

# Recorder Notes

## ...from the Music Director

Peter Seibert

### Inside this issue:

Concerts & Events	2
Meeting Dates	4
Meeting Notes	3
Membership/Board	4
Music Trivia	3
Refreshments	3
Workshop Notes	3



**P**rogram: Our December program will be provided by the New Baroque Orchestra, which, like the chorus *Sine Nomine*, is a community ensemble of the Early Music Guild. The distinguished baroque violinist Ingrid Matthews leads the orchestra. She is music director (currently on sabbatical) of the Seattle Baroque Orchestra. Several of our SRS members are also part of the NBO. The orchestra will perform an instrumental setting of Monteverdi's *Chione d'oro* and part of a *Concerto Grosso* by Corelli. A full string section plus recorders, baroque flutes and baroque oboes make up the orchestra. We look forward to having them with us again.

**Playing:** Johann Sebastian Bach provided a wealth of music based on chorales of the Lutheran church, where he worked most of his life. Our playing session will be devoted to arrangements of three chorales, first in simple form for congregational singing, then in more complex form as chorale preludes for organ. The chorales I chose are all associated with the Christmas season: *Vom Himmel hoch*, *Puer natus est*, and *Wachet auf*, and for each Bach created an extensive and very beautiful chorale prelude.

There are parts for all recorders down through the low basses, as well as parts for viol players. *Recorder players are reminded to regularly bring two kinds of recorders to meetings, if possible, for balance of parts. Thank you.*

Vicki Boeckman will lead the Beginning Ensemble and provide music for recorder players who wish to play in a small, supportive group.

**Recorder Orchestra:** The Recorder Orchestra of Puget Sound is scheduled to perform at the April meeting of the SRS. Rehearsals will be held on Wednesdays starting March 11. Information about registration for recorder orchestra will be in the January newsletter.

**January Meeting:** Get ready! Our January meeting will be on Friday, January 2, 2009,

**JOIN! Now is the time to renew your membership, if you have not already done so. Membership information is below.**

during the New Year weekend. Baroque trumpeter Kris Kwapis, who arrived this year to work at the Early Music Guild, will demonstrate early brass instruments. I plan to lead the Palestrina *Missa inviolata* during the playing session. More information will follow in the next newsletter. Our February meeting will be lead by our resident professional, Vicki Boeckman

**Annual Giving and Membership Dues:** Each year at this time, we include the Dues and Information form in the newsletter. If you have not renewed your membership, now is the time to do so. We keep our dues low in order to be as inclusive as possible. Dues cover only about half of our expenses. Our annual appeal for funds is exceptionally low-key, but we have a responsive and generous membership which each year helps us to balance our budget through tax-deductible donations to the Seattle Recorder Society. This is your chance to help keep the SRS in the black. Every donation will help us. If you can't attend the December meeting, please make your check payable to: *Seattle Recorder Society* and mail it to Richard Ginnis, Treasurer, 4554 4th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98105. Or simply bring a check to the December meeting. Thank you. €

### SRS MEETING Dec. 5, 2008 (7:30pm)

#### **Program:**

New Baroque Orchestra  
Ingrid Matthews,  
Music Director  
Music of Monteverdi &  
Corelli

#### **Playing:\***

J.S. Bach, Chorales &  
Chorale Preludes  
Peter Seibert, Conductor  
Recorders SATBGbCb  
Viols trTB at A=440

#### **Beginning Ensemble:\***

Vicki Boeckman, Director

\*Music provided

### SRS Newsletter—now available by email!

Contact Jill Shupe at  
jillshupe@hotmail.com to receive the  
newsletter by email. Thank you for thinking  
green and helping us reduce publica-  
tion, paper and mailing costs!

<b>Concerts &amp; Events Calendar</b>
---------------------------------------

**NOVEMBER 2008**

- **(SAT) 11/29/08 (7:30pm):** Renaissance Singers: "Music from Tudor England": Vocal Music from the Tudor period (1485-1603) including works by Tallis, Byrd, Wilbye, Tomkins & others @ Trinity Parish Church, 609 8th Ave., Seattle; \$17 gen., \$12 sen. & stu.

