

VIOLA DA GAMBA SOCIETY PACIFICA GAMBA NEWS

Volume 31, No. 8, April, 2016

Pacifica Play Day, 4-9-2016

Please join us for event eight of our 2015-2016 season which will be a play day on Saturday, April 9th at Hillside Swedenborgian Community Church, 1422 Navellier Street, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The Church's website is <http://hillsideswedenborg.org> . We will meet in the Sanctuary. Please try to arrive by 9:00 am for coffee/tea and conversation until about 9:15, to be followed by morning playing events beginning at 9:30 until lunch around 12:30. After lunch, there will be un-coached afternoon playing sessions from about 1:30 pm until about 3:00 pm.



We are extremely pleased to once again have Pat O'Scannell coaching us for this play day. We know that our repertoire as gambists often comes from the vocal genres....but to what degree are we informed by the words? It may be anachronistic to see too much of a connection between the texts and their meaning and the overall feel of a piece, however what about the words themselves? How do we play a piece in Italian, verses one in English, Spanish or French? Does the quality of the consonants infuse our articulations? Do we make any adjustments at all when moving from a French piece to a German piece?

Pat will present a few simple vocal pieces which use language in an idiomatic way, and will choose repertoire that falls strongly into its mother tongue by ignoring more melismatic songs in favor of syllabic so we can really get a sense of the language.

Here is a short biography for Pat: Pat O'Scannell has been a musician and musical director for over 30 years. She has worked for the Old Globe Theatre in San Diego, the Utah Shakespeare Festival, and for 25 years, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, where she directed the Terra Nova Consort. Her group toured nationally and internationally, and made appliances at such festivals as Tage Alter Musik (200 & 2003) and the Festival Internacional Cervantino in Mexico where they and a seven-year collaboration with Mexican group: Los Tiempos Pasados. Pat is a pioneer in exploring new repertoire for the viol in a broken consort setting, as her band included lute, vocals, recorders, double reeds, sackbut, violin and percussion in addition to violas da gamba. Pat founded a Collegium Musicum program at Southern Oregon University, and has taught there as adjunct faculty to the Music department. She now teaches out of her private studio in

Ashland, Oregon. Pat produced 17 recordings, two of which were released on the Dorian label. She has been heard on Public radio worldwide, including the syndicated broadcasts: 'Harmonia' (IN), West Coast Live (CA), In the Mode (CA) and St. Paul Sunday (MN).

Our early morning group session with Pat will be followed by a coffee/tea break at about 10:30 am. After the break, consort playing sessions (mostly one-on-a-part) in assigned groups using Pacifica Library music selected by each group will continue until the lunch break at about 12:30 pm. Coaching will be provided by Pat on a time-shared basis depending on how many groups we have. You may go out for lunch or bring a lunch to eat in the beautiful Hillside Church Sanctuary view. If you can, please plan to stay for un-coached consort playing in the afternoon after lunch, beginning about 1:30 pm until about 3:00 pm.

Please respond to our consort coordinator, Dalton Cantey, if you plan to attend the morning and/or afternoon sessions. For the morning sessions, tell him what size gamba(s) you will bring. If you would prefer to double a part in our normal "one-on-a-part" consort playing please indicate that. The un-coached consort sessions in the afternoon will include a group in the Sanctuary where part doubling is encouraged. Sign-up sheets will be provided in the morning for those who would prefer to organize one-on-a-part consorts on their own in the two downstairs playing spaces for the afternoon. Please respond before the end of the day on Thursday (April 7th) to expedite formation of assigned groups for the following Saturday morning. Note that merely replying to this email will not deliver an email to Dalton. Use this email address – <mailto:dcantey@att.net> - to send him a message. If the hyperlink in this file does not work on your system, please email Dalton using your own email procedure at the email address above.

PACIFICA CHAPTER ELECTIONS COMING

The Pacifica Chapter board has appointed a nominating committee consisting of Julie Jeffrey, Lynn Lipetzky and Ellen Farwell to handle the forthcoming election of president, vice president, treasurer and secretary in May for four-year terms. Dalton Cantey is retiring as president, and Carolyn Butler and Betsy St. Aubin are retiring as co-secretaries. We thank them for their excellent service. Ricardo Hofer is willing to continue serving as vice president, and Ellen Fisher is willing to continue as treasurer. The nominating committee is engaged in discussions with possible candidates for the office of president. If you have suggestions, please contact Julie Jeffrey at <mailto:jjeffrey@library.berkeley.edu>, or Lynn Lipetzky at <mailto:lynnlipetzky@sbcglobal.net>, or Ellen Farwell at <mailto:Leonardfarwell@comcast.net>. We will be presenting a slate of candidates for these offices to our members in April for approval.

Here is an Updated List of Pacifica's 2015 – 2016 Season Play Day Dates and Coaches!

If you have not already done so, update your calendars now

September 12	David Morris	.
October 10	Marie Szuts	.
November 14	David Morris (Voices and Viols)	.
December 12	Frances Blaker	.
January 9, 2016	Shira Kammen	.
February 6	Stanford Workshop: Director John Dornenburg, Mary Springfels, Julie Jeffrey and David Morris	.
March 12	Amy Brodo	.
April 9	Pat O'Scannell	.
May 14	Peter Hallifax and Julie Jeffrey	.
June 4	Pacifica Chapter Party & Concert for Friends/Family	.
July 24-31	2016 VdGSA Conclave at Pacific University, Forest Grove, Oregon	.

