



Newsletter of the Pacifica Chapter of the Viola da Gamba Society of America

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May Meeting

The next meeting will be held at Zion Church, 5201 Park Boulevard, Oakland, on Saturday May 10. Bring your music stand and try to arrive for coffee and tuning by 9:30 AM. Please send in your reply cards as soon as possible, so that Julie can plan the groups. We are extremely grateful to Zion Church for permitting us so liberally to use their facilities on this and the many other occasions throughout the year. As a partial recompense, a group of us (John Mark, Annette and Greg Barnett, and Peter Ballinger) will provide consort music for the church's Mothers' Day services, playing the fifth fantasias of Coprario and of Jenkins.

North-South Meet

This annual event, held as usual at the Piccadilly Inn (West Shaw) in Fresno, provided us with a chance to enjoy the benefits of the careful planning and organization by the Viols West chapter. Carol Herman and Hazelle Miloradovitch were our indefatigable coaches, who cogitated far into the night to arrange compatible groups for the Saturday and Sunday playing sessions. On Friday evening and on Saturday evening (after an excellent dinner at a local Indian restaurant), the entire group was conducted by the coaches and by Walter Unterberg and Peter Ballinger. Make a note of the date for the 24th annual meeting, April 17-19, 1998, at the same location, when the arrangements will be made by the Pacifica Chapter.

Magnificat Concert

Three performances of *La Descente d'Orphée aux Enfers*, by Marc-Antoine Charpentier, were given by Magnificat in San Jose, Berkeley and San Francisco, towards the end of April. The music provided a unique opportunity for three viols to play a highlighted role. With John Dornenburg playing a masterful continuo, Mary Springfels and Julie Jeffrey played impeccably on treble viols in the first Act, and on basses in the second. Their sounds blended delightfully with the excellent singers, and with the recorders, splendidly played by Louise Carslake and Hanneke van Proosdij.

Recorders and Viols

The annual Marin Headlands Workshop for recorders, voices, and other early instruments (*including viols!*) begins on Friday May 16, and continues through the weekend. For information, call 510/283-7134. As a sort of prelude to this cooperative venture, the East Bay Recorder Society's monthly meeting, on May 3, provided an opportunity for viols and recorders to play madrigals by Wilbye and Monteverdi: the viols were played by members Cindy Share, John Mark, Peter Ballinger, Ellen Alexander and Penni Savage, with Julie Jeffrey conducting.

Miscellany

Glancing through some old newsletters, I was reminded that the Chapter and its Newsletter have almost reached their tenth anniversary. One paragraph in a 1993 newsletter, an unashamed filler, as this is, included a list of composers with three-letter last names. Five of the letters of the alphabet had no matching composer, but in the interim, with the acquisition of the paperback Grove, three more have been found (bold). Missing still are three-letter composers beginning with Q and X:

Abt, Bax, Cui, Dan, Egk, Fux, Gal, Hus, Ivo, Jez, Key, Law, Maw, Nin, Odo, Pez, Ran, Sor, Tye, Uji, Voz, Wyk, Yun, Zak.

Forthcoming Concerts

May 11: Ensemble Sans Souci repeat their "4 Seasons for 3" —Vivaldi's Masterpiece in Miniature. Joseph Kimbel's arrangement "en concert" of *The Four Seasons* (published by PRB Productions) is performed by Bob Andrews, *traverso* and recorder, Julie Jeffrey, *basse de viole*; and the arranger as harpsichordist. Sonata movements from *Il Pastor Fido* complement the program. St. Gregory's Church, 500 De Haro San Francisco, 5 PM. Details: 415/621-3085.

PRESIDENT:	Julie Jeffrey
VICE-PRESIDENT:	John Mark
SECRETARY:	Annette Barnett
TREASURER:	Joseph Kimbel