**DECEMBER 2008**

- **(TUE) 12/2/08 (7:30pm):** Lute Duets: Music from the Renaissance to the present: Ronn McFarlane & John Lenti @ Trinity Parish Church, Parish Hall & Sanctuary, 609 8th Ave., Seattle; \$25/\$20/\$10; (206-325-7066).
- **(WED) 12/3/08 & (THUR) 12/4/08 @ (7:30pm):** The Tudor Choir: "Holiday Concert": with Auburn Symphony Orchestra @ First Lutheran Church, 4105 California Ave. S.W., Seattle; \$18/\$16/\$12; (206-323-9415).
- **(FRI) 12/5/08 (7:30pm):** Seattle Recorder Society: Meeting @ Maple Leaf Lutheran Church, 10005 32nd N.E., Seattle.
- **(SAT) 12/6/08 (3:00pm):** New Baroque Orchestra: Italian Masters: Music by Corelli, Monteverdi, Scarlatti & Geminiani @ Trinity Parish Church, 609 8th Ave., Seattle (donations welcome); (206-325-7066).
- **(SAT) 12/6/08 (8:00pm):** Medieval Women's Choir: "Songs for Saint Nicholas": medieval French, English and traditional Dutch songs @ St. James Cathedral, 804 9th Ave., Seattle; \$22/\$17/\$13; (206-264-4822).
- **(SUN) 12/7/08 (3:00pm):** Seattle Pro Musica Family Concert: "Navidad": Holiday music; Elizabeth Brown, baroque guitar & archlute, Karen Thomas, choir director @ Town Hall, 1119 8th Ave., Seattle; \$32/\$22/\$17/\$12/\$5; (206-781-2766, x302).
- **(SUN) 12/7/08 (5:00pm):** Evensong: Sacred Music by Bach and Byrd: free pre-cantata lecture @ 4:30pm @ St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 4805 N.E. 45th St., Seattle.
- **(SUN) 12/7/08 (7:30pm):** Seattle Pro Musica: "Navidad": Music of Latin America and other holiday music; Elizabeth Brown, baroque guitar & archlute, Karen Thomas, choir dir. @ Town Hall, 1119 8th Ave., Seattle; \$32/\$22/\$17/\$12 (206-781-2766, x302).
- **(FRI) 12/12/08 (8:00pm):** Pre-concert lecture (7:00pm): Early Music Guild: International Series: Jaap ter Linden: Bach Cello Suites @ Town Hall, 1119 8th Ave (8th & Seneca), Seattle; \$38/\$35/\$20; (206-325-7066).
- **(SAT) 12/13/08 (11:00am & 2:00pm):** Medieval Women's Choir: "Saint Nicholas, Sinter Claes, Santa Claus": Family Concert @ Bethany Lutheran Church, 7400 Woodlawn Ave. N., Seattle; \$10/\$5; (206-264-4822).
- **(SAT) 12/13/08 (2:00pm):** Moss Bay Recorder Society Holiday Meeting for instrumentalists & singers, music provided; Winifred Jaeger, Conductor; Kirkland Library, 308 Kirkland Ave., Kirkland; (425-822-4933); mkw@eskimo.com.
- **(SAT) 12/13/08 (3pm & 7:30pm):** Seattle Pro Musica (see 12/7/08) Bastyr Univ. Chapel, 14500 Juanita Dr NE, Bothell.
- **(SAT) 12/13/08 (8:00pm) & (SUN) 12/14/08 (3:00pm):** Seattle Baroque Orchestra: "A Cape Breton Christmas": Music of Purcell, Muffat, Traditional Music of Scotland and Canada: David Greenberg, violin @ Ilse Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall At Benaroya Hall: \$35/\$30/\$10; (206-322-3118).
- **(SAT) 12/20/08 (7:30pm) & (SUN) 12/21/08 (3:00pm):** Tudor Choir: "Messiah" by Handel: with Seattle Baroque Orchestra @ Town Hall, 8th & Seneca, Seattle: \$25/\$22/(6-16 yrs - free with paying adult); (206-323-9415); info@tudorchoir.org.
- **(SUN) 12/21/08 (1:00pm):** Early Music Discovery: "Orpheus' Lyre": music by Mudarra, De Huete, Trabaci, Frescobaldi, C.P.E. Bach & others; Maxine Eilander, harp @ Town Hall Downstairs, 8th & Seneca, Seattle: \$10/\$5; (206-325-7066).
- **(MON) 12/22/08 (7:00pm):** Orchestra Seattle/Seattle Chamber Singers: "Bach: Christmas Oratorio" @ First Free Methodist Church, 3200 3rd Ave. W., Seattle; (206-682-5208).

**JANUARY 2009**

- **(FRI) 1/2/09 (7:30pm):** Seattle Recorder Society: Meeting @ Maple Leaf Lutheran Church, 10005 32nd N.E., Seattle.
- **(SAT) 1/3/09 (3:00pm):** Medieval Women's Choir: "Cantilena: A Medieval Open Sing": public invited to sing medieval repertoire in Latin, old English and old French; @ Good Shepard Center Chapel, 4649 Sunnyside Ave. N., Seattle; \$10; (206-264-4822).
- **(SAT) 1/3/09 (8:00pm):** Cappella Romana Vocal Ensemble: "Kontakion on the Nativity": world premiere; carols & hymns @ Town Hall, 8th & Seneca, Seattle: \$30/\$27/\$22/\$15; (503-236-8202); cappellaromana.org.

