

VIOLA DA GAMBA SOCIETY PACIFICA GAMMA NEWS

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December 10th Play Day with Mary Springfels

Please join us for the fourth Play Day of the season on Saturday, December 10th at Hillside Swedenborgian Community Church, 1422 Navellier Street, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The website is hillsideswedenborg.org. We will meet in the Sanctuary. Please try to arrive by 9:00 am for coffee/tea and conversation to be followed by morning playing events beginning at 9:30 until lunch around 12:30. After lunch, there will be an uncoached afternoon playing session until about 2:30 pm.

We are thrilled to have Mary Springfels coaching us for this play day! She will be focusing on an 8-part piece by Priuli and a 5-part Marenzio madrigal.



MARY SPRINGFELS is a veteran of the American Early Music movement. She was the founder/director of the Newberry Consort in Chicago and has taught for the VdGSA for at least thirty years. In the recent past, she has been a soloist with the Victoria Bach Festival, The Houston Bach Society, the Arizona Bach Festival, and, as a frequent guest with ArsLyrica Houston, has appeared at the Berkeley and Houston Early Music Festivals. She maintains long-standing musical friendships with Sonoma Bach, the Texas Early Music Project, and the Folger Consort. Mary has begun a series in Santa Fe, NM called Severall Friends, which will feature local and nationally recognized artists, including Matthew Dirst, Elizabeth Blumenstock, Mark Rimple and Drew Minter.

Play Day Protocol

Our early morning group session with Mary will be followed by (mostly one-on-a-part) consort playing sessions in assigned groups using Pacifica Library music selected by each group until about 12:30 pm. Coaching will be provided by Mary on a time-shared basis depending on how many groups we have. If you can, please plan to stay for un-coached consort playing in the afternoon after lunch, beginning about 1:00 pm until about 2:30 pm.

Please respond to Cindi Olwell, if you plan to attend the morning and/or afternoon sessions. For the morning sessions, tell her what size gamba(s) you will bring, and your playing level if you are new to the group. If unsure of your playing level, you may refer to the self-rating guide here, <https://vdgsa.org/pgs/selfrate.html>. If you would prefer to double a part in our normal "one on a part" consort playing please indicate that. Please respond before Friday (December 9th) to expedite formation of assigned groups for the following Saturday morning. **Note that merely replying to this email will not deliver an email to Cindi.** Use this email address – cindi.olwell@gmail.com - to send her a message.

Remaining Play Day Dates for 2016 – 2017 Season

January 14, 2017	Hallifax and Jeffrey
February 25, 2017	Stanford Workshop directed by John Dornenburg
March 11, 2017	Adaiha MacAdam-Somer
April 8, 2017	Shira Kammen
May 13, 2017	Yukimi Kambe
June 10, 2017	Pacifica Chapter Concert (“Bash”) for Friends/Family

Viols West News

Don't forget to mark your calendar with the dates of Viols West 2017 summer workshop, hosted by our chapter. It takes place every summer on the beautiful campus of California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly) in San Luis Obispo, except for when the Viola da Gamba Society of America's annual Conclave takes place on the West Coast. If you haven't yet been to a Viols West workshop you are in for quite a treat. World class teachers, lodging, food, and fellow students. Not to mention the San Luis Obispo Farmer's Market! The dates for 2017 are August 6-12. Directorship will be shared by Ros Morley and Larry Lipnik. **It was decided at a recent board meeting that up to \$1,500 will be set aside this year for scholarships.** There are also work study opportunities available as well. We do not want to turn anyone away. More information will be available in January, 2017 via Melita Denny, administrative director who can be reached at violswestworkshop@gmail.com; (805-835-9173).

Sarah Cunningham Masterclass / Teaching Opportunity

Sarah Cunningham, who teaches at the Juilliard School, and who has toured the world giving classes and masterclasses, may be available for coaching in the Bay Area the latter part of January! Would anyone be up for participating in a masterclass? Or would you be more into having coached group lessons, private lessons, or perhaps all of the above? I have to tell you - if you are not familiar with Sarah as a coach - she is simply fantastic. If you have the opportunity to take a class or a lesson from her it is not to be missed. I was in Sarah's "Applied Bow Technique with a Focus on Resonance" class at conclave this summer and it was a highlight of my time there. I also was the winning bidder on a private lesson with her at the conclave auction. Sarah is an extremely thoughtful coach with the ability to bring out the best in one's playing! If you would like a coaching opportunity with Sarah please me at cindi.olwell@gmail.com and let me know which activities you'd be most interested in. And when I know more about her visit, I'll be sure and let you know! For more information on Sarah visit <http://www.juilliard.edu/faculty/sarah-cunningham>

Upcoming Workshops and Events

Archetti Baroque String Ensemble: *Concerti per il Santissimo Natale—Baroque Christmas Music for Soprano, Trumpet, and Strings, December 9th, 10th, and 11th.* Various locations.

