



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

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December Workshop

On Saturday, December 11, we'll have an unusual opportunity to meet one of the foremost players and propagandists of the pardessus de viole, Tina Chancey. This workshop will begin at 9:30 AM — a little earlier than usual so we can take full advantage of the limited time available — at MusicSources in Berkeley. Please arrive by 9:15 to tune and find your group for the morning's consort playing, coached by Tina. Be sure to enter via the upper side door at 1840 Marin. *Do NOT try to enter by the front door on The Alameda, nor ring the doorbell there!* For those who have not been to MusicSources before: via Highway 80, take the Albany exit, proceed along Buchanan which becomes Marin at San Pablo Avenue. After the fourth light (which should be Colusa, numbering from San Pablo as zero) start looking for parking on the right side. The next light is at The Alameda. There won't be much time for lunch so bring a bag lunch, together with a holiday dessert or other treat to share. Tina will discourse on the pardessus and other topics after lunch, and the workshop must end by 3:00 PM. Fees, collected at the workshop: \$15 (\$10 to Pacifica Chapter members): *send in your cards as soon as possible!*

November Meeting

We were pleasantly surprised to see twenty of our members at this meeting, held at Zion church in Piedmont. Julie Jeffrey was faced with several last minute decisions but we were able to field three or four groups with minimal doubling of the over-supply of basses! Congratulations to Corliss Myers on her progress with the tenor! — a good example to other members who play only the bass. As part of our deal with Zion church, John Mark, Betty Nichols, Cecilia Doris and Alvin Roper performed

This is the Record of John with the choir at last Sunday's services.

SFEMS Evening Class Report

The various classes joined for a final recital and refreshments at MusicSources on November 17. After some excellent singing and instrument playing, the "Cries" group, coached by Shira Kammen and John Dornenburg, wound up the musical part of the evening with a rousing performance of Cobb's Round and Gibbons's London Cries with five singers and five viols: the viols were Annette Barnett, Brad Arthur, Peter Ballinger, John Mark and Jenny Mollica. Congratulations to Shira and John. We look forward to the next semester!

KENNETH JOHNSON

We were saddened to hear of Ken Johnson's passing, due to complications of AIDS, on November 29. Ken had played a major role in early music in the Bay Area since the early sixties. His store, Musica Antiqua, in San Francisco was a treasure trove for early music fans: he was a continuing inspiration to the San Francisco Early Music Society, its concerts and workshops. Recently, he had attended our Chapter meetings: it was always a privilege to play in his company, as his devotion to music was so strong and encouraging.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	John Mark
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Lee McRae
SECRETARY:	Cecilia Doris
TREASURER:	Alvin Roper

Our Workshop Director

Tina Chancey specializes in early and traditional bowed strings: viola da gamba, pardessus de viole, vielle, rebec, kamenj, baroque violin and old-time fiddle. She is a founding member and Producing Director of *Hesperus*, ensemble-in-residence at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History, and a frequent guest artist with the Folger Consort. In 1985 and 1990 she received NEA Solo Recitalist Grants for her pioneering work with the pardessus. She is Executive Director for Golden Apple Records, and has also recorded for Bard, Delos, EMI, Arabesque, Musical Heritage Society and Greenhays/Flying Fish. She attended Oberlin College and holds degrees in viola da gamba performance and musicology from Queens College and New York University, respectively. A former member of the Ensemble for Early Music, the New York Renaissance Band and Quog, she has toured also with the Waverly Consort and Concert Royal. Her career has included solo appearances

with the National Symphony, Brooklyn Philharmonic and Brattleboro Festival; and with Victoria de los Angeles at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Ms. Chancey's pardessus de viole was made by Louis Guersan in 1745.

Coming Events

December 5: Mid-Peninsula Recorder Orchestra presents "Music for the Holidays" featuring polychoral works by Gabrieli and Altenburg, and a Handel Concerto. Fred Palmer conducts. Palo Alto Senior Center, 450 Bryant, Palo Alto 1:30 PM Free (408)730-0728

December 10: Magnificat Baroque performs Charpentier's *Oratorio de Noël* with five singers and consort of viols and recorders featuring Tina Chancey and Marion Verbruggen, with our own John Dornenburg and Julie Jeffrey. First Unitarian, 160 N. 3rd St., San Jose. 8 PM \$16/\$13/\$10 (415)979-4500.

December 11: Magnificat repeats the above program at First Congregational, Dana and Durant, Berkeley 8 pm.

Season's Greetings to All!