



The Sacramento Recorder Society

A place for early music of all kinds in Sacramento

A chapter of the American Recorder Society
An affiliate of the San Francisco Early Music Society

May 2019

For more information about the Sacramento Recorder Society, visit our blog at <http://sacrecorders.wordpress.com/>

May Meeting

6:45pm
Tuesday, May 7, 2019
at the Friends Meeting House
890 57th Street
between J St. and H St.

A Letter From the Editor

Dear Early Music friends,

Does your life have a soundtrack? I often find myself creating my own soundtrack when I have to do something I'm not looking forward to. Loading the dishwasher and folding clothes, for instance, are two things that are much more pleasant with a musical accompaniment. As I pull clothes out of the dryer or start upending glasses into the top dishwasher rack, it's great to have something to listen to. Maybe, like me, you have a collection of CDs that you've bought at workshops or concerts. Putting on a CD allows me to have a group of musicians in my family room as I fold a bunch of towels. Such luxury; almost like having my own "Queen's Musicians"!

If you are headed out on errands or perhaps on a trip, the car is another opportunity to use those CDs and create your own private concert. Or you might listen to Capital Public Radio, Sirius (if you subscribe), or Pandora. Sometimes I find myself getting sucked into the latest craziness from Washington, and while I love NPR,

it's better for my mental health to surround myself with something more uplifting!

For several months I was asked to choose the hymns and musical numbers for the church service I attend. What a great opportunity! My own soundtrack at church! I indulged my fondness for early music by choosing the oldest hymns in the hymnal and by introducing the choir to Thomas Tallis (unfortunately not a match made in heaven). I have always sung in the choir and a side benefit is that what we practice stays with me during the week, popping up at random moments as part of my daily soundtrack.

On most Friday nights, I hang out with a group of recorder friends and we provide ourselves with a couple of hours of music. It's a treat to make music with friends. We've made some quirky discoveries that have become favorites and have also revisited some things we previously played at chapter meetings. It's our own group soundtrack.

Our next chapter meeting is with Arthur Omura who has a background in keyboard music. He is bringing us pieces by Sweelinck and Eustache; something new for the soundtrack!

I hope that music is providing is providing each of you with the best possible accompaniment for your everyday activities. Looking forward to seeing you on May 7th at our next meeting,

Patty Johnson
SRS newsletter editor



*May's Conductor:
Arthur Omura*

Arthur Omura is a specialist in historical keyboard instruments based in the San Francisco Bay Area. He studied organ repertoire of the Baroque under Charles Rus in San Francisco, modern technique under Dr. Ladd Thomas at the University of Southern California, and harpsichord repertoire under Dr. Lucinda Carver at USC. He has performed at the Boston and Berkeley Early Music festivals and given numerous performances in Los Angeles and the Bay Area. Omura keeps an active performance schedule as an organist and harpsichord player. He has worked with MicroFest, wildUp, iPalpiti, Les Surprises Baroques, Musica Angelica, and the American Bach Soloists. Omura can be heard on several recordings, most recently on "Kontrapunktus", a collection of new music by composer Mark Moya written in a Baroque idiom. His interest in instrument making led him to work with harpsichord builder Curtis Berak, whom he has assisted in restoring several instruments, and with organ builder Manuel Rosales. Omura is the director of music at Grace Episcopal Church in Martinez, California.

Conductor's Notes

For music, I thought I would bring some Renaissance polyphony this time: a Psalm by Sweelinck (Psalm 98) and a set of fantasies on *Jeune Fillette* by Eustache du Caurroy. Both of these works are based upon older melodies, the Sweelinck piece

on a melody attributed to 16th century composer Louis Bourgeois, the Eustache du Caurroy on a French folk song (*Jeune Fillette*, also called *Jeune Pucelle*), which in turn was based upon an even older Italian melody (*la Monica*).

Sweelinck and Eustache were contemporaries, both writing in the twilight of the Renaissance, yet their approach to what had been an internationally popular compositional style is markedly different. Sweelinck is thorough, treating the melodic subject as a cantus firmus and weaving the other voices around it in a madrigalesque parade. Eustache is combative, pitting his theme against the other voices in musical sparring contests, and increasing the voices from three in the first fantasie to five in the last.

Putting these two together, I'm hoping to capture some of the vitality and variety of the late-Renaissance.

*Lazar's Early Music Passes
The Baton*

As many of you know, after many satisfying years, I have sold Lazar's Early Music and retired. I would like to introduce the new owner and operator, Martin Shelton. He is an energetic young musician, with a degree in music. He plays the cello, guitar and recorder, and is learning viola da gamba. He has moved the business to the Atlanta, GA area, and will continue internet/mail order/phone sales both nationally and internationally, as well as serving local customers.