John Dornenburg and Carla Moore, *Directors*: Carla Moore, Anthony Martin, Linda Quan, Laura Rubenstein-Salzedo, *violins*; Aaron Westman, *viola*; Elisabeth Reed, *cello*; John Dornenburg, *violone*; Davitt Moroney, *harpsichord*; with Kathryn Adduci, *trumpet*; and Clara Rottsoik, *soprano*. Visit sfems.org for more information.

HALLIFAX & JEFFREY (Peter Hallifax & Julie Jeffrey, viols) with SHIRA KAMMEN, violin and viola: *Fine Knacks: Elizabethan Gems for 3 players.* January 6, 2017, 6pm. Parish Hall, St. Mark's Church, Berkeley, CA.

Includes a varied program of Elizabethan and Jacobean music, including music by Dowland, Gibbons, Hume, Coperario, Lupu, and more. <http://barefootchamberconcerts.com/2016-2017-season/hjc/>

Stanford Viol Workshop - February 25th, 2017, Stanford University

The faculty for the Feb. 25, 2017 Stanford Viol Workshop will be:

John Dornenburg, director

Julie Jeffrey

Elisabeth Reed

Marie Dalby-Szuts

The format will be the same as in past years, with three classes and a grand consort session.

Schedule

9:00-9:30am Meet at the Rehearsal Hall in Braun Music Center

9:30-10:45 First class

11:00-12:15 Second class

12:15-1:30 Lunch.

1:30-2:45 Third class

3:00-4:00 Grand Consort with all faculty playing along.

Fee: \$75. More information about classes etc. will be available in December.

Viols West, August 6-12 2017, San Luis Obispo, CA

Scholarships are available for students and individuals needing assistance. Look for details and updates to go up on this site, www.violswest.org, in January of 2017. In the meantime, for more details or questions please contact Melita Denny, Administrative Director at violswestworkshop@gmail.com; 805-835-9173.

Salon de la viole final Saturday of every month in Ashland, Oregon

Pat O'Scannell, gambist, and former Early Music director at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, sponsors a monthly Play Day for gambists on the final Saturday of each month. Each month highlights renaissance music from different countries, and begins 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! All sessions will be held at a private home in the scenic hills of Ashland, Oregon. Pat Says: "You might also make a note that I would be happy to try for COMP tickets at Oregon Shakespeare Festival for anyone coming, and giving me notice. I can only procure 2 tickets per show, and it is completely based upon availability." Contact: (541) 482-9757 / pato@opendoor.com. patoscannell.weebly.com.

FOR SALE



Tenor Viol Crafted by Lyn Elder

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. Excellent instrument with even sound throughout its range. Price with Kingham MTM hard case.

Email mary.elliott@pineground.com for more information.

Holiday Gift Idea

My husband and I have just told some relatives that we have more books that we can read and more clothing than we can wear, and can't think of anything we need for Christmas. We suggested that maybe they'd like to donate to some of our favorite causes instead, in our name. I put our Pacifica Chapter at the top of my list, and gave them the address. Maybe some of you would like to do the same?

Happy holidays to all,

Ellen Farwell

Gamba News Articles Wanted

Have a good story? We want to know about it! Did you attend a concert recently, learn a new playing tip, discover an amazing new string brand, or have something else noteworthy to share with your fellow gamba enthusiasts? Contribute to the gamba newsletter! We'd love to hear from you. Just send an email with your story or idea to Cindi Olwell at cindi.olwell@gmail.com, and you could be published in next month's Gamba News!

Join us on Facebook

Please join us our **Viola da Gamba Society Pacifica** Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PacificaViols>

2016-2017 Pacifica Chapter Contacts

President, Email News Editor, Play Day Consort Coordinator: Cindi Olwell cindi.olwell@gmail.com
Vice President: Ricardo Hofer hofer52@gmail.com
Secretary: Lynn Tetenbaum lynnt@gambagirl.com
Treasurer and Membership Coordinator: Ellen Fisher erfisher@gmail.com
Rental Coordinator: Lynn Lipetzky lynnlipetzky@sbcglobal.net
Play Day Coach Coordinator: Amy Warren nurteredmother@yahoo.com
VdGSA Chapter Representatives: Ellen Fisher erfisher@gmail.com and Carolyn Butler sparkyb@sonic.net
Webmaster: Alexandra Saur alexandra@alexandrasaur.com
Pacifica Chapter Website: http://pacificaviols.org

The VdGS – Pacifica Chapter is an affiliate of the San Francisco Early Music Society, and “Gamba News” is our official newsletter. We strongly encourage members to send us any original articles, photographs, suggestions, or reviews that you think may be of interest to other members. Email cindi.olwell@gmail.com