



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Plaine & Easie Wins EMA's 3rd Medieval/Renaissance Music Competition**

October 9, 2009 (SEATTLE, WA). Early Music America (EMA) is pleased to announce **Plaine & Easie** as the winner of both the Unicorn Prize and the Audience Prize in its 2009 Medieval/Renaissance music competition for North American artists. The competition took place on Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2009 at Corpus Christi Church in New York City.

Plaine & Easie is a quartet specializing in English Renaissance music. They are based in Seattle, WA. Members include **Linda Tsatsanis**, soprano; **Shulamit Kleinerman**, Renaissance violin; **John Lenti**, lute; and **Nathan Whittaker**, bass violin/cello. Their competition program featured music by John Dowland, Thomas Morley, John Playford, Thomas Campion, and others. Three members of the group have degrees from Indiana University, while Ms. Kleinerman is a graduate of UC Berkeley.

As winners of the Unicorn Prize, Plaine & Easie receives a cash prize and the opportunity to perform on the concert series of three distinguished early music presenters: Early Music Guild (Seattle); Early Music Now (Milwaukee); and Renaissance & Baroque (Pittsburgh).

Plaine & Easie was competing against two other finalist ensembles, both based in Montreal, QC: **Ensemble Alkemia** and **Musica Fantasia**. Judges for the competition were Valerie Horst (Amherst Early Music), Mary Anne Ballard (Baltimore Consort), Johanne Goyette (ATMA Classique), Drew Minter (Trefoil), and Frederick Renz (Early Music New York). All finalists benefited from the coaching of Grant Herreid, NY-based early music specialist, in a special coaching session on Oct. 6. The EMA Medieval/ Renaissance competition is sponsored by the generous contributions of private donors.

[Click here for a photo of Plaine & Easie.](#) A high resolution version of this photo is available by calling Early Music America.

### **About Early Music America**

Early Music America serves and strengthens the early music community in North America and raises public awareness of early music. EMA was founded in 1985 and provides its 3,000 members with publications, advocacy, and technical support. EMA publishes the quarterly magazine *Early Music America*. "Early music" includes western music from the Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, and Classical periods, performed on period instruments in historically-informed styles. For more information, contact Early Music America at 206-720-6270 or 888-SACKBUT, or visit our web site at [www.earlymusic.org](http://www.earlymusic.org).