

March, 2025 • Vol. 40, No. 7

Join us at our PlayDay with coach David Miller

Sat., Mar. 8

Hillside – An Urban Sanctuary 1422 Navellier St., El Cerrito CA

- 9-9:30 AM Set up (tune), coffee, snacks and conversation. Be ready to play by 9:30.
- 9:30-10:45 AM Group session with coach
- 11:00-12:30 Coached consorts
- 12:30 PM Bring a bag lunch to enjoy
- Uncoached consorts after lunch

David H. Miller is a musicologist and a performer, and Assistant Professor of Practice at UC Berkeley, where he teaches in the Department of Music and the Interdisciplinary Program in American Studies. David has appeared on Baroque and modern double bass, viola da gamba, and violone with the Handel and Haydn Society, Arcadia Players, Trinity Wall Street, Voices of Music, Music at Marsh Chapel, New York Baroque Incorporated, the Albany Consort, and Seven Times Salt.

David holds a Ph.D. in musicology from Cornell University; his research has been featured in the Journal of the American Musicological Society, the Journal of Musicology, the Indiana Theory Review, and Twentieth-Century Music, as well as other publications. He writes on issues surrounding the performance and reception of modernist music, and is currently working on a book project documenting the history of Anton Webern's music in the US. For more information, see: www.davidhmiller.com.



In nomines Old and New

The *in nomine* is one of the most beloved genres of music for viol consort. In this session we will discuss the history of the *in nomine* and look at two examples of the genre: Thomas Tallis' *In nomine a4* and *Chavela*, a 5-part *in nomine* composed by Brooke Green in 2017.

We will also discuss the unique performance challenges posed by works of this kind, and ponder which musical and aesthetic qualities have led to the genre's enduring relevance and popularity.

Registering for our PlayDay

Deadline: 5 PM, WEDNESDAY, Mar. 5

- I. 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.

February PlayDay at UC Berkeley



PlayDay coach Elisabeth Reed

David Miller writes—

Elisabeth Reed and I were happy to host the February I PlayDay at Morrison Hall, the home of the UC Berkeley Department of Music.

Thank you to everyone who made the trek to this new location, as it allowed for five of our Cal students to participate in the event, which they greatly enjoyed!

Thanks also to all those who helped coordinate behind-the-scenes logistics. This was a great way to spread the joy of playing viols together!

Amherst Early Music

AEM Online Class

Music Appreciation— The Joy of Listening

with Frances Blaker

Sun., Mar. 2 • Noon - 1:30 PM PST

This is a listening class rather than a playing class. We will listen to recordings, follow along in scores, and discuss features of each piece. And in the process, you can enjoy hearing many pieces of many types – what a joy! \$30

For more info, and to register:

https://www.amherstearlymusic.org/online/classes-march-I-2



SF CONCERT CANCELLED

The SF Conservatory concert scheduled for March 9 with Historical Performance faculty Elisabeth Reed, Elizabeth Blumenstock and Corey Jamason has unfortunately been cancelled.



Cantata Collective Orchestra and Chorus present—

St. Matthew Passion

Fri. March 21, Berkeley 7:00 PM, First Congregational Church

Nicholas McGegan, conductor
With Elisabeth Reed and Bill Skeen – viols
For more information and tickets:

https://www.cityboxoffice.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=3142



Barefoot Chamber Concerts presents

Paris in the '20s

Fri. Mar. 28, Berkeley 6:30 PM, St. Mary Magdalen Parish Hall

Peter Hallifax, Julie Jeffrey – viols Cynthia Black – violin Katherine Heater – harpsichord

The program will include Couperin's lovely third "Concert Royal," Marais' programmatic "Labyrinthe" (the dreamlike "Sonnerie de Sainte Genevieve Du Mont") and others.

\$25 (no one turned away for lack of funds).

Reserve a seat in advance by emailing info@barefootchamberconcerts.com, then pay at the door. This gets you a seat in the front!



A SPECIAL EVENT from SFEMS-

Quicksilver Baroque Ensemble

Early Moderns: Extravagant and Inventive New Music of the 17th Century

Mon. March 24, Berkeley 7:30 PM, First Congregational Church

With David Morris - viol

For more information and tickets:

https://sfems.app.getcuebox.com/o/Q84D69WB/shows/WXS1Y2DR



Voices of Music presents

Voice of the Viol

L'Amorosa Ero: The Hero of Love

Voice of the Viol viola da gamba consort, led by Elisabeth Reed

Danielle Reutter-Harrah - soprano

7:00 PM, Mar. 28, Palo Alto 7:30 PM, Mar. 29, San Francisco 7:30 PM, Mar. 30, Berkeley

The popularity of the Italian madrigal in England began in the 1580s and lasted for over 100 years.



