

## Join us at our PlayDay with coach Roy Wheldon

**Sat., Oct. 19**

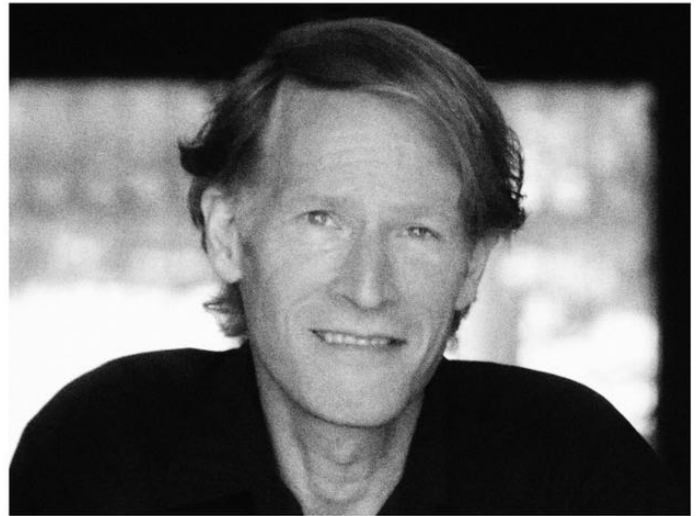
Hillside—An Urban Sanctuary

1422 Navellier St., El Cerrito CA 94530

- 9-9:30 AM – Set up (bring a stand, tune), coffee, snacks and conversation.
- Be ready to play by 9:30.
- **9:30- 11:45 – Whole group session, with breaks**

**Note- Due to a scheduling error beyond our control, there won't be any coached consort groups.**

**No lunch since we need to be gone by 12.**



**Roy Wheldon** is a composer and viola da gamba player. In the last century, he studied with Thomas Binkley at Indiana University and with John Hsu at Cornell. Through the years, he has performed and recorded with several internationally known ensembles, including *Sequentia* (Cologne), *American Baroque* (San Francisco), *Ensemble Alcatraz*, and *Musica Pacifica*. As a composer, he has received commissions for diverse compositions of chamber music, song cycles, choral works, and incidental music. Some of his works are recorded on the New Albion label and include *Galax* - music for viola da gamba and *Like a Passing River*; other recordings include *V.A. Mathieu's First String Quartet* and *On Cold Mountain—Songs on Poems of Gary Snyder* (Innova) and *Dream Drapery* (Music and Arts). In 2005, he founded the *Galax Quartet* (2 violins, gamba and cello). The Quartet has commissioned many new pieces from an international complex of composers.

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I plan to take a look at the pieces in John Dowland's 1604 publication *Lachrimae or Seven Teares*. Specifically we'll look at two of the *Lachrimae* settings and two of the *Galliards*. These are five-part pieces (not including lute). We'll be doing one of them with lute. Viol parts 1 and 2 are treble viol parts, in treble (G) clef. Viol part 3 is a tenor part, in alto clef. Viol parts 4 and 5 are bass viol parts, in bass clef.

I have provided scores for the four pieces I've chosen: (1) *Lachrimae antiquae*, (2) *Lachrimae gementes*, (3) *King of Denmark Galliard*, and (4) *Earl of Essex Galliard*. The two *Galliards* have alternate versions with and without bar lines. The two *Lachrimae* do not have bar lines. All are my own transcriptions of the pieces.

### Registering for our PlayDay

**Deadline: 5 PM, WEDNESDAY, Oct. 16**

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.

## At Open Mic- a farewell to Sal



Colin Shipman, Violet Grgich and Nicole Capiga play Marais.



An enthusiastic, appreciative crowd at Early Music Open Mic wished Sal Blaker a fond farewell as she leaves for a new life in North Carolina to be with her daughter Barbara and many friends.

Sal is the founder and creative mind behind EMOM, a wonderful group of musical friends and a special monthly playing opportunity for both amateurs and professionals; it will continue. If you'd like to say au revoir, we know she'd be happy to hear from you at [salblaker@yahoo.com](mailto:salblaker@yahoo.com).



Peter Hallifax and Julie Jeffrey play Hume



**Jordi Savall, La Capella Reial de Catalunya, and Hespèrion XXI**  
*The Tears and the Fire of the Muses*

**Sat. Oct. 12, Berkeley**  
8 PM, Zellerbach Hall

Berkeley audiences adore Jordi Savall for his limitless curiosity, supreme musicality, and remarkable gift of connecting people, places, and eras through fascinating repertoire. In his latest program, the musical polymath and virtuoso viol player traces the influence of Claudio Monteverdi—innovative composer, opera pioneer, and brilliant music theorist—through his sacred and secular works, as well as those of John Dowland, Anthony Holborne, Samuel Scheidt, and Giacomo de Gorzanis in England, Germany, and Italy. This season marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of Savall's esteemed early-music ensemble Hespèrion XXI, joined here by the glorious vocalists of La Capella Reial de Catalunya.

