

**Come to our in-person PlayDay
with coach Alexa Haynes-Pilon
Sat., Oct. 9, 9:30-11:30 a.m.**

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

FREE – a great membership benefit!

Described by Early Music America as “a special artist with a brilliant future,” Alexa Haynes-Pilon has quickly established herself in the early music scene, performing on baroque cello, viola da gamba, baroque bassoon and dulcian. She is principal cellist of both Musica Angelica Baroque Orchestra and Opera Neo, and co-director and cellist/gambist of Musica Pacifica. She has performed with American Bach Soloists, Albany Consort and Burning River Baroque. She has been on faculty at the San Francisco Early Music Society (SFEMS) workshops, and the Port Townsend Early Music and Road Scholar Hidden Valley workshops. She has been a guest conductor for many of the viola da gamba societies in California. She co-founded Los Angeles Baroque (LAB), a community-based baroque orchestra.

Alexa holds a doctorate in early music performance from University of Southern California. Recent recordings include American Bach Soloists, *Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen Sings Gluck, Handel, & Vivaldi*, as well as Agostino



Steffani duets on the Musica Omnia label titled *Agostino Steffani: A son très-humble service, Duets for Sophie Charlotte of Hanover*, directed by harpsichordist Jory Vinikour. The most recent recording is *François Couperin: Concert Royaux* with Stephen Schultz, Mindy Rosenfeld and Jory Vinikour on the Music and Arts Label. Learn more on her website [here](#).

Alexa's PlayDay program–

Gems of French consort music:

French consort music is often overlooked because relatively little survives, but what does is richly rewarding to play. We will take a quick trip through some less familiar consort music, including works by Gervaise, Du Caurroy, and more.

Registering for our PlayDay

Deadline: NOON, Thursday, Oct. 7

1. Go to [our website](#) and log in*. (Note: each member logs in and signs up separately.)
2. Under Events / PlayDay Registration, fill out and submit the form. A confirmation email will follow.

* If you haven't yet activated or renewed your membership, click [HERE](#) for how-to instructions.

In-Person Playdays:

How will they work?

Restarting our in-person PlayDays, we are going to deviate from our traditional agenda to make sure that all who want to attend feel safe doing so.

We will NOT break into separate coached consorts in the morning. Instead, we will work with our coach all together in one group from 9:30 to 11:30 am, with a break.

PROTOCOL

To keep everyone safe:

- We ask that you affirm that you have been fully vaccinated by bringing your signed waiver form (see p. 3). You can print the form during your online registration.
- We ask each participant to wear a face mask while indoors.

FOOD

- We won't supply coffee and snacks to share, but please feel free to bring goodies and lunch for yourself.
- After the official end of the coached group session, all are invited to enjoy their lunch outdoors (so that masks can come off.)

CONSORTS AFTER LUNCH

- Those who feel OK staying after lunch to play informally may do so; please stay masked. Find chairs and pick out music from our crates.
- Depending on the number of participants, we can stay in the main room, or have a second group go to a classroom downstairs.
- After playing:
 - Put away the music crates backstage and the chairs under the stage.
 - Turn off lights and close doors.
 - Make sure the gate to the upper parking area is closed and secured (with bungee cords)—done by the last person leaving.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

During our PlayDay registration process, we are asking folks to volunteer to help. Cindi Olwell has been generously taking care of this for some years, but now we will be sharing these duties.

SET-UP JOB - 1 person

- Arrive by 9 am and open gate to the upper parking area (this should be done first.)
- Take out chairs from under the stage and arrange in a large semi-circle (socially distanced spacing) in the sanctuary according to how many are signed up for the PlayDay.
- Put out a stand and two chairs for the coach (stands are located backstage).
- Man the sign-in table.
- Bring out our crates of music for informal consort playing after lunch. These are stored backstage on shelves by the hall door.
- Help the coach distribute sheet music for the group session, as needed.

CLEAN-UP JOB - 1 person

- After lunch, clean up/throw away sheet music copies, cups, plates, napkins left from lunch, etc. Check both inside and outside.
- Put away chairs under the stage, including any left outside from lunch, but leave some chairs for post-lunch consorts.
- If no one stays after lunch for consorts, put away any remaining chairs and music crates. Turn off all lights and close doors. Close the gate to the upper parking area and secure it with its bungee cord.

Cindi will announce this month's "chosen" volunteers in her reminder email before the PlayDay.

We look forward to being able to return to our traditional format as soon as possible. And we are grateful to get together and play together, even if it isn't quite what we want it to be just yet.

**If you didn't attend our Sept. PlayDay:
COVID-19 Waiver Form
(only needed once)**

When you register for our PlayDay on our website, you'll be able to download the waiver shown below, then print it, sign it and bring it

with you to the PlayDay where we will collect them.

For those who don't have access to a printer, we will have extra blank copies of the waiver at the PlayDay.

**Pacifica Viola da Gamba Society
WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY
FOR EXPOSURE TO COVID-19**

Please print this page, sign and date it, and bring the signed copy to the PlayDay.

Due to concerns and precautions regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, the Pacifica Viola da Gamba Society ("Society") is requiring members attending events sponsored by the Society to agree to the following:

1. I have completed the COVID-19 vaccination process and can present confirming documentation.
2. In attending activities sponsored by the Society, I agree to comply with masking, social distancing, and other COVID-19 protocols required by applicable government bodies, the Society, and the venue.
3. Regardless of adherence to mandated protocols, requirements, recommendations, and vaccinations, I acknowledge that there is a risk of injury, illness, and even death resulting from COVID-19 exposure whenever an individual enters a public space indoors or outdoors, a building with other people, or socializing with a group of other individuals.
4. Knowing the foregoing risk, I assume the risk of COVID-19 exposure and accept sole responsibility for any exposure to COVID-19 and resulting health conditions that may occur due to attendance at a Society event.
5. I acknowledge my responsibility for my own safety and can freely adhere to more strict guidelines or recommendations suggested by the Society or applicable government bodies.
6. I hereby release and hold harmless the Society, and their respective officers, directors, and members from any and all responsibility for injury, illness, death, or other losses arising from exposure to COVID-19 having attended a rehearsal, event, or any function.

By signing below, I attest that I have read and understand the above "Waiver and release of liability for exposure to Covid-19", that I understand the risks posed by Covid-19, and that I voluntarily agree to the waiver and release of liability.

Name (print) _____

Signature_____ Date_____

Once you sign this document, it is valid for all future Society activities until revoked in writing by you.

Please remember to bring this to PlayDay.

In Memoriam: Larry Selman



–If you have any photos or stories to share about Larry, please send them to our editor by Oct. 20 for our November newsletter.

We mourn Larry Selman, a dear member of our viol community who recently passed away after several years with pancreatic cancer.

His wife Marti writes–

Up until his hospitalization at Stanford on September 3, he was active and busy with so many projects, including more solar power for the house, taking awesome photographs, practicing the viola da gamba, redesigning our front yard with beautiful succulent plants, and playing Pokémon with the grandkids.

We will not be having a service at this time, but I am asking anyone who would have liked to attend a service to go out and do something special—something you love and feel passionate about—in his honor. Celebrate our Renaissance Man by doing what you love and making every moment count.

I welcome your emails or snail mail messages.

Marti

MarthaSelman@gmail.com

156 Bradley Drive

Santa Cruz, CA 95060



For Sale: Small Bass Viol

This 1954 Emmo Koch was made in Bremen, Germany. The carved scroll shows a child at age 10; the viol was a commission by the child's father as a gift to the child's mother.

The length of the back is 65cm, upper bouts 28.2cm, middle bouts 19.2cm, and lower bouts 36.2cm. Stop length is 26.8cm and total string length is 59.7cm (23.5").

I acquired the viol at the VdGSA Conclave in 1980 when I was a college student. As a string bass major, I double majored adding the viol. While in my possession, this viol made 2 trips to Europe with the University of Waukesha (Wisconsin) Madrigal Singers in '81 and '85.

I have not played the viol in years and feel that it deserves new life. I recently had it put in playing condition and had the bow re-haired by Bay Fine Strings.

It is appraised at \$4000 as of this year; that is my asking price. It includes a case custom-made for it, extra strings and two Martha Bishop viol instructional books.

For more information, please contact me:

Sister Cindy Kaye, RSM
kayenun@yahoo.com
Burlingame, CA



Silent Auction ??

We have recently received several nice items that we think our members might like to have—

- Cello/Viol stand, drum stool/throne, Recorder stands, sheet music

We are considering holding a modest Silent Auction sometime later this year to benefit our Pacifica chapter.

Do you have music-related items you might donate?

Contact Cindi Olwell

cindi.olwell@gmail.com
(415) 999-5242



**FCCB Resonance Series presents—
J.S. Bach: Gamba Sonatas**

Sat. Oct. 2, Berkeley

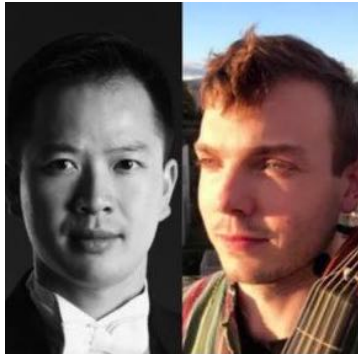
8:00 PM, First Congregational Church

Erik Andersen, viola da gamba

Derek Tam,
harpsichord

Once beloved by princes and paupers, the viola da gamba soothed souls in a bygone era. Even by Johann Sebastian Bach's lifetime, the gamba was fast becoming a relic. Yet late in his career, Bach was inspired to put together three sonatas for gamba and harpsichord—pieces that have formed the cornerstone of the modern gamba revival. For this intimate recital, gambist Erik Andersen joins harpsichordist Derek Tam for a night of Bach that will also include the French Suite No. 5 for solo harpsichord.

For tickets and Covid protocol, [click here](#).



