



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

October 2023

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

October Meeting

6:45pm
(start time 7:00pm)
Tuesday, October 3, 2023
Friends Meetinghouse
890 57th Street
Between J St. and H St.

A Letter from the Editor

Dear Early Music Friends,

Welcome, Fall! I'm seeing seventy degree weather coming up, and I'm enthused. Another reason for enthusiasm: Glen Shannon is conducting us at the October chapter meeting. The music looks great; mostly Renaissance plus something Glen has composed in a similar style. Glen always brings his own special brand of energy and panache to his conducting!

What is your favorite recorder experience? Gail Crawford often tells about the first time she heard a recorder trio, playing baroque music in a mall in Virginia. She was struck by how lovely they sounded, so she got herself a recorder, found herself a group in play with online, and never looked back!

Since I am an old person, my first recorder experiences come from the sixties at a time when the recorder was becoming popular. I had several favorite LPs, particularly a lively recording of Renaissance dances with a pink cover. Of course, I got myself an alto recorder and a Trapp family method book. I played a bit with my sister and her friend. When I went

off to college I joined the Ancient Instrument Ensemble. We were the red-haired stepchildren of the music department, but under the direction of Dr. Wakefield we met regularly and had a great time. It was then that I began playing bass recorder. Fond memories!

What were your first experiences with the recorder? Did you hear someone playing a recorder and get inspired? Did you have friends who played? Did you have an enthusiasm for early music and look for a way to play that gorgeous stuff?

What have been your favorite playing experiences? Is there a chapter meeting that stands out in your memory? (I remember playing with Joyce Johnson-Hamilton as she moved us all to lower instruments to play the March Play-the-Recorder piece, Porque Llorax, which we then recorded. Doris Loughner put it on YouTube, and it's still there. 708 views, 8 likes!

<https://youtu.be/dClhpgeY5X4?si=ZmN8kE14NZ08Vb0t>

Check it out!)

Our October 3 meeting looks to be just as memorable! Hope to see you there!

Patty Johnson



Chapter Meeting Conductors 2023-2024

October 3, 2023-Glen Shannon
November 7, 2023-Tracia Barbieri
December 5, 2023-Seasonal music
January 2, 2024-Kate Canan
February 6, 2024-Randall Wurschmidt
March 5, 2024-Tracia Barbieri
April 2, 2024-Greta Haug-Hryciw
May 7, 2024-Faythe Vollrath
June 4, 2024-End of Year Party

Renew Your SRS Membership Now for 2023-24!

It's time to renew your membership for the 2023-24 recorder-playing year, or to join if you are not yet a member. Our membership dues and additional donations allow SRS to have great conductors at in-person and virtual meetings.

Please completely fill out the attached membership form, affix a check for your dues of \$50 (along with an extra donation to SRS if possible), and mail it to the address on the form. You can also turn in your membership form and dues to the SRS Treasurer at in-person chapter meetings.

Dues are our major source of income, but they do not cover all our expenses for the year. Most other income comes from monetary donations, the occasional bequest, and proceeds from any tag sale we might have. Expenses include all the great conductors we have at our in-person and virtual chapter meetings, rental on the meeting space, fees, and insurance.

Many thanks to the 23 enthusiastic recorder players who have already joined SRS this year!

Our October Conductor Glen Shannon



Glen Shannon (b. 1966) is a composer and recorder enthusiast living in El Cerrito, CA where he is a member of the East Bay (CA) Recorder Society and Co-Director of the Barbary Coast Recorder Orchestra. His compositions have won prizes in contests since 1997, sponsored by the Chicago and Washington, DC Recorder Societies, and the ARS jointly with the former Amsterdam Loeki Stardust Quartet. Tom Beets and Joris Van Goethem of the former Flanders Recorder Quartet have commissioned works from him, most recently a Bass-Contrabass duet featured on their first CD as the duo FR2. Glen publishes his music under his own name at www.glenshannonmusic.com, and has also had works published by Moeck Verlag, PRB Productions, Loux Music Publishing Company, the American Recorder Society, and the European recorder magazines "Recorder" in the UK, "Windkanal" in Germany, and "Blokfluitist" in the Netherlands. Performances of some of his works can be found on YouTube at www.youtube.com/glenshannon.

Glen is active in the American Recorder Society as editor of the quarterly Members' Library Editions, a series introducing new recorder music to the worldwide membership, and is the editor and producer of the annual ARS Play-the-Recorder-Month piece that appears with the Winter edition of the American Recorder magazine. In October 2021 Glen received the ARS Presidential Special Honor Award, recognizing a person who has had a significant positive impact on the recorder community in North America

Notes on October's Music From Glen

Hello Sacramento! I'm looking forward to seeing you all again, especially after missing you last March due to a family emergency. Many thanks to Tracia Barbieri for stepping in at the absolute last minute and carrying the show! I was touched by the recordings you all made for me of the "Missa super-brevis 'Ave Barry, ursus coeli'" and "Albion's Elixir". Thank you so much for them!

This session we'll stick mostly to the Renaissance, and as usual I have a new piece roughly in the period style, to try out on your unsuspecting chapter members. Aside from fugues, one of my favorite musical forms is the FANTASIA, and we'll enjoy two real ones and an impostor.

Wikipedia describes the fantasia succinctly for us:

"A freeform composition rooted in improvisation without following the textbook rules of any particular form. There is unlimited freedom in a fantasia that is forbidden in stricter forms, particularly in the Renaissance and Baroque periods."

In the 16th century they were popularized by composers such as William Byrd (c.1540-1623), Jan Pieterzoon Sweelinck (1562-1621), Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625), and Thomas Lupo (the Elder) (1571-1627). We will take a look at two fantasias from the period. The first is by Lupo, "Fantasia in Bb Lydian Mode" from *XX kononcklycke fantasien* (No. 1) for 3 viols, arranged for ATB recorders. This fantasia works very well on recorders both as an easy warm-up piece and a great tuning piece with lots of crunches that resolve into unison landing notes. (Lydian mode is the white keys starting on F, so it has a raised 4th, or B natural. This fantasia starts on Bb, so the raised 4th is E natural instead of E flat).

The second fantasia is a bit more complex for AATB, "Fantazia a 4 No. 1"

by Byrd, with the more typical series of musical motives introduced sequentially and bandied about before moving to the next idea. I have prepared a separate soprano part for the top line (confusingly called "Cantus Secundus"; the second line is "Cantus Primus", perhaps it's editorial), for soprano-only players, as the part fits perfectly on soprano without any changes.

Stepping back a century, we'll marvel at the great skill of Swiss composer Ludwig Senfl (c.1486-c.1543), a master at what we would call today a "mash-up". Mixing the secular tune "Fortuna desperata" ("Desperate fortune") with the sacred chant "Helena, desiderio plena" (Helen, full of longing"), Senfl plays the two melodies concurrently as *canti firmi* while three other voices dance around them. There are several "Fortuna" mash-ups in Senfl's oeuvre, and this one is my absolute favorite. Senfl's work elevated him to music director to the court of Maximilian I, Holy Roman Emperor. Get your Renaissance rhythm on, and let the fun flow!

Finally, we'll keep to the general style of a Renaissance fantasia, and finish the evening with a new trio for ATB that I'd love to try out. "Stevie White, Merry Musician" was composed this year on commission from the Whitehouse Trio in the South Bay, in honor of their late founding member Stevie White, who passed away in 2021. The piece is still currently in review by the Whitehouse members, so it's not officially completed and could change by the time it is actually published. In this piece I take the solmized melody of the words in the title like I did with Barry Moyer's name in the Missa super-brevis, and spin it out into a full-length conversation.



Workshop with this month's conductor!

The Holistic Recorder Player

A workshop with Glen Shannon

Monday, October 9, 2023

10:00am-3:30pm

Hillside Church

1422 Navellier St.

El Cerrito, California

In this workshop we will examine breath, articulation, fingers, and intonation: all the components of a well-rounded recorder player's sound. Glen promises that the music is very, very fun, so don't be put off by the technical stuff!

Information: eastbayrecorders.org

Fall Concerts

Westminster Concerts at Noon

A Cello's Birthday:

Music for a Very Old Friend

Featuring Alexandra Roedder, Baroque cello and Faythe Vollrath, harpsichord. Performing works by Boccherini, Barriere, Geminiani, and Rameau.

Wednesday, Oct. 4th: Westminster Presbyterian, 13th and N, Sacramento, noon

Note: Faythe will be our conductor later this season!

Voices of Music

Mainly Mozart

Music by Mozart, C. P. E. Bach, and Sirmen

Friday, October 27: First Congregational Church, Berkeley, 7:30pm

Saturday, October 28: First United Methodist Church, Palo Alto, 7pm

Sunday, October 29: St. Mark's Lutheran Church, San Francisco, 8pm

Information: voicesofmusic.org

Academy of St. Martin in the Fields Chamber Ensemble

Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 7:30pm
Jackson Hall, Davis

Information: mondaviarts.org

Sacramento Baroque Soloists

Evolution of Style:

A Journey Through Haydn's Quartets

Saturday, November 4: St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Sacramento, 8pm

Sunday, November 5: Harrison Oaks Studio, Fair Oaks, 2pm

Information: sacramentobaroque.org

Los Angeles Master Chorale

Music to Accompany a Departure

Saturday, October 28, 2023 at 8pm
Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley

Performance based on Heinrich Schutz's 1630 *Musikliche Exequien* written to commemorate the losses of the Thirty Years' War. Performed by 24 singers, an organ, and a viola da gamba. Information: calperformances.org



Virtual Concerts in NYC!

