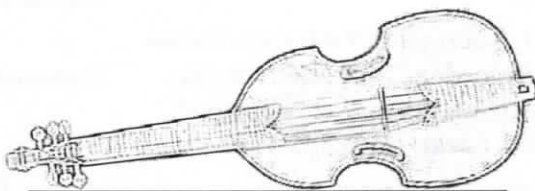


# VIOLA DA GAMBA SOCIETY PACIFICA GAMBA NEWS

VOLUME 20, NO. 9 MAY 2007

## William Skeen to Coach Saturday Play Day

**W**illiam Skeen regularly performs with American Bach Soloists, Philharmonia Baroque, and Musica Angelica. He also has appeared as solo cellist with the Los Angeles, Portland and Seattle baroque orchestras. Mr. Skeen is a notable and frequent continuo cellist at major American opera houses such as Chicago Opera, Atlanta Opera and San Diego Opera. A graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music and the University of Southern California, Skeen has



gone on to join the faculty at U.S.C. where he has taught baroque cello and viola da gamba since 2000. William, in addition, performs with El Mundo, Galanterie, and La Monica, which he co-founded in 1999. He has recorded for Koch, Delos, BIS, Hannsler, Sono Luminus, and Pandore records. Mr. Skeen makes his home in the East Bay where he enjoys spending quality time with his wife and two children, Talia and Liam.

## 9th Annual Baroque Flute & Viola da Gamba Boot Camp

July 29 - August 4, 2007

The Baroque Flute & Viola da Gamba Boot Camp (BF&VdGBC) takes place from July 29 to August 4, 2007 in Seattle, Washington. The BF&VdGBC is open to baroque flute players of all levels, and intermediate-to-advanced viola da gamba players looking to improve their technique and continuo-playing skills. We are very supportive and encouraging to those new to the baroque flute. For the advanced players of both instruments, we offer a stimulating and challenging environment (we throw down the gauntlet and challenge you to pick it up).

The BF&VdGBC offers predominantly flute and viola da gamba instruction and technique by day, with smaller group classes, large and small ensemble playing, and technical clinics by night. Participants also have time to meet in smaller groups on their own to work on various types of ensembles, with and without coaching.

Enrollment is limited to 16 flute players and 8 viola da gamba players.

*Our faculty this year:*

Flutes: Kim Pineda (Director), Janet See, and Ingrid Crozman

Viols: David Morris and Ronnee Fullerton

The BF&VdGBC gives you the chance to work hard under close supervision.

*What you may expect at the Boot Camp:*

- ~Your instructors will push you out of your comfort zone to improve your playing technique
- ~Expand your knowledge of baroque style and interpretation
- ~Integrate this by playing in small groups, large groups, and in the class recital
- ~Learn how to lead, accompany, play together, and learn the difference
- ~Gain confidence in a non-competitive environment
- ~Group classes in Alexander Technique as it relates to playing your instrument
- ~Applied music theory (it comes in handy!)

### Have fun in the process

All you need is a positive attitude and a baroque flute or bass viola da gamba that plays at  $a=415$  Hz.

For more information please visit the website:

[www.baroquenorthwest.com/nfbfbc.html](http://www.baroquenorthwest.com/nfbfbc.html)

## For Sale

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

### 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) 734-4920.

**Bass viol, Wolfgang Uebel**, Celle, Germany, 1977. With carved rose on sound board; 64 cm free string length. Very nice condition. Asking \$2100 with unpadded soft case. Bows available separately.

**Viola da Gamba Bow: William Monical**, octagonal stick, ebony frog/nut, 60.5 cm free hair length, 59 gms (treble/tenor,) new hair, asking \$650.

Pictures of all are available on my website ([www.bill-lazar.com](http://www.bill-lazar.com)) on the 'used instruments' page. Contact **Bill Lazar**, [jblazar@aol.com](mailto:jblazar@aol.com), (408) 734-4920 for more information.

### 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! Coming soon! The Ruby dock, an attachment to hold the Ruby conventionally as well as to play on a stand! To hear and play the Ruby, contact **Kirby**, (510) 317-0834 or (510) 332-0834 (24-hour message); [gambaguy@msn.com](mailto: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](mailto:LmcR@aol.com).

### Plant Tenor Viol For Sale

String length 54.6 cm, excellent condition, custom Kingham case. \$3,100. Contact Jill Geary, Alameda, (858) 382-7046 or [providenceV39@aol.com](mailto:providenceV39@aol.com).

## Correction

Last month's cover article on the Galax Quartet should have included the byline of its author, Roy Whelden.

## GAMMA NEWS

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

### PACIFICA CHAPTER BOARD

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<b>VdGSA chapter Representative</b>	Lee McRae <a href="mailto:LmcR@aol.com">LmcR@aol.com</a>
<b>Coaching Liaison</b>	Alexandra Saur <a href="mailto:alexandra@alexandrasaur.com">alexandra@alexandrasaur.com</a>
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Robin Easterbrook	<a href="mailto:reasterbrook@mac.com">reasterbrook@mac.com</a>
Mary Elliott	<a href="mailto:marell3@sbcglobal.net">marell3@sbcglobal.net</a>
Julie Jeffrey	<a href="mailto:jjeffrey@library.berkeley.edu">jjeffrey@library.berkeley.edu</a>
Elisabeth Reed	<a href="mailto:ereed@soundbodies.net">ereed@soundbodies.net</a>
Lyle York	<a href="mailto:lleyork@earthlink.net">lleyork@earthlink.net</a>

### 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](mailto:jmorrisett@gmail.com); (510) 444-2380.



### 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, 1148 Norwood Ave. #1, Oakland, CA 94610.

### 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](http://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](mailto:mark_bach8@hotmail.com).