**WORKSHOPS (JANUARY-MARCH) 2009**

- Feb. 14—15, 2009** Early Music Guild: Workshop I\*: "Earth, Water, Fire, Air: An Italian Intermedi" Workshop for Singers & Instrumentalists, Trinity Parish Church, Seattle; Tuition: \$160, Deposit: \$100; (206-326-7066). \*(Discount if registering for both Workshops I & II.)
- Feb. 28—Mar 1, 2009** Early Music Guild: Workshop II\*: "Piffarolo! A Workshop for Renaissance Winds, Brass & Lute", Music Center of the Northwest, Seattle; Tuition: (Sat) \$70, (Sun) \$150—Coaching pre-existing ensembles; Deposit: \$50; (206-326-7066).
- Mar. 27—30, 2009** Portland Recorder Society: The Columbia Gorge Early Music Retreat: Workshop for beginning to advanced recorder players (gambas welcome); Menucha Retreat Center, Corbett, OR; Tuition: \$350 (early bird discount before Dec. 31): \$450 after Dec. 31: various housing options available for additional fees: <http://home.comcast.net/~pdxrecorders/2009Workshop.html>

## Meeting Notes: Nov. 7, 2008

### L Hotaling

President Susan Burriss opened the meeting and then introduced a new visitor, Karen, whom we greeted enthusiastically and hope to see a lot of as she spends her available time here.

Susan asked for announcements. Naomi Schiff wasn't in attendance, so we didn't get Naomi's usual excellent broad-spectrum compendium of Seattle's early music events. However, Sine Nomine, our opening program, told us of their forthcoming inaugural concert at Trinity Parish Church on Sunday, Nov. 16.

**Entertainment:** SRS music director Peter Siebert introduced the chorus **Sine Nomine**, a community collegium of the Early Music Guild, with seventeen members and director and founder (2008) Gary Cannon. They performed splendidly in true 16th & early 17th century style, sopranos crystal and soaring, all others sonorous, melding, fully expressive, yet courtly. Peter said that the last part of the program would be collaborative and so fore-armed us. More on that later.

Words were provided for each piece. Here is what they gave us: First, *Laudibus in Sanctis* by William Byrd, SSATB. Always on pitch, always in balance, pure soprano singing. Joyful. Director Cannon explained how sacred and secular techniques influenced one another in this period. We were to notice how the composer changes tempo and shapes his statements according to the text. In fact, this was to be the entire evening's emphasis—articulation and phrasing according to text.

As a steadfast Catholic in the difficult Protestant English court, Byrd managed to escape persecution by being an excellent and useful composer. It is supposed that early in his career, Byrd was a student of Thomas Tallis. Later, he and Tallis together were granted letters patent by Queen Elizabeth to print various important music collections, which Byrd continued to do after Tallis' death.

Next, *Come, Sable Night* by John Ward, SSATTB. Sm-o-o-o-th, and every word means what it says. Director Cannon persuaded us to look at this piece and the following one, and search for musical word-painting in every line. We did so, and found 'sweet repose', 'their labors close', 'wailing', and more. After 'Amyntas' (he's the one who wastes his hours, and wails, and fails)—a short, sharp accusatory pause. (We were not to worry about who

Amyntas might be; he was "nobody.")

Third, *As Vesta was from Latmos Hill Descending* by Thomas Weelkes, SSATTB. To quote dear, ancient, forever young Nicolas Slonimsky, *Baker's Biographical Dictionary of Musicians*, 7th ed. (Look up and read the preface, you will be transported laughing. Were he alive today, he would immediately be recruited to appear on Jon Stewart's Daily Show). Anyway, this bit clearly refers to what we were given in *Vesta*. Slonimsky: "Weelkes was one of the greatest English madrigalists, possessing remarkable power in melodic characterization of the text; he occasionally used chromatic progressions in harmony that were well in advance of his time." Here are some matches we found to the above: 'descending', 'ascending', 'running down amain', 'their Goddess all alone', (a thin strand), and 'Long live fair Oriana', a full-throated, dense accolade in Queen Elizabeth's honor.

The last two pieces were *If Ye Love Me* by Thomas Tallis, SATB, and *Sing Joyfully* by William Byrd, SSAATB. Here is where we entered into collaboration. Peter distributed recorder music parts, arranged as always in his considerate yet erudite way. First, Sine Nomine sang for us. Then we played for them. Then we played and sang together. Then they floated themselves around us and we rejoiced as one (Peter's *Sing Joyfully* was done in a different key to fit the recorders' range and capability. Sine Nomine of course took such an unexpected development completely in stride). As we were starting the last "together" bit, Peter announced, "I noticed you did the last chord with an overtone--most choruses don't do that."

