

# Faires & Festivals Table of Contents

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# About the Authors, the Book

## Sondra Bromka & John Bromka

Sondra and John Bromka are “Renaissance” people: Master Artists-in-Education, as well as musicians, playwrights, storytelling and visual artists. During their 20-year partnership, the Bromkas have worked together to inspire in others a passion for exploring the arts --- music, art history, dance, literary arts, and other cultural traditions --- that comprise the exciting heritage of the Renaissance & Middle Ages.

To help people share the fruits of their inspiration, and to celebrate the real excitement these historic periods offer, the Bromkas have collaborated, instigated, and propelled scores of Renaissance and Medieval events into being over these many years. Collaborating partners range from elementary schools, high schools, and universities to corporations, communities, historic sites, and libraries.

Sondra and John continue to work with schools and communities to design and implement events that celebrate learning, accomplishment, and teamwork. Each and every faire and festival stands distinct in the memory, a delightful mirror to each unique team. This book is a collection of the Bromkas’ ideas, discoveries, accumulated experiences, and reflections on the process of coming together to hold delightful history-based events. Use these ideas to inspire and weave your own magical Renaissance adventure that will go down in the annals of history!

### “Bells & Motley: Olden Music and Storytelling”

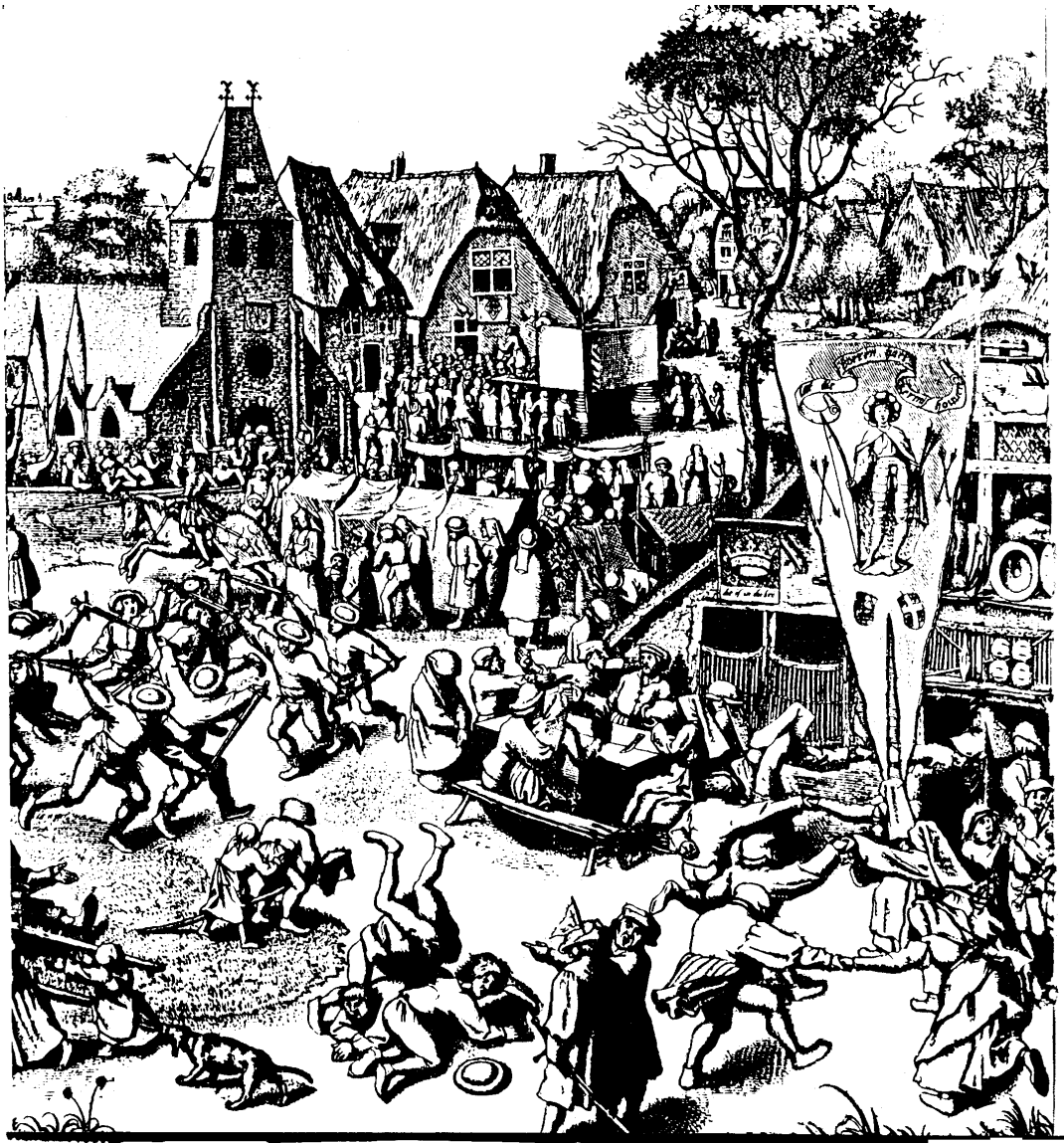
The Bromkas’ early music performance group has enjoyed a long success, gaining a dedicated audience (both adults and children) for lively concerts and original historical musical theatre productions. Since 1977 this accomplished duo has been featured upon the stages of national Renaissance Faires, including Sarasota Faire, Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire, and most especially, the Sterling Renaissance Festival of upstate New York, where John was a founding member. The artists are especially notable for their mastery of a vast and unusual instrumentarium...an amazing collection of period instruments that includes historic replicas built by John, himself a master luthier.

In addition to a busy schedule of public performances in venues including concert halls, historic sites, libraries, faires, & festivals, Bells & Motley’s year is complemented by extensive work as teaching artists. Sondra and John have created a rich palette of innovative workshops, performance programs, and interdisciplinary residencies. They weave a kaleidoscope of art forms to inter-relate arts with all academic disciplines, reaching students of all interests.

Continually building their own base of knowledge and understanding, the Bromkas take annual research pilgrimages to Europe, and have assembled an armory of ideas, materials, skills and techniques, and slide images. Tremendous resources themselves, Sondra and John are eager and honored to share what they have learned with others at conferences, workshops, schools, and universities. Please inquire for catalogs detailing the Artists’ many programs.

*For more information about programs, other publications, CDs:*

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*A Flemish village marketplace festival, Breughel*