

THE SOUNDPOST

Newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Viols – A chapter of the Viola da Gamba Society of America
On the web: WWW.PNVIOLS.ORG and info@pnviols.org

The President's Message

Bill Warren

Wow, did we ever have an outstanding visit from our Circuit Rider for 2020, Ros Morley! Ros gave private and ensemble lessons Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and then conducted group reading sessions Saturday evening and Sunday morning. During the group reading sessions she also gave invaluable instruction about bow management with demonstration and practice. Be sure to take advantage of her return visit May 7-10; Ros will also be our Play Day presenters on Saturday, May 9. We have now settled on dates for her visits in the fall -- she will be here September 24-27 for her third Circuit Rider visit in conjunction with our September 26 Play Day and November 19-22 for her fourth Circuit Rider visit.



Our Play Day presenter for Saturday, March 7th, will be Erik Andersen. He was on the faculty of Conclave 2019 in Forest Grove, OR, and received outstanding reviews as an excellent teacher, so we look forward to his visit in March. See the more detailed write-up about Erik later in the newsletter.

In my January 2020 President's Message, I mistakenly indicated that Margriet Tindemans had bequeathed her extensive music library to PNViols. I have since found out that Margriet bequeathed her library to Lee Inman and Chris Briden. Lee spent many hours preparing a detailed catalog of her library, which he generously gifted to Pacific Northwest Viols. It has now been integrated into the PNViols library by Amy Warren. We are indebted to Lee for his many years of dedicated service to the chapter, including his six years of outstanding leadership as President.

This library is a valuable resource for our Play Days and is also available for our members use via a checkout program. You will be able to check out music at Play Days, with music returned the following Play Day – the exception being the final Play Day of the season in May. A checkout form is available for you to sign out the music and check it back in upon return. Plan to take advantage of this valuable resource for you and your ensemble.

Play Day Schedule

- 9:30 am - Check in, sign up for consorts, tune
- 10:00 am - Grand Consort Presentation
- 12:00 pm - Lunch Break
- 1:00 pm - First Consort Session
- 2:30 pm - Second Consort Session
- 4:00 pm - Clean up

\$20 Fee per participant
A = 415

Saturday, March 7: Erik Andersen

Play Day Location
Queen Anne Christian Church
1316 3rd Ave. W
Seattle, WA 98119

A reminder that the PNViols Board has approved a scholarship lesson for a less experienced player at each of the times that we have a VdGSA circuit rider here for lessons. Contact me at info@pnviols.org if you are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity for Ros's May visit.

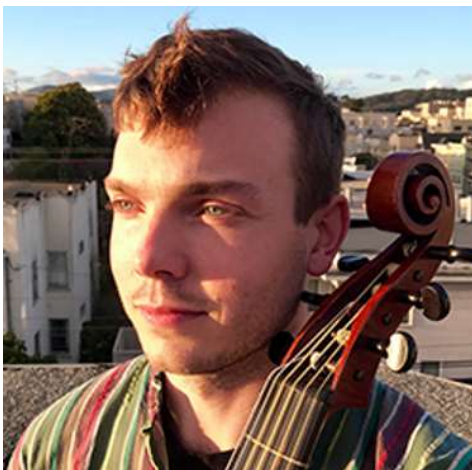
We need volunteers to perform the special music at a QACC Sunday service in return for our use of their facility for Play Day. A short 3-5-minute piece is sufficient and can be either a solo or an ensemble. Contact any board member if you are willing to help us fulfill that obligation.

Be sure to include the March 7 Play Day in your schedule for the opportunity to learn from and be coached by Erik Andersen. I hope to see all of you there.

