

Join us for our next Play Day with coach Frances Blaker Saturday, Oct. 13th



- **9- 9:30 am** – Set up, coffee/tea. **Be ready to play by 9:30.**
- **9:30- 12:30** – Group session w/ coach, then 1-on-a-part coached consorts
- **12:30** – Bring a bag lunch to enjoy with us
- **1- 2:30 pm** – Uncoached DIY consort playing

Hillside Swedenborgian Community Church
1422 Navellier Street, El Cerrito, CA 94530

FREE – a great membership benefit!

Frances Blaker is a master recorder player, conductor, composer and sought-after teacher. She earned her teaching and performing degrees at the Royal Danish Conservatory of Music in Copenhagen, supplementing that training with lessons and master classes with many major performers including Marion Verbruggen and others. Frances has taught at and directed many early music workshops, including the SFEMS Medieval and Renaissance Workshop, the SFEMS Baroque Workshop and now is director of the Amherst Early Music Festival. She is a founder and conductor of the North Carolina Baroque Orchestra and runs the Bay Area Baroque Orchestra. Her compositions are published by PRB Productions and Lost in Time Press

“I’ll be presenting two terrific French pieces that viol players may not be familiar with.

“The first is from that great French composer of the late 17th c., the Italian **Jean Baptiste Lully**. Yes, I say Italian. Lully was born in Italy, where he trained as a dancer and violinist. As a young man he traveled to France where he became more French than the French, setting the musical tone for decades to come, and becoming a valued member of Louis XIV’s court. His many operas always included dance numbers; his **Chaconne des Maures**, from *Alcidiane* is an exuberant and tuneful example. All five voices have interesting action and beautiful moments.

“**Orlando de Lassus** is another non-French composer of French music. Born in the Low Countries in what is now Belgium, he traveled to Italy, France and perhaps England, finally settling in Germany. Having absorbed the musical styles of all these countries, he then composed a vast amount of music in a huge range of musical styles – German lieder, Italian madrigals, masses, motets, and also French chansons, of which **La Nuit froide et sombre** is one. This atmospheric and affecting work is full of powerful musical detail. It will sound now haunting, now bold, now movingly beautiful when played on viols.”

>> Please RSVP to Cindi by Thurs. Oct. 11

Send her the info below so that she has time to copy sufficient music and to organize consort groups.

1. Will you attend the 9:30 am group session?
2. Will you attend the late-morning consort session? If so, would you prefer to play double on a part?
3. Viol sizes you will bring _____
4. If you are new to our Play Days, please include your playing level (Refer to the self-rating guide at <https://vdgsa.org/pgs/selfrate.html>)
5. Send this info to cindi.olwell@gmail.com (You can even copy and paste into an email from here.)

Time to Renew Membership

Our new membership year started September 1.

To those who have paid their dues for our 2018-19 season, Thank You! Extra Special Thanks to those who included a donation with your dues! (**Donors are shown in boldface below.**)

I have sent an email reminder to those who haven't yet renewed; **this newsletter will be the last newsletter you will receive** on last year's membership. Those who are renting instruments need to pay dues too, as it says in your contract.

Thank you! from Ellen Fisher, Treasurer and Membership Coordinator

New and Renewed Members for 2018-19 membership year (as of Sept. 25)

Peter Ballinger and Leslie Gold

Marilyn Becker

Alice Benedict

Chris Bensick

Dorian Bikle

Charmion Burns

Elizabeth Campbell

Marilyn Cantey

Daniel Deitch and Yukari Naito-Deitch

Melita Denny

Robin Easterbrook

Mary Elliott

Ellen Farwell

Diana Fischer

Ellen Fisher

Shelley Foster

Penny Hanna

Susanne Hering and John Phillips

Ricardo Hofer

Glenna Houle

Julie Jeffrey

Nick and Sue Jones

Victor Karadi

Michael and Edith Kimbell

Steve Lehning

Joseph Lescher

Lynn Lipetzky

David Morris

Julie Morrisett and Jennifer Torresen

Cindi Olwell

Linda Quan

Elisabeth Reed

Pennijean Savage

Judith Schrom

Larry and Marti Selman

Linda Skory

Betsy St. Aubin

Branson Stephens

William Storz

Gabriel Stuger

Helen Tyrrell

Todd Wetherwax

Isabelle Whiting

Heather Wilson

Wendy's coming to town!

The legendary Wendy Gillespie is coming to the Bay Area in January (joining the Barefoot All-Stars for an all-Gibbons concert on January 3.)



From January 1 to 8 Wendy will be available for consort coaching and individual lessons.

If you're looking to take your viol consort or duo to the next level, delving deeply into your favorite

viol fantasy instead of merely turning the page, or embarking on your own viol self-improvement program, Wendy will be here to help. For more information, contact Julie Jeffrey at jjeffrey@library.berkeley.edu.

Wendy Gillespie taught early bowed strings, historical performance and early notation at Indiana University for more than 30 years. As a member of the viol consorts Fretwork and Phantasm, she shared three Gramophone awards. She has participated in 100 recordings for Linn, Harmonia Mundi, EMI and Virgin Classics. She received Early Music America's Thomas Binkley Award in 2011, and is past President of the Viola da Gamba Society of America.

Upcoming Events

Early Music Open Mic Night

Wed., Oct. 24, El Cerrito (4th Wednesday)

7 - 9 PM, Hillside Community Church

This is your opportunity to perform early music in a friendly cabaret style setting. Soloists, groups, Instrumentalists, singers, students, youngsters, and professionals—all welcome!

- Bring your own music stand (and a stand light if you need it.)
- A state-of-the-art Roland harpsichord/organ will be available on site as well as a piano.
- 6 time slots (max 15 min.) available per night
- **To request a spot, email Heather Wilson at hi2dougan@gmail.com.**
- Food & drinks provided; donations accepted to cover refreshments and venue rental.