Watch in-person at St. Malachy's Church,
239 West 49th Street, NYC, Thursdays,
1:15-2pm EDT

Watch live from home [here](#) or
on [YouTube](#)
Or watch concerts on-demand
on [YouTube](#).

September 28, 2023
American Classical Orchestra
La musica notturna di Madrid.

October 5, 2023
Vos Fidelis
Byrd 400 ~ Mass for Five Voices

October 12, 2023
Brooklyn Baroque
Telemann in Paris

October 19, 2023
The Walton Waites
L'Arte di Suonare

October 26, 2023
Collection Musicorum
Music from the First Folio

Information: gemsny.org

*Yet another cool, virtual, multipart
recorder performance!*

Recommended by Alex Ives, an ambitious
undertaking. Covid really brought this
kind of thing to the fore when we were un-
able to play together. Covid is in the back-
ground these days, but clever online things
persist.

<https://www.themusicman.uk/ralf-bienioschek/>

Nevada City Recorder Society

The Nevada City Recorder Society has resumed
meeting in person the first Sunday of every month
at 4 p.m. at the Madelyn Helling Library in Neva-
da City. Contact Miriam Morris, [miriamemor-
ris@gmail.com](mailto:miriamemorris@gmail.com), if you'd like to come; she will
email the music out in advance.

A Virtual Recorder Society!!

The North American Virtual Recorder So-
ciety will be like any other ARS chapter, only it
will be an online community and all meetings and
playing will be via Zoom. Although this is not a
perfect replacement for playing together in per-
son, this is a tremendous opportunity for anyone
that doesn't have access to a local "in-person"
chapter or just is looking for more playing time. .

Next Sessions: **September 23, 2023, 2:00-
3:30pm, with Rachel Begley Meetings open at
1:45pm EDT and playing starts at 2:00pm
EDT.**

**October 28, 2023, 2:00-3:30pm, with Rainier
Beckmann. (Opening/playing same as Septem-
ber.**

**Workshop with Annette Bauer, October 1,
7:30-9:00pm EDT**

For more information: www.navrs.org





Availability will be different under Covid restrictions. Please check with teacher!

Take lessons from a recorder expert!

Sacramento area:

Kate 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). Kate is currently teaching online via Zoom or FaceTime. Of course, she's also happy to have people drive up here, take a lesson on the back porch, and go hiking at Empire Mine 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!

The SRS website is at <http://www.sacrecorders.org>. There you can find current and archived newsletters, information about lessons, concerts, and workshops, and more announcements from the wider early music world. Anyone can add more information by commenting on the posts. You can check the site for new information any time, or you can receive email notices of new posts by entering your email in the "Follow" field. Please send Kate an email if you have information to share with our members: kacanan@yahoo.com.

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: <https://americanrecorder.org>



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 (in non-Covid times) 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 2023-2024

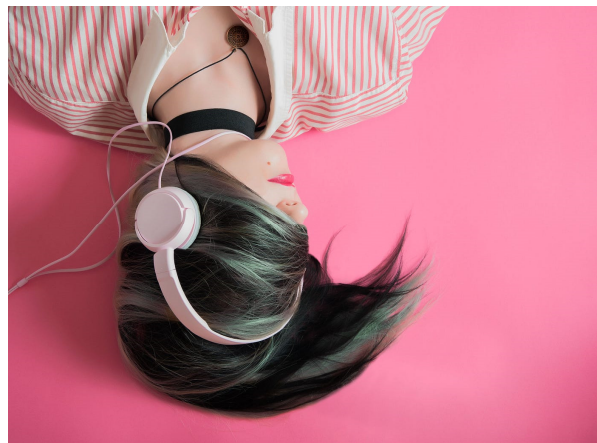
Co-Presidents: Gail Crawford and Susan Titus

Secretary: Patricia Johnson

Treasurer: Doris Loughner

Members-at-Large: Robert Foster,
Carol Thompson, David Dodds

For information on SRS, please contact the following board members by email:
gail.crawford1@gmail.com or
susanlee448@att.net



Listening to Early Music

Here are some possibilities:

- Sunday Baroque, which airs from 7am to 11am 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. They are at: earlymusicchicago.org
- 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 mainstems 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!