Bill Warren
President, PNViols

Erik Andersen to Present at Saturday, March 7th Play Day

Michael King, Biography from <https://vdgsa.org/pgs/circuit/erikanderson.html> <sic> and photo from <https://sfcmc.org/about/faculty/andersen-erik/>



Erik Andersen is a graduate of the Aaron Copland School of Music at the City University of New York where he completed studies in modern cello under the direction of Marcy Rosen and additional studies in historical performance with Lisa Terry. He regularly performs on viola da gamba and baroque cello and enjoys teaching historical and modern strings in group and individual lessons with a focus on body learning and wellness adapted from the Alexander Technique, yoga and his own experience as a performer, teacher, and practitioner.

At age 16 Erik was invited to participate in a teaching internship program through the InterSchool Orchestras of New York, and now has over ten years of teaching experience serving as music teacher and ensemble coach for students ranging in ages from 4 to 84 years old. As a current MA of Teaching candidate at the University of San Francisco, he is committed to facilitate the learning of all students and to promoting harmony and good-will in this world through teaching and music-making.

Erik's Play Day presentation will have him working closely with us throughout the day. We'll be starting in our Grand Consort session working on three madrigals by 20th-century Czech composer Bohuslav Martinů in the Czech (Moravian) language. Erik will help us understand the text setting and how we can approach diction on the viol. We'll then have two afternoon sessions, the first a session entitled, "Across the Fret Board" for all viols, and the second, a coached consort playing two settings of Psalm 121 (one from the Genevan Salter and the second by Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621).

Write-up of our January 25th Play Day with Mary Springfels

Bob Murano

The January workshop was led by Mary Springfels. The morning session dealt with two settings from the Song of Solomon. Mary reminded us that the words should help us find the appropriate expression. The first selection, *Anima Mea Liquefactus est*, by Lasso, is a woman's voice. The bass and altus have a rather fluid run of quarter notes on the word *liquefactus*. Things get worse when she searches for her beloved and can't find him. The city guards beat her – the verb *percuserunt* could be emphasized by more percussive notes. After more insults from authorities, she calls upon the daughters of Jerusalem to tell her beloved that she's sick of love.

The second selection, *Tota Pulchra es*, by Heinrich Isaac, is more upbeat. A man's voice is praising his beloved. The phrases have been rearranged in a different order than the biblical text. The music is more complex. In the first selection, eighth notes are rare, only in pairs, often as a cadential ornament. In this second selection there are abundant eighth notes in a variety of figures. The piece is almost twice as long.

After lunch, the first coached session dealt with 6-part pieces by White, a Pavan and a Fantasia. The second session, which I expected to be at large, also turned out to be coached. We played a pavan by a German composer I'd never heard of, Johann Schop. Mary noted that Schop's life spanned the Thirty Years War, the destruction of which was comparable to the First World War. This pavan was more complicated than the one by White in the earlier session.

I must thank the members who doubled with me for this workshop. They enabled me to get back in after the many times I missed a few notes.

[Editor's Note: According to Wikipedia, Johann Schop lived 1562-1667, was a virtuoso violinist in his own right, composed books of 4-6 part violin music, and even J.S. Bach borrowed a melody of Schop's, *Werde munter, mein Gemüte*, which we know better today as *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*.]

New Board Members Needed!

Michael King

The end of our 2019-2020 Season in May will see the retirement from the board of three long-time members – Jon Brenner (Member at Large) Janet Slack (Secretary), and Toni Seales (QACC Coordinator). We want to thank them for their tremendous service, and to also invite you to come and serve on the board. The board meets about 5 times a year before each Play Day, and is responsible for planning and organizing our Play Days, communicating with our Play Day presenters, working on our participation in workshops like Port Townsend Early Music Workshop, producing the SoundPost newsletter, and much more! It is a great way to make new friends and to serve our viol-loving community here in the Northwest! Please let a board member know if you are interested or send an e-mail to info@pnviols.org.

Do you have a viol collecting dust? Consider helping the PNV Rental Program!