We will explore vocal and instrumental music for soprano and viol consort by Italians such as Monteverdi, Marenzio, and Ferrabosco the Elder, as well as music by their English admirers Dowland, Byrd, Ward, Ferrabosco the Younger and Coperario.

For more location and ticket information: https://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/voicesofmusic/

SFEMS Summer Workshops

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT through March 31

New! All classes will be in the new Community Hall at First Congregational Church, Berkeley. Also, room and board are closer than ever!

Find out more:

https://www.sfems.org/workshops

4 SFEMS summer workshops:

- Baroque Workshop: June 16-22
- Medieval/Renaissance Workshop: July 13-19
- Recorder Workshop: July 20-16
- Classical Workshop: July 27-Aug. 2

One-Day Play-in/Preview for SFEMS Baroque Workshop

Let's chase away those late winter blues and get musicking together!

Sat. Mar. 8, 10:30 AM-3:30 PM St. Mary Magdalen Church, Berkeley

Join SFEMS Baroque Workshop Director Lindsey Strand-Polyak for a day celebrating March's most famous baroque birthday besties: Georg Philip Telemann (March 24) and Johann Sebastian Bach (March 31). We'll be throwing them a joint birthday party in our afternoon play-in, complete with cake!

This event is open to all instrumentalists playing at A=415: violin family, gambas, recorders, flutes, oboes, bassoons, harp, guitars, harpsichord, bass sackbuts, and beyond.



Two sessions:

10:30 - 12:00 - String Clinic - Spring 'String Training' to prepare for summer

1:00 - 3:30 - TUTTI Bday Party Playing-winds and other Baroque players also welcome!

BYO: Music stands and brown bag lunch SFEMS provides waters, coffee, sweets Tuition: \$65 Full Day; \$40 Half Day

Questions? Email workshops@sfems.org

Join the fun next month—-Voices & Viols PlayDay Apr. 12

David Morris, coach

Hillside – An Urban Sanctuary 1422 Navellier St., El Cerrito CA

Following last year's enjoyable foray into works of Byrd and Dowland, this year we'll examine a mixed bunch of 4- and 5-part secular and sacred works by English, Italian, and Franco-Flemish composers.

All of the texts are in English, thanks to the late-17th-c. craze for foreign music for English-speaking audiences (especially evidenced by Nicholas Yonge's 1588 anthology, *Musica Transalpina*).

We'll have a later start than usual:

9:30 AM – Gather for coffee and snacks10 AM – Play/sing thru 12:30, with a break12:30 PM – Stay for lunch and conversation

Know any singers you'd like to invite?

We'll be recruiting singers through an email to last year's singers as well as many local choirs. If you'd like to send a personal invitation to singer friends, please do! Refer them to our new webpage https://pacificaviols.org/voices-and-viols/.

Tell them to email David Morris with their voice part, e.g., soprano, alto, countertenor, tenor, bass) at <a href="mailto:mailto

A \$20 donation to our scholarship fund is requested of singers at the door.



Voices & Viols - April 2024

Early Music Open Mic Night

Wed. Mar. 26, El Cerrito
7-8:30 PM, Hillside – An Urban Refuge
1422 Navellier St., El Cerrito

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. Join us for light snax and wine – amateurs, professionals, and students, all are welcome!

- 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: April 23, May 28 as always, the 4th Wed. of each month.
- To reserve your slot, to be added to the mailing list, or for more info, please contact Heather Wilson: hi2dougan@gmail.com.

Pacifica Viols PlayDays 2024-2025

Sept. 14: Erik Andersen

Oct. 19: Roy Wheldon

Nov. 9: Shira Kammen

Dec. 14: Mary Springfels

Jan. II: Amy Brodo

Feb. I: Elisabeth Reed @ UC Berkeley

Mar. 8: David Miller

Apr. 12: David Morris*

May 10: Julie Jeffrey

June 14: Pacifica BASH

*Voices and Viols



Send us your concert/recital announcements!

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

Send them to GambaNews editor scjones360@gmail.com

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

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