

Gamba NEWS

Volume 12, Number 3

November 1999

Joint play with recorders Nov. 13

Polychoral Venetian music and Muffat with the EBRs

A selection of recorder players from the East Bay Recorder Society will join us at our Nov. 13 meeting, coached by **David Morris**. Please send in your reply postcards promptly.

Three morning consort groupings are planned: two polychoral groups at a=440, each with one choir of tenor and bass recorders and one of viols; and an advanced group at a=415, with alto recorders and voice flutes (tenors in D) taking the top lines. David will be available in the afternoon to coach smaller mixed consorts of recorders and viols.

Those playing at 440 might want to tune up the night before.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Nov. 13, 1999:	Coach David Morris.
Dec. 4, 1999:	Coach Julie Jeffrey.
Jan. 8, 2000:	Coach Lynn Tetenbaum.
Feb. 12, 2000:	Coach John Dornenburg at Stanford.
March 11, 2000:	Coach (tentatively) Amy Brodo.
April, 2000:	Fresno Meet.
May 13, 2000:	Coach Lynn Tetenbaum.

Weird rites in the desert

Albuquerque, October 1 to 3, 1999

The annual three-day workshop organized by **Linda Shortridge** in Albuquerque, held on the opening weekend of the international Balloon Fiesta, achieved liftoff despite some setbacks. **Margriet Tindemans**, scheduled to coach, got the flu and had to cancel at the last minute, but **John Dornenburg** was able to replace her on a few hours' notice.

Brent Wissick arrived from North Carolina with his baryton (with six bowed and nine plucked strings) intact, which he demonstrated on a local radio show, including the first-ever live on-air performance of Hume's "Tobacco." The FCC did not step in. Brent also coached a joint playing session with the Albuquerque recorder chapter.

Brent and John did a morning of open coaching. Particularly valuable was Brent's advice to a Tucson consort on group dynamics: efficient tuning, sensitive listening, and oral counting to establish group spirit.

John agreed to coach **Mary Bruesch**, a fine Albuquerque bass viol and cello player, in a run-through of Marais's *Folies d'Espagne*; he asked how many she planned to play, and she said, well, um, if it was OK, all of them. Which she proceeded to do, from memory.

"Nobody has ever done that," said John. "I don't do that. *Jordi* doesn't do that."

A public concert by John, Brent and Mary featured a Haydn trio for two bass viols and baryton, and Forqueray's *Suite no. 1 in D minor* and Marais's *Pieces de viole* played beautifully with minimal rehearsal by Brent and John. (They did have to look at the music.)

At 7 each morning, hundreds of balloons could be seen from the Shortridges' yard. Some players rose early to go to the liftoff site and witnessed a gigantic **Michelin Man**, a tequila bottle, a Mountie, and a cow on fire, its udders brushing the treetops. (The fire was quickly extinguished.)

Players also rode the Sandia Peak tram. On one of the tram cars, passengers riding inside saw large men with guns jump atop and ride along; more men with guns appeared on the roof of the car approaching from the opposite direction. It turns out that **Tipper Gore** was in the car.

Who knew a viol workshop could be such an adventure? Can we call it Burning Cow?
-- Lyle York

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Mark your calendar

November 27

CONTINUO CAMP: A one-day workshop on continuo styles and techniques. Faculty: **Mary Springfels**, gamba; **Elisabeth Le Guin**, cello; **Phoebe Craig**, harpsichord. Fee, \$60 for participants, \$30 for auditors; Sat., Nov. 27, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at St. Alban's Church in Albany in the upstairs Parish Hall. There is room for four cello, four harpsichord and four gamba participants and any number of auditors. Plenty of seats are still available.

FOR INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION: Contact **Alisa Gould Sugden**, (510) 549-9799 or AGSugden@aol.com.

December 2, 3, 4

MEDIEVAL VIOL MUSIC: Anachronous Three (**John Mark**, **Ralph Prince** and **Lyle York**) will play viol tunes in a vocal concert featuring Dufay's *Missa Se la Face Ay Pale* by **Coro Ciconia** and the **New Queen's Ha'Penny Consort** of recorders. December 2 at Villa Montalvo, 15400 Montalvo Road, Saratoga; December 3 at Goat Hall, 400 Missouri Street, San Francisco; and December 4 at St. Alban's Church, Albany. All at 8:00 p.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact **Lyle York**, 510-559-9273, ly@sfgate.com.

January 12

RECITAL BY JOHN DORNENBURG: Wednesday, January 12, 2000, 8:00 p.m., at Stanford Memorial Church, accompanied by harpsichordist **Yuko Tanaka**. Music includes

Marais, "Suite d'un goût estranger," Couperin, "Suite in E Minor," J.S. Bach, "Sonata in G Minor," and Telemann, "Sonata in A Minor." Tickets are \$8.

January 15

DRIVE THE COLD WINTER AWAY, OR, SCATTER THE MUD: The East Bay Recorder Society presents a one-day workshop on traditional Celtic and Celtic-derived music for recorder players, viol players, and singers on January 15, directed by **Eileen Hadidian**, **Shira Kammen** and **David Morris**. Planned class offerings include "Dance Tunes by Ear," "Modal Improvisation in the Medieval and/or Celtic Style," "Music from Playford's English Dancing Master," "Celtic Songs for Everyone," "Scottish Renaissance Polyphony," and "Haydn's Scottish Songs." Saturday, January 15, Zion Lutheran Church, 5201 Park Blvd., Oakland.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact **Britt Ascher**, workshop coordinator, at (925) 283-7134 or bascher@holonet.net.

February 12

VDGS/PACIFICA PLAY DAY WITH JOHN DORNENBURG: Our annual Stanford University play day coached by **John Dornenburg** will be February 12, 2000, from 9:30 until the last person gets tired. Gather in Room 102 by the Music Department office, Braun Music Center, as usual. Parking in the adjacent lot (and all lots) is free on Saturdays (no permit required).

A note from Herb Myers

Dear Ones:

Greetings to all! I am sending this to relatives and other good friends in order to tell you how things are. First I want to thank you for the generous memorials and other expressions of condolence you have given. I wish this weren't such a tardy response.

On October 28, 1998, Corliss lost her struggle with esophageal cancer, and Herb W., Peggy, and I have been trying to fill a huge void. One aspect of this is that we have located me into a very good life-care facility. In the meantime I have developed Parkinson's which has ruined my handwriting. This computer is going to help a lot. I would be glad to hear from you any time!

With love,

Herb Myers

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