Michael King

PNV currently has nearly our entire inventory of instruments out for rent! While this is outstanding, it means we don't have instruments for any additional renters. If you have a spare viol or two that are collecting some dust, perhaps you could see them becoming a part of our rental instrument fleet – either on an individual case or a sustained basis? Options would include making your instrument available for a period of time for rental (loaning to PNV), permanently (donating instrument to PNV), or on an individual basis (we've identified a particularly need and you have an instrument that might be the right fit – say for an advanced student or someone needing to work on entrance to a conservatory program). Please reach out to Olga at rentals@pnviols.org and let her know if you can help with the program!

Tenor Viol for Sale

Steve Jackson

Tenor Viol by Robert Foster, Somerset, England, 2009.
Bent neck model after Henry Jaye.
Lovely rosette and purfling c-holes.
With Kingham hard case and Ebony bow by H.F. Grabenstein

Contact:

Steve Jackson, 360-437-8007
stevej@olympus.net

Bass Viol for Sale

Roupen Shakarian

Bass Viol by James Cox, Baltimore, 1980. Comes with two bows, one made in England. The viol has new strings, and is in very good condition. The bows have been rehaired. The back needs some cosmetic work done. The appraisal was set \$4,800, but I'm more than happy to set the price at \$4,000.

Contact:

Roupen Shakarian, 206.240.9106
Roupen.jsb@gmail.com



Bass Viol for Sale

Toni Seales

Chinese-made, bass viol from Bill Lazar. \$1800. Bass viol bow, \$1200.

Contact:

Toni Seales, 360-633-9929, antonia509@gmail.com

Treble Viol for Sale

Michael King

Ronald Prentice, 1972, London.
Includes original Robinwood hard case.
Will include Chinese snakewood bow.

\$3500 firm.

Contact:

Michael King, 425-269-8219,
miking@microsoft.com



Treble Viol for Sale

Helen Mater

Treble Viol for Sale. Asking \$450.
Built in 1978 by Larry Higgins of
Higgins & Sons, San Francisco.
Includes handmade cow hide case.

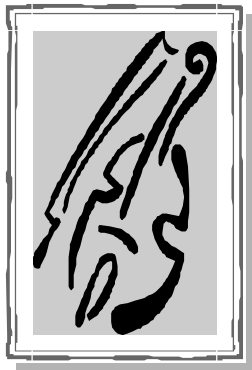
Contact:

Helen Van Mater, 206 979-1225
vanmaterh@icloud.com



Pacific Northwest Viols
2328 233rd Ave. NE
Sammamish, WA 98074

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Pacific Northwest Viols – 2019-2020 Season

PNV Play Day Dates (Saturdays):

*\$20 Fee per participant
A = 415*

- ❖ September 28, 2019: Jonathan Oddie
- ❖ November 9, 2019: Caroline Nicolas
- ❖ January 25, 2020: Mary Springfels
- ❖ **March 7, 2020: Erik Andersen**
- ❖ May 9, 2020: Ros Morley

Play Day location:

***Queen Anne Christian
Church***

*1316 3rd Ave. W
Seattle, WA 98119*

Pacific Northwest Viols, Board Members (2019-2020)

- | | |
|--|---|
| ❖ Bill Warren, President | ❖ Michael King, Communications / Newsletter |
| ❖ Janet Slack, Secretary | ❖ Vicki Hoffman, Programs |
| ❖ Michael LaGaly, Treasurer | ❖ Jon Brenner, Member at Large |
| ❖ Amy Warren, Membership Custodian / Librarian | ❖ Toni Seales, QACC Coordinator |
| ❖ Caroline Nicolas, Beginner Coach and Coordinator | |

Find Pacific Northwest Viols on the web at: <http://www.pnviols.org> and on Facebook and info@pnviols.org.

*The **Soundpost** welcomes reader contributions of any kind: articles, commentary, personal stories, event reportage. E-Mail is preferred, but postal mail or napkin scribbles are all gladly received, as well.*

Email: soundpost@pnviols.org