

Next Level Recorder Retreat Feb 21 - 26, 2024

Climb to the Next Level



Next Level Recorder Retreat

a Tíbia Adventures in Music Workshop

February 21 - 26, 2024

A retreat for intermediate to advanced recorder players
Interested in working intensively on technique and musical skills

Instructors: Miyo Aoki, Letitia Berlin, Frances Blaker, Vicki Boeckman

Location: Hidden Valley Institute of the Arts in Carmel Valley, California

The Jeanne Lynch Scholarship pays full tuition for one participant or half-tuition for two participants.

Please inquire for more information



Morning classes address technique for articulation, finger facility, and tone. Afternoon classes include special topics – please see the separate Important Information Sheet to see possible topics and add your requests. Evening activities include ad hoc playing sessions, faculty concert, and open mic.



See the separate **Important Information Sheet** for more topic ideas, COVID protocol, and more!

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Faculty: Miyo Aoki, Letitia Berlin, Frances Blaker, Vicki Boeckman

Miyo Aoki is a dedicated recorder player and teacher, performing music ranging from medieval to modern and teaching students of all ages and levels. She is a member of the Farallon Recorder Quartet and has performed in the US, Germany, and Poland, with groups including The Eurasia Consort, Utopia Early Music, and Gamut Bach Ensemble; and at the Amherst Early Music Festival, Bloomington Early Music Festival and Whidbey Island Music Festival. She has premiered works by contemporary composers Natalie Williams, Agnes Dorwarth, and Adam Haws, and in recent years she was delighted to play with the Boise Philharmonic, Seattle Symphony, and Oregon Symphony, respectively, in performances of *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. In addition to private lessons, she teaches regularly for Seattle Historical Arts for Kids and at workshops around the country, including the Port Townsend Early Music Workshop, SFEMS Recorder Workshop, Amherst Early Music Festival, Early Music Week at Pinewoods, and Hidden Valley Early Music Workshop. Miyo holds a KAZ Diplom (Artist Diploma) from the *Hochschule für Künste* in Bremen, Germany, where she studied with Professor Han Tol, and degrees in both early music performance and mathematics from Indiana University, where she studied with Professor Eva Legêne.

Letitia Berlin performs with Calextone, the Bertamo Trio, and the Farallon Recorder Quartet. She has also performed as a soloist with the Atlanta Baroque Orchestra, the San Francisco Symphony, and the North Carolina Baroque Orchestra. Tish received her Bachelor of Music in piano performance from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and her Master of Arts in Early Music Performance Practices from Case Western Reserve University. She is a sought-after instructor at early music workshops around the country and serves as staff member and faculty at the Amherst Early Music Festival. She is a four-time recipient of the Recorder Residency at the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology. Tish and Frances were honored to receive the ARS Distinguished Achievement Award in 2022, and to have recently been named the incoming Co-Executive Directors of Amherst Early Music Festival, Inc.

Frances Blaker earned pedagogy and performance degrees in recorder from the Royal Danish Conservatory of Music in Copenhagen. She performs as a soloist and in ensembles including Vermillian, Calextone, and Farallon. She is the author of *The Recorder Player's Companion*, a book of technique exercises, and *Opening Measures*, a compilation of her columns in the American Recorder Society's magazine. Frances can be heard on the Disc Continuo series of play-along recordings, as well as recordings with Farallon and Ensemble Vermillian. She is a four-time recipient of the Recorder Residency at the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology, and the Director of the Amherst Early Music Summer Festival. