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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

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HARRY CHRISTOPHERS
Artistic Director

BEMF 2011

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1539) published three volumes of chansons (the *Harmonice Musices Odhecaton*) and multiple books of music for lute. The program featured a block of recorder works followed by a block of lute pieces, with each half of the program culminating in a piece for lute and ensemble. Each player had an impressive array of wind instruments, which they exchanged as the music required. After the first recorder set, Paul O'Dette entered from the side door of Jordan Hall playing Joan Anbrosio Dalza's "Pavana alla venetiana" as he strolled around serenading each of the recorder players in turn. His slight grimaces as he played some very odd-sounding passages forewarned us of what he would later describe as Dalza's idiosyncratic "blue" harmonies. In all, it was a very enjoyable program.

Fringe Concerts

A concert on Monday by **L'Académie**, directed by Leslie Kwan at the harpsichord, presented music by French composers from Lully to Rameau focusing on various aspects of love. The instrumental numbers were taken from Lully's comédie-ballet *L'Amour médecin* (Love the Doctor), his *Ballet de l'Amour malade* (Love the Invalid), and from *Psyché*, while the vocal selections consisted of a wide selection of opera arias by Rameau dealing with different aspects of love. The playing of the orchestra was stylish and tasteful, with a hint of *inégalité* that revealed the group's familiarity with French Baroque style. The soprano Teresa Wakim sang expressively and beautifully, with just a bit of gesture. She showed considerable dramatic range, from the comic ("Aux langueurs d'Apollon" from *Platée*) to the tragic ("Tristes apprêts" from *Castor et Pollux*).

On Tuesday, **Stefania Neonato's** "Transformative Perspectives in Sonatas and Toccatas: Beethoven and Schumann" was an unforgettable lecture-presentation by one of the rising stars in fortepiano performance. Her program consisted of Schumann's *Exercise* (1829), Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata*,



Jacques Ogg
Artistic Director

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