In closing, I would like to thank you, both my recent and old customers, for your tremendous support over the last 24 years. You are what made this business the success that it is. You also have made this time very satisfying for me. Knowing that I've been able to fit you with instruments that give you joy, like my instruments give me joy, has been tremendously rewarding.

Bill Lazar, Founder

Conductors for 2019

May 7, 2019: Arthur Omura

June 4, 2019: Business Meeting, Tag Sale, Play In, Open Mic

Refreshments at Monthly Meetings

Thank you to Gail Crawford, Mark Schiffer, and Brian Thompson for the delicious March refreshments. A big huzzah to all those who provided treats for us this year! Huzzah! Huzzah!

Spring Workshop

Marin Headlands Workshop for Recorders and Other Instruments

May 17-19

**YMCA Pont Bonita Conference Center
Marin Headlands**

A full weekend of music (intermediate to advanced levels) featuring: Tish Berlin, Tom Bickley, Frances Blaker, Frances Feldon, Gayle Neuman, Phil Neuman, and Derek Tam.

Class topics include: Scottish sacred and secular Music, Baroque ensemble music, Renaissance dances, Gregorian chant, a Monteverdi mass, and music from the court of Maximilian I

Please register before May 1; call for availability (Merlyn Katechis at 510-593-4679) after May 1.

Information:
merlynk@berkeleymusic.com

Note from Newsletter editor: I am forwarding the email I received, with the workshop brochure attached, to newsletter recipients. Too much tempting stuff!

Upcoming Summer Workshop



The Port Townsend Early Music Workshop July 7-13 University of Puget Sound Tacoma, Washington

An exciting week-long opportunity for players of recorder, viol, early winds, percussion as well as singers to immerse themselves in music of the Middle Ages, Renaissance, French Baroque, Contemporary, Brazilian and African, and much, much more. Most classes are geared towards players with reliable technique and reading skills, but there is always a place for those who feel they are less experienced or rusty, or coming back to music after a long break. Many of the participants agree that this workshop is one of the most friendly and inclusive of any they have attended.

Information: <http://www.seattle-recorder.org/workshop/>



Marin Headlands Workshop location!

San Francisco Early Music Society presents
Summer Workshops

Baroque Workshop
June 23-29, 2019
Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, CA
Director: Linda Pearce

A Transalpina Sommerreise

Take a musical journey across the alps to explore the vibrant music cultures of two rich, interconnected, yet diverse cities in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries: Venice and Hamburg.

Medieval and Renaissance Workshop
June 30-July 6, 2019
St. Albert's Priory, Oakland, CA
Director: Adam Gilbert with assistant director Bianca Hall

Sine nomine: Celebrating Anonymous Composers and Songs with No Name

This year, we will celebrate two kinds of music with no name. First, we will explore works by anonymous composers of the Middle Ages and Renaissance. Too many compositions are overlooked because their author is unknown.

Second, we will explore works called *Missa Sine nomine* ("Mass Without a Name"). Masses built on a song whose identity remains unknown.

SFEMS Recorder Workshop
St. Albert's Priory, Oakland, CA
Directors: Hanneke van Proosdij and Rotem Gilbert

Week I: July 7-13, 2019

Heaven and Earth

Week II: July 14-20, 2019

Shadows and Light

Explore Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Contemporary and World Music in an intimate setting with world-class faculty. Develop your recorder technique and ensemble skills in an inspiring and supportive atmosphere. We offer classes for intermediate and advanced players, amateurs and professionals, ensemble players and soloists, conductors and music teachers. We welcome an international faculty of magnificent performers and charismatic teachers.

Classical Workshop
July 14-20, 2019
School of the Madeleine, Berkeley, CA
Directors: Kati Kyme and William Skeen

1789: A Pivotal Year

1789 marks the dividing line between the Enlightenment and Romanticism by the start of the French Revolution. Famous Classical composers such as Mozart and Haydn were writing their masterpieces at this time, and later writers such as Beethoven were inspired deeply by the events of that year.

For more information on these workshops, go to sfems.org

Spring Concerts

UC Davis Baroque Ensemble

Works by Corelli, Muffat, and Bach

Michael Sand and Phebe Craig, Directors

Sunday, April 28: Ann E. Pitzer Center, Mondavi Center, Davis, 3:00pm

Information: www.mondaviarts.org.

Mid-Peninsula Recorder Orchestra

Spring Concert

Frederic Palmer, Director

Sunday, May 5: Trinity Presbyterian Church, San Carlos, 2:00pm

Information www.mpro-online.org

Antic Faces

Joyne Hands

Elizabethan entertainments for mixed consorts

Friday, May 10: First Presbyterian Church, Palo Alto, 8:00pm

Saturday, May 11: St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Berkeley, 7:30pm

Sunday, May 12: St. Mark's Lutheran Church, San Francisco, 4:00pm

Information: sfems.org

Los Angeles Master Chorale

Lagime di San Pietro (Tears of St. Peter)

Friday, May 17: Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley, 8:00pm

Information: www.calperformances.org

Iestyn Davies, countertenor and Thomas Dunford, lute

England's Orpheus: Dowland, Purcell, and Handel

Sunday, May 19: First Congregational Church, Berkeley, 4:00pm

Information: sfems.org





Take lessons from a recorder expert!

