

VIOLA DA GAMBA SOCIETY PACIFICA VOLUME 19, NO. 4 DECEMBER 2005

GAMBA NEWS

Playing for Time

The Editor of *Gamba News* has long subscribed to the scientific theory that time passes more quickly in December. Minutes and hours are counted the same, but studies have shown that their sum is generally less. By the time you finish reading this paragraph, it could well be January. You will scratch your head and wonder where the time went.

Live music is the only known counter to this phenomenon. As such, *Gamba News* promotes concerts, the December 10th play day, and any and all quality time with your viol. And a happy New Year.



Mark Your Calendar

Upcoming Concerts

Saturday, December 10

To Drive the Cold Winter Away, presented by **Bella Musica**, directed by Arlene Sagan. Works by Rossi, Lassus, Encina, Eccard and featuring Tomas Luis de Victoria's "O Magnum Mysterium." Accompaniment and interludes by **The Gamba Group** (Robin Easterbrook, Ellen Farwell, Lee McRae and Julie Morrisett, viols.)

8:00 pm, *St. Mary Magdalen Church, 2005 Berryman St., Berkeley.*
Donations welcome!

Sunday, December 18

Skyflower Ensemble (Gael Reed, Soprano; Felicia Mcfall, baroque violin; Sarge Gerbode, Arch Lute; Gary Digman, bass viol, lute, baroque guiter; Robin Easterbrook, bass viol) presents "Sanctus, Sanctus / Heilige, Heilige," music of Bach, Biber, Castello, Marini and Stradella.

2:00 pm, *Chapel of the Mission San Francisco/Solano, in Sonoma at the corner of East Spain and 1st St. East.*
Suggested donation \$10 adults, \$5 children/seniors.

Sunday, December 18

Berkeley Community Chorus and Orchestra will premier Jerry Mueller's 23.5", winner of the BCCO choral composition competition. Mr. Mueller is a past winner of the VdGSA's Traynor Competition.

4:30 pm, *St. Joseph the Worker Church, 1640 Addison St., Berkeley.* Admission free; donations appreciated. www.bcco.org; (510) 964-0665.

Monday, December 19

Skyflower Ensemble repeats program of December 18.

7:00 pm, *Sonoma Christian Fellowship, 170 Andrieux (at the corner of 2nd), Sonoma.* Suggested donation \$10 adults, \$5 children/seniors.

Sunday, January 1

Ensemble Vermillian (Frances Blaker, recorders; Barbara Blaker Krumdieck, cello; Elisabeth Reed, viola da gamba; Katherine Heater, harpsichord and continuo) will hold a concert and CD release party to launch their new CD "Stolen Jewels." The CD and concert features works by Buxtehude,

Rosenmüller, Böddecker, Biber, Krieger and J. M. Bach.

3:00 pm, *MusicSources, 1000 The Alameda at Marin Ave.* \$15/\$10 (students, seniors, sfems and vdgs members.) Call (510) 559-4670 for more information and to RESERVE your tickets (space is limited, so reserve early.)

Saturday, January 7

Healing Muses (Susan Rode Morris, soprano; Eileen Hadidian, recorder, flute, celtic harp; Shira Kammen, violin, vielle, medieval harp; Julie Jeffrey, viola da gamba; David Morris, viola da gamba, gittern) presents "A Musical Tapestry," Renaissance and traditional song and dance to warm the winter nights and celebrate the longer days ahead.

8:00 pm, *St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 1501 Washington St., Albany.* \$18/\$15. www.healingmuses.org; (510) 524-5661.

Sunday, January 8

Healing Muses repeats program of January 7.

4:00 pm, *St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 1501 Washington St., Albany.* \$18/\$15. www.healingmuses.org; (510) 524-5661.

Tuesday, January 17

Music at Stanford presents **John Dornenburg**, viola da gamba, and **Yuko Tanaka**, harpsichord, performing music by Marin Marais including "Suite d'un gout Etranger," "Le Labyrinthe," and "Folies d'Espagne."

8:00 pm, *Memorial Church, Stanford University.* \$10/\$5. (650) 725-2787.