### Donating to VdGS-Pacifica

The Pacifica Chapter is an affiliate of the San Francisco Early Music Society (SFEMS), and along with other privileges this affiliation confers, we can receive tax-deductible donations. These include not only cash but viols, bows, musical scores, method books, tuners, stands and other viol paraphernalia. Especially since we now have a Youth Project working to teach young people the viol, please remember the chapter when you are cleaning out your music room.

Cash donations can be used for new rental instruments and bows, new music for the chapter playing library, the Pacifica Youth Project, or our scholarship fund.

To ensure that your donation will be tax-deductible, please make out the check to SFEMS with a note on the lower left corner: "for VdGS-Pacifica." Then send your donation check to Penni Savage, Treasurer, VdGS-Pacifica, 436 Hudson Street, Oakland, CA 94618. She will forward your check to SFEMS.

SFEMS will accept and record the donation, then transfer the funds to us. You will receive an acknowledgment letter from SFEMS for your tax records.

When you donate a viol or other materials, you will receive a letter citing the estimated value of the instrument or materials for your tax records.

## Pacifica Play Day Schedule 2006-2007

DATE	COACH
May 12	William Skeen
June 9	Our Party 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](mailto:mark_bach8@hotmail.com).

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.

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



# Mark Your Calendar

## Upcoming Playing Opportunities, Concerts and Workshops

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### Sunday, May 13

**The Skyflower Ensemble** (Felicia McFall, baroque violin; Sarge Gerbode, archlute; Gwenyth Davis, baroque cello) in collaboration with the Napa Valley Music Associates invites you to **"Bach from the Vine :"** J.S. Bach paired with a premium wine tasting. Wines presented by wine maker and connoisseur Sig Hope, ranging from a delightful champagne to a heartier pinot grigio. Program includes works by J.S. Bach, Biber and Nicola Matteis.

3:30-5:00 pm, Churchill Manor, 485 Brown St., Napa. Directions on website: [www.churchillmanor.com](http://www.churchillmanor.com). \$20

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### Wednesday, May 16

The Mid-Peninsula Recorder Orchestra (MPRO) bimonthly meeting. Early strings, winds and recorder players are invited to attend. Please bring music stand. Future meeting: May 30. Viola da Gamba players especially needed for rehearsals on May 16 and 30, as well as the concert on June 2. (Including music by Dufay, Josequin and Corelli.)

8:00 pm, Jane Lathrop Middle School, Music Room #060, 480 E. Meadow Drive, Palo Alto. Contact Frederic Palmer (650) 591-3648; [www.sfems.org/mpro](http://www.sfems.org/mpro)

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### Friday, May 18

**Transitions: Early Music from Spain and Its New World Colonies.** The Women's Antique Vocal Ensemble (WAVE) will present renaissance and baroque music from composers such as Tomas Luis de Victoria, Alonso Lobo and Francisco Guerrero, as well as Juan Arañes, Hernando Franco and Juan Garcia de Zespedes. WAVE will be joined by many Bay Area musicians on many instruments, including viola da gamba.

8:00 pm, Lake Merritt United Methodist Church, 1330 Lakeshore Avenue, Oakland. \$15/\$5. Wheelchair accessible. [www.wave-women.org](http://www.wave-women.org)

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### May 18-20

**Marin Headlands Workshop for Recorders and Viols.** Sixteen playing sessions, featuring conductors David Barnett, Annette Bauer, Tish Berlin, Tom Bickley, Frances Blaker, Louise Carslake, Frances Feldon, Eileen Hadidian, Fred Palmer, and one other. Entire weekend or partial attendance.

Point Bonita YMCA

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### June 17-23

**SFEMS Baroque Music and Dance Workshop, "The Crossroads of the Baroque: Dresden, Prague & Vienna."** Now at Sonoma State University. David Morris will coach viol students.

[www.sfems.org](http://www.sfems.org) for more information and enrollment form

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### June 24-30

**SFEMS Medieval & Renaissance Workshop, "Tales of the Cities."** Now at Sonoma State University. With Joanna Blendulf, John Dornenburg, and Mary Springfels, viol coaches.

[www.sfems.org](http://www.sfems.org) for more information and enrollment form

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### Thursday, July 19

**Sex Chordae Consort of Viols plays music from Josquin to Thelonious Monk.** John Dornenburg, Julie Jeffrey, Farley Pearce, and David Morris, viols. Also music by Ortiz, Coprario, Legrenzi, Purcell, Martha Bishop, and others.

8:00 pm, St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 1501 Washington Ave., Albany. \$15/Children under 16 free if accompanied by adult, no credit cards, checks okay. [www.st-albans-albany.org/concerts](http://www.st-albans-albany.org/concerts)

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### July 28-August 4

**L'Humor Bizzarro; Intarsi di Musica e Danza Antica.** Directors Claudia Celi and Andrea Toschi present the sixth edition of this workshop held in Bagnacavallo, Italy. Eight days of courses, concerts and workshops in early music and dance, with viola da gamba coach Humberto Orellana.

For information in English, [www.teatrodelamemoria.org/corsihumor\\_eng.htm](http://www.teatrodelamemoria.org/corsihumor_eng.htm) or contact Andrea Toschi, PO Box 17100 - 100189 Roma Grottarossa, Italy, or email [info@teatrodelamemoria.org](mailto:info@teatrodelamemoria.org)

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### July 29-August 4

**The Baroque Flute & Viola da Gamba Boot Camp.** Intermediate to advanced bass Viola da Gamba players can improve their continuo playing technique with small group classes, technical classes and ensemble playing. Limited enrollment.

Please see accompanying article for more information, front page



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J. de la Roche sculp. 1720*

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