Viol Sphere 2 - Viols in a Desert Oasis

Oct. 18-22

Oracle, Arizona

Come play viol in a lush desert locale with beautiful mountain views at the U. of Arizona's



Biosphere 2 Conference Center, about 30 miles north of central Tucson.

Artistic Director Mary Springfels, with Larry Lipnik, Sarah Mead, David Morris & Sarah Walder.

Workshop fees include tuition, room, and board. For full workshop info, including on-line registration: <http://vdgs-saz.org>.

Non-refundable deposit is due by Sept. 20, 2018.

The workshop is limited to 30 viol players at Intermediate playing skill level or higher (at least 24 Points on the VdGSA self-rating guide).

Acceptance to the workshop is subject to approval.

Questions?

Scott Mason, Workshop Organizer
President, VdGS-Southern Arizona Chapter
520/248-0155
scottmason701@gmail.com

Hidden Valley Road Scholar Early Music workshop

November 4-10
Carmel Valley

Explore the music of Italy, England, and Spain from the 13th - 18th centuries, with some modern composers as well!

Come study viol with Alexa Haynes-Pilon at the Hidden Valley Early Music Road Scholar in Carmel Valley! After completing her BM and MM in cello performance at Brandon University, Alexa earned a performance certificate from the University of Toronto in connection with the Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, studying cello with Christina Mahler and viola da gamba with Jöelle Morton. Alexa recently finished her doctoral studies at the U. of S. CA, where she studied baroque cello and viola da gamba with William Skeen, and baroque bassoon and dulcian with Charlie Koster. Alexa's passion is to create music and connect with members of the community. We are very excited to be welcoming Alexa to the Hidden Valley family!

This program welcomes all viol and recorder players who play at an intermediate level or higher. Classes include viol consort, workshop orchestra, and a choice of repertoire classes.

Other faculty in this second week include Tish Berlin, Frances Blaker, Cléa Galhano, and Joan Kimball for recorder; Joan will also teach shawm and dulcian. Nina Bailey is on hand to play harpsichord continuo for all.

Please note that viol enrollment for our first week (October 28- Nov. 3) with viol teacher David Morris is currently closed.

To register or learn more, visit https://www.hiddenvalleymusic.org/event-road-scholar-early-music-workshop-week-2_207.htm

To be placed on a waiting list, or for any other questions, please contact:

Tish Berlin, Director
tishberlin@gmail.com

Musica Pacifica
Dancing in the Isles

Judith Linsenberg, recorder; **Ingrid Matthews**, violin; **Gretchen Claassen**, cello/viola da gamba; **Derek Tam**, harpsichord; **Peter Maund**, percussion

Sat. Oct. 6, Berkeley
8:00 PM, *Fifth Street Farms*

The musicians will treat us to a selection of Baroque Folk and Dance Music from Scotland, Ireland, and England--a program they call "Dancing in the Isles". They'll play their own arrangements of traditional Irish and Scottish folk tunes, a Purcell theater suite, Jacobean masque music, a hybrid Scottish Baroque trio sonata by Oswald, English country dance tunes, an English "division" on a folk tune, and Purcell's famous "Three Parts upon a Ground."

Join us for a rollicking, good time, 17th century style!

Reservations required ahead at www.fifthstfarms.com/reservations then pay \$20 cash at the door.

Sponsored by **Fifth St. Farms**
For more information:
<http://musicapacifica.org/event/dancing-in-the-isles-4/?v=f24485ae434a>



Halifax & Jeffrey
with Andy Canepa
Before the Deluge: French Music from Marais to Rameau via Forqueray

Fri. Nov. 9, Berkeley
6:00 PM, *St. Mark's Parish Hall*

Explore the music of Italy, England, and Spain from the 13th - 18th centuries, with some modern composers as well! They're Back! Barefoot's House Band, with the fabulous addition of Andy Canepa, harpsichord, bring you the fruits of their latest foraging in the sun-kissed fields of French Musical Elegance. In addition to Marais and Forqueray, they have found some rare arrangements of Rameau, and even some amazingly doleful Couperin. In a year (2018-19 season) when none of the Bay Area soi-disant early music organizations is presenting any French baroque music at all, Barefoot's November concert is your home-grown island of overwhelming French elegance.

Sponsored by **Barefoot Chamber concerts**
For more information:
<https://barefootchamberconcerts.com/2018-2019-season/hjc/>



Pacifica Viols 2018-19 Play Days / Coaches

Sept. 8, 2018: **Farley Pearce**

Oct. 13, 2018: **Frances Blaker**

Nov. 10, 2018: **Julie Jeffrey**

Dec. 8, 2018: **Roy Whelden**

Jan. 12, 2019: **Gretchen Claassen**

Feb. 9, 2019: **Amy Brodo**

Mar. 9, 2019: **Erik Andersen**

Apr. 13, 2019: **Shira Kammen**

May 11, 2019: **David Morris**

Jun. 8, 2019: **Members' BASH**



John Dornenburg and Louise Carslake leaving the Bay Area— off to their new life in England!

SAVE THE DATES

• Conclave: July, 2019

The next **Conclave** (annual conference of the Viola da Gamba Society of America) will be held in Forest Grove, Oregon (outside Portland) July 21-29, 2019.

• Viols West: Summer, 2020

Our next **Viols West** gathering will be in 2020, since it is not scheduled on years when Conclave is held on the west coast.

The VdGS Pacifica Chapter is an Affiliate of the San Francisco Early Music Society (SFEMS).

Your 2018-2019 Pacifica Chapter Contacts

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Viola da Gamba Society of America:
<http://vdgsa.org>