For Sale

Bass Viola da Gamba bow by Ralph Ashmead; \$1,500 or best offer. Contact **Elisabeth Reed**, (510) 482-1684.

Visit Your Local Viol Builder! 7-string bass, Bertrand model, rich sound. 6-string bass, Jaye model, bright and delightful to play. Treble, Hoskins model. Tenors and other bass models also available. Soft and hard cases custom-fitted to your instrument. Repairs. Come by to try an instrument, take a shop tour and learn about building viols, or for idle chit-chat. **Alexandra Saur**, (510) 558-6927; (510) 559-9563, in Albany.

Bow Repair Alexandra Saur is now offering rehairing for both modern and early bows. Top quality hair and quick turnaround! 510-559-9563, bowrehair@alexandrasaur.com.

Treble Viol by Higgins; neck replacement by him; viol in excellent condition. Early ratchet bow by Neil Hendricks and hard case "arranged" by Herb Myers. \$1,500 for viol, bow, and case. Contact **Kris Montague**, (650) 969-1668.

Bass viol, 6 string, German-made in the 1970s. With bow and hard case. \$3500. Contact **Helen Tyrrell**, (925) 253-1782; hesuome@pacbell.net.

Lazar's Early Music

Moeck (recorders and early winds), Kueng, Mollenhauer, Yamaha, Aesthe, Dolmetsch Millenium Recorders, and others in the near future. Competitive prices, instruments sent on approval, personalized service and advice. **Bill Lazar**, (408) 737-8228.

Bass viol, Peter Tourin, Jericho, VT. English division bass after Henry Jaye; no. 49, 1983. With decorated fingerboard and tail-piece, carved rose. 67.3 cm free string length. Very nice condition with a few chips to the finish on the edges. It sold in 1983 for \$3225 for the decorative work. The viol would sell now for about \$9-10,000, according to Peter Tourin. Comes with a nice custom-fitted hard case and bow. Asking \$7000.

Bass viol, Wolfgang Uebel, Celle, Germany, 1977. With carved rose on sound board; 64 cm free string length. Very nice condition. Asking \$6000 with unpadded soft case. Bows available separately.

Treble viol, Neil Hendricks, Reno, CA, 1973. With gear tuning machines. Suitable for a beginner. Asking \$450, with Hendricks 'ratchet' bow, no case.

Bows (4): Chris English, octagonal/round stick, 60 cm free hair length, 74 gms., asking \$1000; **Harry Grabenstein/Tourin bow** (1983), ebony frog/nut, 60 cm free hair length, 68 gms., new hair, asking \$1000; **William Monical**, octagonal stick, ebony frog/nut, 60.5 cm free hair length, 59 gms., new hair, asking \$800; **H.R. Pfretzschner**, 61 cm free hair length, 59 gms., new hair, asking \$700. Pictures of all are available on my website (www.bill-lazar.com) on the 'used instruments' page. Contact **Bill Lazar**, jblazar@aol.com, (408) 730-2238 for more information.

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Gamba News is published 10 times a year by the Pacifica chapter of the Viola da Gamba Society. It vacations in July and August.

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Ruby Instruments

The world's first production model of a 7-string solid body electric viola da gamba! Play traditional and crossover music on one instrument! To hear and play the Ruby, contact **Kirby**, (510) 317-0834 or (510) 332-0834 (24-hour message); gambaguy@msn.com.

Treble Viol Available to Rent

Treble viol by Michael Plant available for rent at reasonable price. Contact **Lee McRae**, (510) 848-5591, LmcR@aol.com.

Classified Ads

Short classified advertisements in Gamba News are free to VdGS-Pacifica members. For non-members, ads are \$5 per issue. Please mail your check made out to VdGS-Pacifica to Julie Morrisett, Editor, 412 Arkansas Street, San Francisco, CA 94107.

www.pacificaviols.org

Our VdGS-Pacifica chapter website is maintained and regularly updated by Helen Tyrrell. It contains the Viol Player's Calendar, along with a list of local teachers, sources for music, supplies, inexpensive viols, repairs, and travel tips. The VdGSA (national) website is www.vdgsa.org.

