Philadelphia region; tour throughout the United States, Europe, Canada and South America; and appear as performers and instructors at major Early Music festivals. Recordings are a significant part of the ensemble’s work, and 18 CDs have been released since 1992, including 4 on the prestigious label Deutsche Grammophon/Archiv Produktion. Piffaro has been active in the field of education since its inception in 1980, and has been honored twice for its work by Early Music America, receiving the “Early Music Brings History Alive” award in 2003, and the Laurette Goldberg “Lifetime Achievement Award in Early Music Outreach” in 2011. In June 2015, the American Recorder Society honored Piffaro with its Distinguished Achievement Award.

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 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 five 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 weeklong Festival and Exhibition recognized as the “world’s leading festival of early music” (The Times, London). The 22nd Boston Early Music Festival, A Celebration of Women, will take place from June 4-11, 2023, and will feature the North American premiere of Henry Demarest’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 Boston Early Music Festival is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, National Endowment for the Arts, Constellation Charitable Foundation, and WCRB Classical Radio Boston, as well as a number of generous foundations and individuals from around the world.

For more information, please contact Kathleen Fay at kathy@bemf.org.