**Barefoot Chamber Concerts
presents—
Bach's Music for Harpsichord and
Viola da Gamba**

Fri. Oct. 15, Berkeley

6:30 PM, Parish Hall of St. Mary Magdalen Church

Andy Canepa, harpsichord

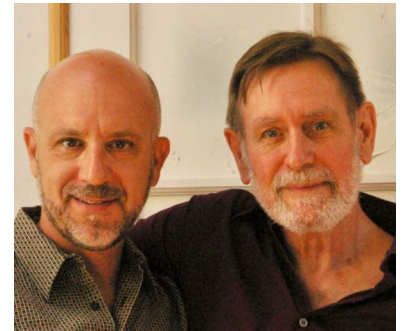
Peter Hallifax, viola
da gamba

Sonatas and Suites by J.S. Bach in a new venue for us—the Parish Hall of St. Mary Magdalene on Berryman in Berkeley; there's ample parking (entrance off Berryman down to the basketball courts), lovely acoustic, great space.

Variable price tickets \$5-\$50; pay what you like, (no one turned away for lack, or surfeit, of funds.) 18 and under admitted free and welcome.

Tickets at the door or reserve online (recommended) [here](#).

Check [here](#) for Covid protocol.



**SFEMS presents—
The Paris Quartet:
The Great Trios and Beyond**

Fri. Oct. 22, Palo Alto

8:00 PM, First Presbyterian Church

Sat. Oct. 23, Berkeley

7:30 PM, First Congregational Church ([note location change](#))

Sun. Oct. 24, San Francisco

4:00 PM, St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Janet See, flute

Lisa Weiss, violin

Peter Hallifax, viola da gamba

Katherine Heater, harpsichord

Johann Sebastian Bach and François Couperin took the trio sonata to its limit. Georg Philipp Telemann and Jean-Philippe Rameau added a fourth voice, and, in doing so, revolutionized chamber music.

More info [here](#).

NOTE: Check for up-to-date information about SFEMS' Covid protocol [here](#) close to the concert date.



Viol Sphere 2 – In a Desert Oasis

October 14 - 18 in Oracle, Arizona

FACULTY

Larry Lipnik & Mary Springfels, Artistic Directors

Malachai Bandy, Ros Morley,
David Morris and Brent Wissick

Instruction and coaching in a beautiful in-person conference setting, with a musical celebration honoring three remarkable composers:

- Philippe de Monte and his fascinating musical correspondence with William Byrd
- The 400th anniversary of the death of Michael Praetorius
- The 500th anniversary of Joaquin des Prez's death

All participants and guests must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

For more information see their website.

Questions?

Contact Scott Mason

-President, VdGS- Southern AZ Chapter

-Workshop Organizer

520/248-0155

scottmason701@gmail.com

Road Scholar / Hidden Valley Early Music Workshops

Week 1- Oct. 24 - 30

Week 2- Oct. 31- Nov. 6

Carmel Valley, CA

For more information: [click here](#).

Amherst Early Music class

AEM is offering online classes two weekends each month through December. Below is a class specifically of interest to viol players.

Old Music Meets New Music

Sun., Oct. 10, 10 am-11:30 am Pacific Time

With Martha Bishop, viol

For information about other classes, or to register, click [here](#).



Note from our Prez

It was so great to see the twinkling eyes of my viol playing colleagues at our September PlayDay! I'm sure that meant that there were smiles of joy under those masks, as we finally met in person after more than an entire year away from our in person playing.

David Morris, our coach for the day, put together a program that was meant to get us back into the groove of playing together; I think we were all pleasantly surprised to discover that, despite the unfamiliar music and the long hiatus, we got back into gear pretty quickly. David's coaching was creative and effective.

The participation was terrific - 24 players! We all stayed "upstairs" for the two hour session, as we didn't feel ready to break into small groups in the small classrooms. Some hardy folks stayed for an enjoyable outdoor lunch, and some additional informal playing, upstairs and downstairs. We reluctantly adjourned at 2:30; I know that I headed home tired and happy, and rewarded myself with a nice nap!

Pat

Thanks to Cindi Olwell for these pix of our September PlayDay—



*Thanks to Alice Benedict for
arranging this great lineup of coaches
for our new season!*

Pacifica Viols PlayDays 2021-2022

Sept. 11: David Morris

Oct. 9: Alexa Haynes-Pilon

Nov. 13: Amy Brodo

Dec. 11: Farley Pearce

Jan. 8: Shira Kammen

Feb. 12: Julie Jeffrey

Mar. 12: Josh Lee

Apr. 9: Erik Andersen

May 14: Elisabeth Reed

June 11: Pacifica BASH

Time to renew your membership?

**Membership is required in order to
register for PlayDays— you don't
want to miss them!**

Alice Benedict has organized a full lineup of
great coaches for our monthly PlayDays, which
are **now meeting in person again**.

It bears repeating that your membership is
crucial to our society; we appreciate your
renewal!

Not yet ready for primetime: Early Music Open Mic Night

But stay tuned...

Pacifica Viola da Gamba Society

Board of Directors:

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patricia@focusedfinances.com

Vice President: Cindi Olwell

cindi.olwell@gmail.com

Secretary: Nick Jones

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Pacifica Viols Chapter Website

<https://pacificaviols.org>

Pacifica Viola da Gamba Society
is a Chapter of the

Viola da Gamba Society of America

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