Tenor Viol Crafted by Lyn Elder for Sale:



Large Jaye model tenor viol made by Lyn Elder in 1997. Curly maple with purfling around the front and back edges; dark rosewood fingerboard and pegs; open scroll.: \$5000. Email mary.elliott@pineground.com. Excellent instrument with even sound throughout its range. Price with Kingham MTM hard case.

Bass Viol Crafted by Judith Kraft and Bass Bow by Ralph Ashmead for Sale:

We are pleased to announce the sale of the following two items from the collection of John Mark, one of the founding members of the Pacifica Chapter. The proceeds from the sales will be used to purchase new viols for our successful rental program and for programs to encourage emerging players. For more information, please contact Lynn Lipetzky at <mailto:lynnlipetzky@sbcglobal.net>.

7-String Colichon model Bass Viol made in 1989 by Judith Kraft in Paris



4-piece spruce top; 2-piece maple back; maple ribs and neck; decorated lion's head pegbox, decorated hookbar; painted belly rose; ebony veneered fingerboard and tailpiece; mechanically geared tuning pegs (pegheads); 69.5 cm string length. All new strings and frets, with a new bridge made by Sarah Peck. Price is \$11,000, and includes fiberglass case.

Bass Viol bow made by Ralph Ashmead



Fluted octagonal snakewood (or possibly ironwood) stick with ivory frog and screw; 79 gms, 75.2 cm. Price is \$1,500.

Opportunity for Viol Playing in Ashland Oregon:

Pat O'Scannell, gambist, Pacifica coach for our April 2016 Play Day and former Early Music director at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, will, together with the *Rogue Consort of Viols*, sponsor a monthly Play Day for gambists on the final Saturday of each month, beginning in January. You are cordially invited to attend if you are coming through Ashland, or to schedule your theatre-going to align with the "Salon du Viol" event. Each month will highlight renaissance

music from a different country, and each session will begin with a half-hour coaching session before the group forms consorts and reads. There will be a morning and afternoon reading session with luncheon served in between. The cost is \$20 per 'Salon', lunch included. Contact Pat for more information, or to reserve your space. All levels are welcome, with guided sessions for beginners. Music will be provided, but your additions are welcome! Add this new event to your calendar. All sessions will be held at a private home in the scenic hills of Ashland, Oregon. Contact: (541) 482-9757 / pato@opendoor.com. For more information on Ms. O'Scannell, visit patoscannell.weebly.com. See Flyer below:



Salon du Viol 2016

Hosted by Pat O'Scannell and the *Rogue Consort of Viols*
A structured Play Day on the last Saturday in each month.

Music provided. or bring something to share!

All levels welcome. Guided session for beginners.
Intermediate & advanced players form consorts and read.

All events in Ashland, Oregon \$20 per session
10:00am-1pm and 2-5pm Luncheon included

January 30: England February 27: France March 26: Spain

April 30: Germany May 28: Italy June 25: Wildcard!

for reservations contact: pato@opendoor.com (541) 482-9757

Donations to VdGS-Pacifica Through SFEMS

If you plan to make a donation to VdGS-Pacifica and you itemize deductions for tax purposes, your check should be made payable to SFEMS, the San Francisco Early Music Society. However, please do not mail donations for VdGS-Pacifica directly to SFEMS or try to donate to VdGS-Pacifica online through the SFEMS web page. There has been confusion in the past that led SFEMS staff to interpret donations intended for VdGS-Pacifica as donations to SFEMS. Checks should be given or mailed to our Treasurer, Ellen Fisher, who will note them and send them to SFEMS with instructions to credit them to VdGS-Pacifica. SFEMS will do the tax paperwork and send us checks reflecting cumulative donations over a given time period. If you don't plan to itemize deductions, it is easier for us if your donation check is made payable to VdGS-Pacifica, and it will be deposited directly to our bank account. You can include a donation in the same check as your dues by this method. Either way, donation checks should be mailed to our Treasurer, Ellen Fisher 8635 Thors Bay Rd, El Cerrito, CA 94530-2568.

Pacifica Chapter Contacts:

Pacifica Chapter Website: <http://pacificaviols.org>, President, Play Day Consort Coordinator and "Gamba News" Editor: Dalton Cantey <mailto:dcantey@att.net>, Vice President and Stanford Workshop Coordinator: Ricardo Hofer <mailto:hofer52@gmail.com>, Secretaries: Carolyn Butler <mailto:sparkyb@sonic.net>, and Betsy St. Aubin <mailto:betsy.st.aubin@gmail.com>, Treasurer and Membership List Coordinator: Ellen Fisher <mailto:erfisher@gmail.com>, President Emerita: Ellen Farwell <mailto:Leonardfarwell@comcast.net>, Rental Viol Coordinator: Lynn Lipetzky <mailto:lynnlipetzky@sbcglobal.net>, VdGSA Chapter Representatives: Ellen Fisher <mailto:erfisher@gmail.com> and Carolyn Butler <mailto:sparkyb@sonic.net>, Webmaster and Play Day Coaching Coordinator: Alexandra Saur <mailto:alexandra@alexandrasaur.com>.