For more info:

<https://calperformances.org/events/2024-25/early-music/jordi-savall-la-capella-reial-and-hesperion-xxi-the-tears-and-the-fire-of-the-muses/>

*Program including Bach's Sonata for Viola da Gamba in G Major, BWV 1027—*

**Tessa Lark, violin**  
**Joshua Roman, cello**  
**Edgar Meyer, double bass**

**Sun. Oct. 20, Berkeley**  
3 PM Hertz Hall

An exciting new collaboration brings together three singular figures in American concert music—virtuoso instrumentalists with fierce classical chops, deep connections to roots and fiddle music, and wide-open artistic sensibilities. Perhaps today's best-known bass virtuoso, recent Grammy winner Edgar Meyer has built an extraordinary career—as a soloist with leading orchestras; a musical sparring partner with the likes of Yo-Yo Ma, Zakir Hussain, Joshua Bell, Chris Thile, and Béla Fleck; and an in-demand composer and recording artist. Featuring genre-crossing Kentucky-born violinist Tessa Lark and eclectic cellist Joshua Roman, the trio takes an exhilarating romp through selections by Bach, trio music by Meyer, and a brand-new work co-commissioned by Cal Performances, composed especially for these players.

For more information:

<https://calperformances.org/events/2024-25/orchestra-chamber-music/tessa-lark-violin-joshua-roman-cello-edgar-meyer-double-bass/>

For future reference:

Cal Performances has a link to all of its **Early Music performances** here: <https://calperformances.org/performances/early-music/>

## Pacifica BASH report

By Cindi Olwell—

On June 7, 2024, a vibrant group of Pacifica Viols members and friends gathered for our annual Bash to eat, drink, celebrate, and make music! Julie Jeffrey served as our emcee, and we appreciated her staying after the concert to join us for lunch and six-part Byrd and Gibbons consorts—what a delight! Thank you to everyone for the delicious food and drinks you contributed.

During the concert we held a music giveaway, allowing attendees to explore a variety of pieces, from consort to vocal music. Many great works found new homes, thanks to the donors and to Nick and Sue Jones for

organizing and preparing the music for the event.

A special shout-out goes to our wonderful performers: Allison Balberg, Alice Benedict, Melita Denny, Robin Easterbrook, Susanne Hering, Oliver Iberien, Ellen Fisher, Pat Jennerjohn, Nick Jones, Michael Kimbell, Cindi Olwell, John Phillips, and Helen Tyrrell.

This year's concert featured compositions by John Coprario, Michael East, Orlando di Lasso, Henri Dumont, Josquin Des Prez, and Marin Marais. We especially enjoyed a lively rendition of Greensleeves Divisions a3 (for tenor and 2 basses), composed by our own Michael Kimbell, who has since added an optional treble part available at [kimbellmusic.com](http://kimbellmusic.com).

See pix on next page!

**Pacifica Viola da Gamba Society**  
Annual Pacifica Bash - Saturday, June 8th 2024  
Hillside, and Urban Sanctuary - El Cerrito, CA

*Apologies from  
this editor for the  
delay in sharing  
this report...*

Fantasy a3 Meyer no 2  
Fantasy a3 Meyer no 3

Coprario

Susanne Hering, treble  
Nick Jones, tenor  
John Phillips, bass

Fantasia à 3 XII Euterpe

Michael East

Helen Tyrrell (treble)  
Ellen Fisher (treble)  
Pat Jennerjohn (bass)

Greensleeves Divisions a3  
Kimbell

Anonymous, adapted for 3 viols by Michael

Allison Balberg, tenor  
Michael Kimbell, bass  
John Phillips, bass

Iustus cor suum  
Bicinium sinu textu a2 (LV613)

Orlando di Lasso

Cindi Olwell, tenor  
Allison Balberg, bass

Pavana à trois violes  
Villanelle:

DuMont  
Coperario

Questi capelle | Amor falla sapere | Ducavi | Era Rosetta  
Robin Easterbrook, treble  
Pat Jennerjohn, tenor  
Alice Benedict, bass and treble

Alterum Domine  
Excerpt from *Les folies d'Espagne*

Josquin des Prez  
Marin Marais

Melita Denny, bass viol  
Oliver Iberien, bass viol

## Some of our BASH performers–

Thanks to Cindi Olwell for the photos!