Rent a Viol

Pacifica has trebles, tenors and basses to rent. Donations of viols and bows to our rental program are extremely welcome—we'll accept them in any condition. Rental fees range from \$15 to \$30 per month. In charge of rentals is John Mark, 10 Holyrood Manor, Oakland, CA 94611; (510) 531-1471; mark_bach8@hotmail.com.

Contributions Welcome

Send concert listings and reviews, opinions, workshop experiences, CD reviews, drawings, or photos to Julie Morrisett, Editor, 1148 Norwood Ave. #1, Oakland, CA, 94610, or jmorrisett@gmail.com; (510) 444-2380.

Viol Talk

A Cheerfull Noyse Hosts Open House

Be part of the grand opening of A Cheerfull Noyse, Saturday, 12/10/05, from Noon - 6:00 pm, for a pleasant afternoon of live music and refreshments.

A Cheerfull Noyse is a complete music store specializing in classical, folk and early music. Instruments include recorders from inexpensive to the high end including Kung, Coolsma, Dolmetsch and others. Other instruments include harps, winds, strings, guitars, etc. There are accessories, gifts, sheet music, CDs by local musicians; everything from A to Z.

A Cheerfull Noyse

1228 Solano Ave.
Albany, CA 94706
(510) 524-0411
(877) 524-0511
www.acheerfullnoyse.com
info@acheerfullnoyse.com

String Source

Lee McRae reports that Southwest Strings in Tucson not only carries Pirastro strings for viols, but that your phone call may well be answered by a fellow gambist, Kathy Krause. Lee found Southwest's prices to be half that of other suppliers. Southwest Strings: (800) 528-3430. Kathy Krause can be reached at extension 209.

Next Board Meeting in January: TBA

Join VdGS-Pacifica or renew for 2005-2006

First and last name _____
Mailing address _____
City, State and Zip _____
e-mail address _____
Phone number, including area code _____

- _____ **Playing Member (\$25):** You can attend monthly consort meetings free; you get a free subscription to Gamba News, and you get a discount on consort-coaching sessions.
- _____ **Two-person membership (\$35):** Two playing members in the same household. You share all the rights and privileges of a Playing Member.
- _____ **Newsletter-Only Membership (\$10)**
- _____ **Donation to VdGS-Pacifica** will help us buy sheet music and rental instruments and fatten our scholarship fund.
- _____ **TOTAL ENCLOSED**

Make out check to VdGS-Pacifica. Mail it with this form to:

Penni (P) Savage, Treasurer
VdGS-Pacifica
436 Hudson Street
Oakland, CA 94618

Pacifica Play Day Schedule, 2005-2006

Sheet music, coffee and tea will be supplied. Please bring either a sack lunch for yourself or a dish or drinks to share at our customary pot-luck. The church has a microwave we can use. There is also a Mexican restaurant close by.

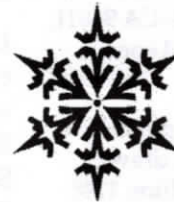
Please bring a music stand and any consort music of your own you'd like to play.

DATE	COACH
December 10	Yayoi Isaacson
January 14	William Skeen
February 11	John Dornenberg at Stanford
March 11	Lisa Terry (coaching and master class)
April 8	Julie Jeffrey
May 5 - 7	Amy Brodo and Phebe Craig (Fresno North/South Meet)
June 3	Pacifica Chapter Concert for Friends/ Family/Each Other, 3-5 pm at St. Alban's

Each month, as soon as you receive your Gamba News (or before), please call or email John Mark, our peerless consort arranger, to tell him you will attend the upcoming play day and what size(s) you will bring. (510) 531-1471; mark_bach8@hotmail.com.

Consorts are formed based on the information you provide to John Mark. Newcomers and rank beginners are welcome.

All play days except those at Stanford are held at Zion Lutheran Church, 5201 Park Boulevard, Oakland. The church is just west of the Park Boulevard exit off Highway 13. We meet at 9:15 am for the coached session.



Saturday, December 10
Play Day
with Yayoi Isaacson

Gamba News
c/o 468 62nd Street
Oakland, CA 94609



Mary Elliott
920 Ventura Avenue
Albany, CA 94707

