

**Join us at our PlayDay
with coach Alexa Haynes-Pilon**

Sat., Oct. 10

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

Canadian-born Alexa Haynes-Pilon (DMA, USC) is the principal cellist of Musica Angelica Baroque Orchestra and Opera NEO, as well as co-director of Musica Pacifica. She has often performed as principal cellist with the Orchester Wiener Akademie and recently performed the gamba solos in the St. Matthew Passion at Musikverein in Vienna, Austria. Alexa recently conducted Musica Angelica and the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra and has performed with many major baroque ensembles including Tafelmusik, American Bach Soloists, Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, Cantata Collective, The Washington Bach Consort and Opera Lafayette. She has been on faculty at numerous workshops and can be heard on the Musica Omnia and Music & Arts labels. She has also collaborated with the Hungarian State Opera in Budapest on two unique opera productions.

<https://www.alexahaynespilon.com/>



Charles Coleman (ca. 1605–1664) and Richard Mico (1590-1661) are not well-known today, but they were both considered among England's finest composers during their lifetimes, and both worked for the English royal household at the same time!

Charles Coleman was a member of the Kings Musick, performing for Charles I. Richard Mico was organist to Queen Henrietta Maria (the wife of Charles I) from 1630 until the king's execution in 1649.

We'll play Coleman's Fantasia for 5 viols and Mico's Fantasy à 5 no. 3, exploring the compositional styles of these two composers who had fairly parallel lives.

Registering for our PlayDay

Deadline: NOON, WEDNESDAY, Oct. 7

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.

Teaching Videos – free!

Viola da Gamba Society of America

Ready to learn something new or brush up a technique with some guidance?

Check out the library of teaching videos under “Resources” on the website of the Viola da Gamba Society of America:

<https://www.vdgsa.org/teaching-videos>

Check out the first few videos on that page:

- “The Cadence, Part I” by Sarah Mead
- “How to Practice Tricky Rhythms” by Amy Domingues
- “Practicing with Both Sides of your Brain” by Brent Wissick

Use buttons to filter the video topics by–

- Treble/ Tenor/ Bass
- Beginner/ Intermediate/ Advanced
- Left Hand/ Bow Hand/ Whole body
- Phrasing/ Tuning
- Ensemble
- Exercises
- Practicing Strategies
- Maintenance/ Equipment

MORE FACEBOOK TIDBITS

A couple more finds from the Facebook page “Viola da gamba”–

Browning a 3 – A familiar piece by Elway Bevin, played by the Accademia Strumentale Italiana. Have a listen!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z6n_bxBBCI0&list=PLWNrOjforvcM

Another listen from the same page–

Marin Marais’ Muzette and Menuet Muzette

performed by the Archipel Consort in Brussels from Track 1 of their Baroque Ad Libitum.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jv-Jsn76_vw&list=PLyIEP19NIfGFilYINU1jsGouUDsVnyp2_

Not a link, just hoping to pique your interest...



PlayDay SNAX

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

COFFEE pickup for PlayDay

On our registration form, **you can volunteer to pick up coffee** for our PlayDay, bringing it by 9:15 AM at the latest.

Our PlayDay Coordinator Allison will pre-order and pre-pay for it. The volunteer then picks up the box of brewed coffee (and the cups, sugar, creamer & stirrers that come with) that morning from a local coffee shop.

If more than one person volunteers, Allison will choose one, and email them the receipt.

If no one volunteers... no coffee!

Thanks for your help!

– Two upcoming Barefoot Chamber Concerts –



Joye des Violes

Lisa Terry & Lynn Tetenbaum

Fri., Oct. 16, 6:30 PM

St. Mary Magdalen Parish Hall

2005 Berryman, Berkeley

We've been waiting for this concert to land for a while now (a series of scheduling mishaps), but finally here it is: Two of the most eminent viol players in the U.S. combine to play music by the likes of Michael East, John Jenkins, Christopher Simpson, François Couperin, Ste-Colombe, and G.P. Telemann.

Most of these composers were actually viol players, and in any case, very few French or English composers could resist writing music for two viols. The instrument can play treble parts, bass parts, chords, and can switch seamlessly from one style to another. Viols have a stunning dynamic range and a variety of articulation possibilities. What more could a baroque composer want? For a viol player, the repertoire for two viols is almost as significant as the solo repertoire.

Admission \$25 (no one turned away for lack of funds). You can reserve a seat in advance by email to info@barefootchamberconcerts.com, and pay at the door..

For more info: <https://barefootchamberconcerts.com/concert/october-16-2026-joye-des-violes/>

Dowland's Lachrimae (& more)

The Barefoot All-Stars

Fri., Nov. 13, 6:30 PM

St. Mary Magdalen Parish Hall

2005 Berryman, Berkeley

Erik Andersen, Wendy Gillespie, Peter Hallifax, Julie Jeffrey, Lynn Tetenbaum- viols

with John Lenti, lute

It is 400 years since John Dowland, England's most famous lutenist and an extraordinary composer, died. His life was full: he lived and worked in England, France, Germany, Italy, and Denmark. He wrote four books of lute songs, innumerable complex pieces for the lute, and many other compositions, including psalms, lamentations and other chamber music. But his most revered work, and the centerpiece of tonight's concert, is the seven "passionate pavans" of "Lachrimae, or Seven Teares."