Sacramento area:

Kathryn Canan is available for recorder lessons or ensemble coaching. Contact her at 916-996-7932 or kacanan@yahoo.com. She's now in Grass Valley, at 469 Pine Street (95945). She is willing to drive to Sacramento to give lessons or ensemble coaching. Of course, she's also happy to have people drive up here, take a lesson, and go hiking in the state park across the street!

These teachers are in the Bay Area (or willing to come to Sacramento, if there's enough interest):

Greta Haug-Hryciw, SRS member and conductor, would love to give lessons before chapter meetings. Contact Greta at (415) 377-4444 or at gr8asf@gmail.com

Frances Feldon, conductor of the Barbary Coast Recorder orchestra and music director of the ensemble Flauti Diversi, is available for lessons. She can be contacted at franfeldon@gmail.com

Judith Linsenberg, the director of the Baroque ensemble Musica Pacifica, holds a doctorate in early music from Stanford, and has extensive recorder teaching experience. She may be contacted by phone at 510-459-5958.

More information about teachers is on our blog:

<http://sacrecorders.wordpress.com/>

Find Us Online!

Our official online location is now our blog at <http://sacrecorders.wordpress.com/>. All the information that Kathy kept on the website is now here. She can easily authorize others to post as well, and anyone can add more information by commenting on the posts.

You can check the blog for new information any time, or you can subscribe to it by entering your email in the "Follow" field. Information that rarely changes is also on the blog. Click on the menu button to find what you're looking for.

We are also on Facebook. Just search for Sacramento Recorder Society and be sure to "like" us!!

Consider joining one of the larger organizations which make our own SRS possible:

The San Francisco Early Music Society, with whom we are affiliated, offers excellent workshops and concerts in the Bay Area. Their website: www.sfems.org

American Recorder Society, of which we are a chapter, is the national organization which promotes recorders. Their website: www.americanrecorder.org

SRS Non-Member Meeting Policy

Please be aware...

We love having new members and a non-member is welcome to attend two SRS meetings for free. After that there will be a \$5 fee per meeting for the non-member.

Nevada County Recorder Society

Our regular meetings are the first Sunday of each month, 4:30-7, at the Madelyn Helling Library, 980 Helling Way, Nevada City. For more information about meetings, contact Miriam Morris, miriamemorris@gmail.com or Kathryn Canan, kacanan@yahoo.com

About the Sacramento Recorder Society

The Sacramento Recorder Society, founded in 1982, is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. It is a chapter of the American Recorder Society and an affiliate of the San Francisco Early Music Society. We welcome recorder players of all ages and abilities as well as players of other early music instruments such as lutes, viols, sackbuts, shawms, curtals, krummhorns, and percussion. Beginners are urged to study privately and learn fingerings and become comfortable reading music before joining the recorder orchestra.

We meet monthly from September through June, from 6:45pm to 9:30pm on the first Tuesday of each month, at the Friends Meeting House, 890 57th Street, between J St. and H St. Most of our meetings are conducted by a professional early music specialist who teaches recorder technique and relevant music history and theory while exploring music of many eras.

Many of our members also play in smaller groups in members' homes during the rest of the month.

Sacramento Recorder Society Board 2017-2018

Co-Presidents: Gail Crawford and Susan Titus

Vice President: Mark Schiffer

Secretary: Patricia Johnson

Treasurer: Doris Loughner

Members-at-Large: Robert Foster and Carol Thompson

Education Chairperson: Crystal Olson

For information on SRS, please contact the following board members by email:

gail.crawford1@gmail.com or

susanlee448@att.net or

marschif@gmail.com



Listening to Early Music

Here are some possibilities:

- Sunday Baroque, which airs from 8am to 10am on 88.9 FM, KXPR.
- Harmonia provides podcasts at its website: indianapublicmedia.org/harmonia
- The Chicago Early Music website provides access to many early music resources. Go to earlymusicchicago.org, then click on "ensembles," then click on "beyond"
- Magnatune.com allows you to listen to music free and pay when you choose to download, or you can subscribe for \$15/month for unlimited downloads
- Millennium of Music: "The sources and mainstreams of European music from the thousand years before the birth of Bach." <http://www.millenniumofmusic.com>
- recorder-radio.com streams a variety of recorder music 24 hours a day
- Also available online: Concertzender Oude Muziek (mostly early music, there's an announcer every so often who is speaking Dutch). You can find these stations using Tune In Radio.
- The Boston classical station, WCRB, has an early music stream. Go to classicalwcrb.org, click on the play button, and the early music stream is one of your choices. Click on it!