

VIOLA DA GAMBA SOCIETY PACIFICA GAMBA NEWS

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April 8 Play Day with Shira Kammen



Please join us for the eighth Play Day of the season on Saturday, April 8th at Hillside Swedenborgian Community Church, 1422 Navellier Street, El Cerrito, CA 94530, www.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.

Shira's early morning group coaching session will involve exploration into 15th century 2-4 part sacred compositions. Shira says (a bit tongue-in-cheek) "The pieces are rich with deep colour, velvety red, no real signs of aging, with complex rhythms and beautiful harmonies on the nose. Same concentrated, tightly knit fruit on the palate, still showing youthful black currants, firm backbone and superb structure. Overall, classic pieces from top composers in a great vintage.

Ripe enough to enjoy now." Our morning group session will be followed by a coffee/tea break at about 10:30-10:45 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 Shira 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. 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 email consort coordinator, Cindi Olwell, cindi.olwell@gmail.com, if you plan to attend the morning and/or afternoon sessions. Please respond before the end of the day on Thursday (April 7) to expedite formation of assigned groups for the following Saturday morning. For the morning sessions, tell her 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.** For details on remaining Play Days for the 2016-2017 season please visit www.pacificaviols.org.

Multi-instrumentalist Shira Kammen has spent much of her life exploring the worlds of early and traditional music of all kinds. A member for many years of the early music Ensembles Alcatraz and Project Ars Nova, she has also worked with Sequentia, Hesperion XX, the Boston Camerata, storyteller/harpist Patrick Ball, singers Azam Ali and Joanna Newsom, the Balkan group Kitka, Anonymous IV, the King's Noyse, the Newberry and Folger Consorts, The Compass of the Rose, Vajra Voices, Calextone, the Oregon, California and San Francisco Shakespeare Festivals, and is the founder of Class V Music, an ensemble dedicated to providing music on river rafting trips. She has worked with students in many different settings, among them teaching summer

music workshops in the woods, coaching students of early music in such schools as Yale University, Case Western, the University of Oregon at Eugene, and working at specialized seminars at the Fondazione Cini in Venice, Italy and the Scuola Cantorum Basiliensis in Switzerland. She has played on a number of movie and television soundtracks, when weird medieval instruments are needed.

Yukimi Kambe coaching in May

We are pleased to have Yukimi Kambe coaching our play day in May. Yukimi will be traveling all the way from her home in Japan and though her time is quite limited, she has expressed an interest in giving private lessons or coaching consorts. She will be available for paid coaching (her fee is \$75/hour), immediately following lunch on May 13, between 1:30-3:00 downstairs at the Hillside church, and possibly later on that afternoon or evening, at another location tbd. In addition she may have some time to coach in the afternoon/evening the day before - Friday, May 12th. She will be staying with Alexandra Saur while in town. Alexandra has graciously offered to provide transport for Yukimi for lessons and coached consorts, pending availability and location. To get more info and schedule time for yourself or your group please email cindi.olwell@gmail.com. To learn more about Yukimi, and hear sound clips of the Yukimi Kambe Viol Consort, please click [here](#).

New Pacifica Members

Meet some of our new members for the 2016 - 2017 season!

Yukari Naito-Deitch, San Francisco: I have been playing the treble viol for a little over three years. I have been enjoying playing in a 4-part consort (which includes my husband - who plays the bass viol) once a month in San Francisco. As it is difficult to find time to regularly practice, I like playing the consort music. Attending the recent workshop at Stanford was really fun and motivated me more. Editor's note: Yukari joined as a non-playing member as she and her husband (who plays the bass gamba) both work on Saturdays. If you are looking for someone to play with in San Francisco, please look her up on the roster and get in touch!

Branson Stephens, Dublin: I am originally from Pottsboro, Texas, and grew up learning cello. I moved to the Bay Area in May of 2016 and work as a computational physicist in Livermore.