The program will include other compositions, some by Dowland, some by other early 17th century composers that refer to and reflect the great legacy of the original pavan.

Admission \$25. Reserve a seat in advance (info@barefootchamberconcerts.com), and pay at the door..

For more info: <https://barefootchamberconcerts.com/concert/sept-11-2026-stepping-across-blavet-couperin-rameau-telemann-bach/>

Amherst Early Music

Online classes with AEM

Easier Fantasias for Viols with Amy Domingues, viol

November 7, noon-1:30PM

Explore the rich and inventive world of sixteenth-century fantasias by Thomas Lupo and Giovanni Bassano. We'll play a selection of their fantasias, including more approachable pieces for players who are newer to consort playing. Through guided score study and ensemble playing, we'll explore imitation, rhythm, articulation, and phrasing, with an emphasis on developing confidence and bringing these wonderful works to life. Designed for lower-intermediate and intermediate viol players. Pitch: A=415.

Fee \$35; Student discount rate: \$20

To register:

<https://www.amherstearlymusic.org/aem-online-nov-2026>

Precision and Passion in Performance of Passaggi

with Patricia Ann Neely, viol

November 8, 10:00-11:30 AM

Fee \$35; Student discount rate: \$20

For more information and to register:

<https://www.amherstearlymusic.org/aem-online-nov-2026>

Viol class with Larry Lipnick at AEM Festival





Early Music America Summit

University of Washington, Seattle

The EMA Summit brings the early-music community of North and South America together for three days of thought-provoking presentations, performances, workshops, and networking, including featured performances by outstanding local partners.

The 2026 EMA Summit will be held at the [wə'təb'əltx](#)™ (Intellectual House*) on the University of Washington campus. We'll have a fantastic daily line up of specially curated Summit sessions, with help from partner [Early Music Seattle](#). **Livestreaming will be available for all sessions!**

Those attending the Summit in person will also be treated to the [Young Performers Festival](#), [Emerging Artists Showcase](#), and performances from [Sound Salon](#), [Seattle Bach Festival](#), and the [Byrd Ensemble](#) at nearby Seattle venues.

For more information: <https://www.earlymusicamerica.org/summit/>

**Note: wə'təb'əltx™ – Intellectual House is a longhouse-style facility on the UW Seattle campus. It provides a multi-service learning and gathering space for American Indian and Alaska Native students, faculty and staff, as well as others from various cultures and communities to come together in a welcoming environment to share knowledge. Opened in 2015, the Intellectual House made history. The building was the culmination of a decades-long dream to create a gathering place in honor of our region's First Nations.*

Free PR for Viol performers!

Our newsletter strives to increase audiences for concerts featuring viols.

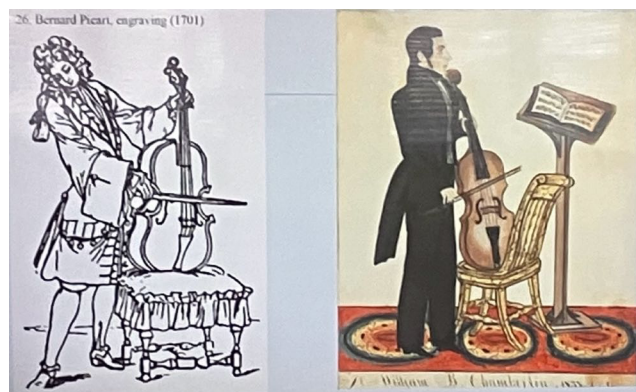
So... **LET ME KNOW!**

Send me details about your upcoming concerts this year – it's never too early to let me know! Pix definitely welcome.

We'll publish your gig up to 2 months ahead.

Thanks,
Sue Jones, GambaNews editor

scjones360@gmail.com



Early Music Open Mic Night

Friday, Oct. 16 • 7-8:30 PM

Hillside – An Urban Refuge
1422 Navellier St., El Cerrito CA 94530

Sign up ahead of time as a soloist or group, instrumentalist or singer. Music from 1750 or earlier. Amateurs, professionals, students—all welcome!

Join us for light snax and wine!

- Five time slots available (max. 15 minutes)
 - Four music stands available; BYO stand light.
- Donations by performers and audience are welcome to help cover the venue cost.

Next up: Fri. Nov. 20

To reserve your slot, contact Heather Wilson
hi2dougan@gmail.com.

**Thank you to Alice Benedict
for recruiting great coaches
for this season!**

**Pacifica Viols
PlayDays 2026-2027**

Sept. 12: Erik Andersen
Oct. 10: Alexa Haynes-Pilon
Nov. 14: Wendy Gillespie
Dec. 12: Julie Jeffrey
Jan. 9: Shira Kammen
Feb. 13: Melita Denny
Mar. 13: Mary Springfels
Apr. 10: David Morris*
May 8: Bill Skeen
June 12: Pacifica BASH

**Voices and Viols*

JOIN THE CROWD
– Donate to
Pacifica's
scholarship fund at
[https://pacificaviols.org/
donate/](https://pacificaviols.org/donate/)



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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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