From left:

**Susanne Hering,  
John Phillips,  
Nick Jones**

Below from left:

**Robin Easterbrook,  
Pat Jennerjohn,  
Alice Benedict**



From left:

**Ellen Fisher, Helen  
Tyrrell,  
Pat Jennerjohn**

## Early Music Open Mic Night continues...

Although founder Sal Blaker has left California (see p. 2), EMOM will live on—

### Wed. Oct. 23, El Cerrito

7-9 pm, Hillside – An Urban Refuge  
1422 Navellier St., El Cerrito CA 94530

This friendly event is your opportunity to perform early music (before 1750) in a casual cabaret-style setting. Sign up ahead of time as a soloist or group, instrumentalist or singer. Amateurs and professionals, students—all welcome! Join us for light snax and wine!

- Five time slots available (max 15 minutes).
- 4 music stands are available; BYO stand light.
- Donations by performers and audience members are appreciated to help cover the cost of the venue.
- Upcoming dates: Nov. 20, Dec. 18  
(Note: due to the holidays, these are earlier dates from the usual 4th Wednesday of each month.)
- For more information and to reserve your slot please contact Heather Wilson:  
[hi2dougan@gmail.com](mailto:hi2dougan@gmail.com).



## More History of Cries...

At our September PlayDay, we had fun singing old London 'cries' as we played them. Coach Erik Andersen introduced us to long ones by Dering, Gibbons and Tye.

Interested in the history of these cries? Check this out:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Street\\_cries](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Street_cries)

### Submit your event to SFEMS' weekly Early Music Calendar:

<https://www.sfems.org/calendar-of-early-music>

A step-by-step guide to submitting your event:

<https://www.sfems.org/submit-event>

## Amherst Early Music

### Let's Not Play the Ink!

**Online class** with Martha McGaughey, gamba and Arthur Haas, harpsichord

Oct. 5, noon–1:30 PST

Have you ever wondered what's behind all those notes on the page? What were the composers' intentions? Arthur Haas, harpsichord, and Martha McGaughey, viola da gamba, will take you on a fascinating deep dive

into the Baroque sonata, coaching a few players on how to get away from those notes. We will cover articulation, timing, how to play bass lines gloriously, style in the solo and continuo voices, and of course ornamentation. Open to viola da gamba, recorder, keyboard and other treble instrument players. A=415.

Cost: \$30.

To register:

<https://www.amherstearlymusic.org/online/>

## YouTube Videos-

### Frets and Bows and more!

Need to see how to tie frets more easily?

Want to learn about rosin? About choosing a bow? Check out this very useful website:

Viola da Gamba Network:

<https://www.violadagambanetwork.eu/your-viol/>

## A House Concert Organizer: GROUPMUSE

*“Intimate concerts with music that’s held communities together for generations.”*

Passed along by Leslie Gold—

Have you heard about an organization called [Groupmuse.com](https://www.groupmuse.com/)? **They coordinate low-cost house concerts for musicians** and apparently it's a nationwide "thing" according to my Washington, DC, friend John Wiecking (fellow early music enthusiast and singer), who has gone to several events there.

The concert that Mary, Branson and Jason gave recently would fit in with this program, so maybe other area musicians would find it an interesting venue to explore. There is a San Francisco branch, but the concerts are not limited to that side of the bay.

## Some Facebook groups devoted to the viol:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/9171041417> (VdGSA) has 2.5K members

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2447930891> has 5.8K members

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/violadagamba.it> has 12.2K members

*If you know other FB groups that we should highlight, let me know!*

[scjones360@gmail.com](mailto:scjones360@gmail.com)

## Send us your concert/recital announcements!

This editor would love to publish your news of upcoming concerts /recitals that include viols.

Send them to GambaNews editor

[scjones360@gmail.com](mailto:scjones360@gmail.com)

Deadline for upcoming month’s issue is the 20th of the prior month. Better still, send it 2 months ahead! Thanks!

## A New Podcast from

**EMA**  
EARLY MUSIC AMERICA



## Now We Listen!

A podcast celebrating traditionally underrepresented performers, scholars, and research topics in early music and historically informed performance.

*Now We Listen!* is curated and produced by members of EMA’s [IDEA Task Force](#) and is the only early-music podcast written and hosted by diverse individuals in the HIP community. NWL is available via the player below or wherever you get your podcasts.

For more info:

<https://www.earlymusicamerica.org/nowwelisten/>

## Pacifica Viols PlayDays 2024-2025

**Sept. 14: Erik Andersen**  
**Oct. 19: Roy Wheldon**  
**Nov. 9: Shira Kammen**  
**Dec. 14: Mary Springfels**  
**Jan. 11: Amy Brodo**  
**Feb. 1: Elisabeth Reed** @ UC Berkeley  
**Mar. 8: David Miller**  
**Apr. 12: David Morris\***  
**May 10: Julie Jeffrey**  
**June 14: Pacifica BASH**

*\*Voices and Viols*



## Pacifica Viola da Gamba Society

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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](https://www.violasociety.org)

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