Loren Tayerle, San Francisco: Graduate SFCM BM horn performance, MM conducting. It was playing chamber music with friends, that I now play consort music with regularly, that made me decide I would like to play a string instrument again. I choose viola rather than violin (played violin as a kid, even some through the Conservatory when they were very desperate) and also viols. Tenor really fits me but I also enjoy playing treble and am getting around better on the bass these days. Restoring string instruments is a passion. I have a large collection and am proud to lend instruments to deserving students and colleagues.

Event Calendar

April 7-9: SFEMS presents *Big, Beautiful and French: Music for Several Viols and Continuo*

HALLIFAX & JEFFREY: Peter Hallifax, Julie Jeffrey, *violas da gamba*; with guest artists Josh Lee and Marie Dalby Szuts, *violas da gamba*; John Lenti, *theorbo*. Click [here](#) for program notes and advance tickets. Click [here](#) for a link to a cool sound file.

4/7: 8PM, First Presbyterian Church, 1140 Cowper Street at Lincoln, Palo Alto

4/8: 7:30PM, St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave at Garber, Berkeley

4/9: 4PM, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1111 O'Farrell at Gough, San Francisco

April 8, 7:30 PM: Tenebrae Lessons – Leçons de Ténèbres

This sacred concert features the exquisitely beautiful setting of the Wednesday Tenebrae lessons by Francois Couperin. Music by Marin Marais and Antoine Forqueray for viola da gamba and harpsichord will compliment the Couperin. Rita Lilly and Luciana Miranda, sopranos; Lynn Tetenbaum, viola da gamba; Andy Canepa, harpsichord.

At the door: \$20 general/\$10 students; Advanced tickets: \$15/\$5. Click [here](#) for details and advance tickets.

Saint Mary Magdalen Dominican Parish, 2001 Berryman St, Berkeley, CA 94709

April 21, 6PM: Barefoot Chamber Concerts presents The Paris Quartet

This concert features works by Telemann, Rameau and Bach. Lisa Weiss, violin; Janet See, flute; Katherine Heater, harpsichord and Peter Hallifax, viol. All Tickets \$20 (free for those 18 and under).

Tickets at the door. Or reserve in advance, and get all the details online [here](#).

St. Mark's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94704

May 14, 3PM: Chamber Music San Francisco presents Archetti Baroque String Ensemble

Includes Brandenburg Concertos #3 and #6, plus concertos by Vivaldi, Biber "Battalia," and canzonas by Gabrieli

Click [here](#) for program info and advance tickets.

Herbst Theater, 401 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102

June 18-24: SFEMS Baroque Workshop

The 2017 San Francisco Early Music Summer Baroque Workshop will explore G. P. Telemann's instrumental works for winds and strings, Claudio Monteverdi's sacred and secular music, and Heinrich Schütz' motets composed while visiting Venice. Faculty includes Linda Pearse, Workshop and Artistic Director; David Wilson, baroque violin; William Skeen, baroque cello and viola da gamba. Click [here](#) for details.

Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, CA

July 2-8: SFEMS Medieval and Renaissance Workshop

The workshop collegium will perform "The Triumph of Love and Death: Music for the Rise and Fall and Rise of the Medici," a program that captures the lavish culture of Lorenzo de Medici's Florence. Viol faculty includes Mary Springfels, viola da gamba and vielle; David Morris, viola da gamba. Click [here](#) for details.

St. Albert's Priory, Oakland, CA

August 6-12: Viols West

Co-directed by Larry Lipnik and Ros Morley. Week-long workshop held at Cal Poly University in San Luis Obispo. For complete details, and to register, contact Melita Denny at violswestworkshop@gmail.com; 805-835-9173.

San Luis Obispo, CA

WANTED: Gamba Stories, Events, Photos, Reviews, and More!

To place a calendar event, please email your listing details by the 25th of the month.

Do you have an idea for a Gamba News story? Or did you attend a concert recently, learn a new playing tip, discover an amazing new product or book, or have something else noteworthy to share with your fellow gamba enthusiasts? Or you can even just send some nice pictures of you and your friends playing music. Contribute to the gamba newsletter! We'd love to hear from you. Just send an email to cindi.olwell@gmail.com or call 415-999-5242.

2016-2017 Pacifica Chapter Contacts

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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