

Join us at our PlayDay with coach Elisabeth Reed

Sat., Oct. 11

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.
- 9:30-10:45 AM – Group session with coach
- 11:00-12:30 – Coached consorts
- 12:30 PM – Bring a bag lunch to enjoy
- 1-2:30 PM – Uncoached DIY consort playing

Elisabeth Reed (Oakland, CA) teaches Baroque cello and viola da gamba at the University of California at Berkeley and at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, where she is co-director of the Baroque Ensemble. Recent teaching highlights include master classes at the Juilliard School, the Shanghai Conservatory and Middle School, and the Royal Academy of Music.

A soloist and chamber musician with Voices of Music, Pacific Musicworks, Archetti, and Wildcat Viols, she has also appeared with the Smithsonian Chamber Players, the American Bach Soloists and the Seattle, Portland, Pacific, and Philharmonia Baroque Orchestras. Elisabeth directs "Voice of the Viol", the renaissance viola da gamba ensemble of Voices of Music.



Elisabeth can be heard on the Virgin Classics, Naxos, Focus, Plectra, and Magnatunes recording labels and has many HD videos on the Voices of Music YouTube channel.

A Guild-certified practitioner of the Feldenkrais Method™ of Awareness Through Movement™, she has a particular interest in working with musicians and other performers.

We will begin with Feldenkrais and technique warm-ups and then explore some lovely Italian Ricercars and Canzonas by Cima, Guami, and Montaro.

Registering for our PlayDay

Deadline: NOON, WEDNESDAY, Oct. 8

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.

**Barefoot Chamber Concerts
presents**

**Fair is the Rose: English &
Italian Songs for Voice & Viols**

Friday, Oct. 17, Berkeley

6:30 PM, Saint Mary Magdalen Church

Rita Lilly, soprano

Erik Andersen, Marie Dalby Szuts, David Miller,
and Tobi Szuts, viols



The Elizabethans invented the consort song form, and the Jacobean and some foreigners took it further, until, like all great English chamber music, it was killed off by the civil war (the English one).

Join us for a program of delightful and heart-rending songs for soprano and viol from classic consort songs by Byrd and Gibbons, to Monteverdi's gorgeous *Lamento della Ninfa*. We'll explore the interplay of text and melody in these glorious pieces.

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

You can reserve a seat in advance (and sit in the front rows) by emailing info@barefootchamberconcerts.com, and then paying at the door.

PlayDay stuff-

It sounds like our September PlayDay was very successful, both musically and culinarily...

Just to review...



Potlucked PlayDay snacks

We will now be asking participants to periodically bring a snack for the group.

This month those with last names H to N are asked to please bring a snack – either savory or sweet – to share at our Oct. 11 PlayDay during our 9-9:30 and mid-morning breaks. Thanks!



(In November it will be O to Z, and in December we'll start again with A-G.)

Voices of Music presents

The Voice of the Viol:

Petrucchi—the first music printer

In 1501, Ottaviano Petrucci revolutionized the music world with the development of music printing. In his many books, he published the best composers of his time, including Josquin, Isaac and Marchetto Cara.

Join us for a concert of vocal and instrumental music performed on early renaissance instruments including our new set of early renaissance viols.

Singer Danielle Reutter-Harrah will join us.

Thurs., Nov. 7, Palo Alto

7:30 PM, First Congregational Church of Palo Alto

Friday, Nov. 8, San Francisco

7:30 PM, San Francisco Conservatory of Music

Sat. Nov. 9, Berkeley

7:30 PM, First Congregational Church

For details and tickets:

<https://voicesofmusic.org/Concerts.html>



Early Music America's

Mini-Grants for Early Music Month (March)

EMA recognizes outstanding community engagement projects of individuals and organizations that take place in March. Early Music Month Mini-Grants support selected creative projects with supplemental funding.

Mini-grants of \$500 will be awarded for projects to be held in North America as part of [Early Music Month](#) in March of each year. Successful projects will seek to expand the reach of early music in your community.

EMA welcomes and encourages creative proposals for in-person, virtual, and hybrid events. The application is open to EMA members and non-members.

EMM Mini-Grant Recipients are expected to submit high-resolution photos and/or video of their project activities and a brief written reflection on the impact of the project by April 30.

TIMELINE:

Applications are available in November.

Mini-Grant applications are due in January. Recipients will be notified and funds dispersed in mid-January.

For more information:

<https://www.earlymusicamerica.org/early-music-month/emm-mini-grants/>

Amherst Early Music

An online class of interest to gambists:

Making Connections: Bow-strokes, phrasing, speech, and song

Noon-1:30 PM PT, Oct. 4

Sarah Mead, viol



Translating bow-strokes into phrases by examining how we connect syllables in speech and song.

\$30.

[Register HERE](#)

Early Music Open Mic Night

Wed. Oct. 22, El Cerrito

7-8:30 PM, Hillside – An Urban Refuge

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:

Wednesday, Nov. 19, Dec. 17

(Note: Due to the holidays, the Nov. and Dec. dates have been moved a week earlier..)

For more information and to reserve your slot, please contact Heather Wilson:
hi2dougan@gmail.com.

English Country Dancing

From our SFEMS newsletter, we noticed an engaging article from Early Music America's website about the evolution of English Country Dancing.

Several years ago gambist and cellist Lisa Terry was asked if she was interested in playing for country dance events, even though she would be paid "peanuts" — much less than when she performs with NYC's Parthenia Viol Consort or Philadelphia's Tempesta di Mare. She said yes, got hooked, learned how to dance, and now regularly plays in a couple of dance bands.

Gene Morrow, founder of the Gotham Early Music Scene is quoted as saying—"Playing Baroque music for dancing is closer to American jazz than it is to concert trio sonatas or the Bach *Brandenburg* concertos, because it is improvisatory." The only thing musicians have to go on is the melody, whether the dance and music are from the 17th century or the present day. "Everything else you hear is improvised on the spot. The realization of the harmony and bass line are done on the fly. As a classically paper-trained musician who studied oboe at Juilliard, that was a real shocker to me."

To read the entire article:

<https://www.earlymusicamerica.org/web-articles/english-country-dance-an-american-pastime/>



FYI – Berkeley hosts an English Country Dance with a live band from 7:45 to 10pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at Christ Church, 2138 Cedar Street.

Beginner lessons start at 7:25.

BACDS members \$15; non-members \$20.

Fragrance-free

For more information:

<https://bacds.org/series/english/>



Thank you to Alice Benedict for recruiting great coaches for our new season!

Pacifica Viols PlayDays 2025-2026

Sept. 13: Julie Jeffrey
Oct. 11: Elisabeth Reed
Nov. 8: Melita Denny
Dec. 13: David Miller
Jan. 10: Wendy Gillespie
Feb. 14: Erik Andersen
Mar. 14: Shira Kammen
Apr. 11: David Morris*
May 9: Farley Pearce
June 13: Pacifica BASH

**Voices and Viols*



Join Us!



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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://pacificaviols.org)

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