We finally let our acclaimed guests get away to their well-earned rest, after which Peter and SRS did a thorough polishing session on what had gone before, and added another two Seibert arrangements, each on the 17th century cusp. They were: Orlando Gibbons, *Almighty and Everlasting God* SATB, and Peter Philips, *Ascendit Deus* SSATB. Yes, Peter, it was most interesting to see how well the players responded to interpreting the text after working with the singers!

Some of Peter's major points on articulation and interpretation: "With six parts it gets to be very thick! We have to work on not sounding opaque." "Get air space and a little separation between the half notes, just enough to make it declamatory." "Follow the text and its punctuation,



### Refreshments

**Cookies:** Sharon Scholdt & Nancy Wright

**Fruit:** Naomi Schiff

**Veggies:** Jill Shupe

### Music Trivia

*Which two composers of the baroque period wrote well-known treatises on woodwind articulation techniques (for recorder, etc.), some of which are still in common use (e.g. "ti-ri" and "did'll" for playing quick passages)? Answer (see below)*

(Source: Cyr, Mary: *Performing Baroque Music*: Portland, OR: Amadeus Press, 1992.)

### Hotteterre & Quantz

shown by breath marks. You see the differences between these phrases, shaped to the text—a section of smoothness, next a clear change of style."

A rewarding Seibert idea: "Let it happen, but get there on time!" Another: "When you see the word 'ritard.', that's me!"

(cont'd on page 4)

<b>SEATTLE RECORDER SOCIETY</b>	
1815 Federal Ave. E., Seattle, WA 98102 (206-329-2774) pcs.srs@gmail.com Music Director, Peter Seibert (206-329-2774) pcs.srs@gmail.com	
<b>Board Members (2008-09)</b>	
Officers: President, Susan Burris (206-361-1007) susan.burris@comcast.net President-elect, Ruth Pattison (206-525-9878) ruth.pattison@hotmail.com Past President, Cathy Lacefield (206-528-6121) cathylacefield@hotmail.com Secretary, Molly Warner (206-523-5192) mollyw@eskimo.com Treasurer, Richard Ginnis (206-633-1969) rginnis@ginnisandchalhoub.com	
~~~~~	
Mailing, Tomo Morita (425-255-1983) totomom@hotmail.com Membership, Jill Shupe (206-364-7509) jillshupe@hotmail.com Newsletter, Nancy Gorbman (206-362-7326) ngorbman@hotmail.com Refreshments, Gerrity Shupe, (425-820-2003), gshupe1@mindspring.com Viol Rep., Ellen Seibert, (206-329-2774), ellenseibert@qwest.net Webmaster (Member-At-Large), Charles Coldwell (206-328-8238), cpcoldwell@zipcon.net	
Editor, Nancy Gorbman	
Recorder Notes is published monthly, October through May, for its members by the Seattle Recorder Society, 1815 Federal Ave. E., Seattle, WA 98102. \$25 Annual Membership Dues.	

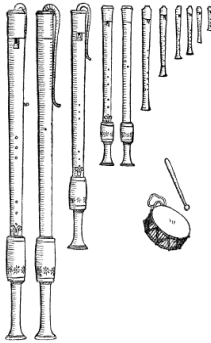
**2008-09 Meetings** Meetings are usually held on the first Friday of each month, October to May, at 7:30 p.m., Maple Leaf Lutheran Church, 10005 32nd N.E., Seattle. Meetings include a short performance or lecture of interest to recorder and viol players, ensemble playing for all levels of recorder players, and a coached viol consort. A \$5.00 donation is requested for non-members.

October 3, 2008  
November 7, 2008  
December 5, 2008  
January 2, 2009  
February 6, 2009  
March 6, 2009  
April 3, 2009  
April 24, 2009

Visit our web-site at:  
[www.seattle-recorder.org](http://www.seattle-recorder.org)

(cont'd from page 3)

**Vicki's Rusties/Newbies:** After the entertainment, Vicki Boeckman and newbies had retired to an unnamed location in the nether regions of our meeting place. Vicki's report: "In the beginners group of five people, we worked on breathing and long tones and two pieces in three parts, *The Magician's Realm* and *Midkingdom Bounce* by Jussi Bjørling's third cousin, Joel Bjørling. Joel contacted me by e-mail last month and asked if he could send some compositions for recorder, which I of course was interested in. Next month we'll work on pieces with a holiday theme."€



**SEATTLE RECORDER SOCIETY**  
1815 Federal Ave. E.  
Seattle, WA 98102  
[www.seattle-recorder.org](http://www.seattle-recorder.org)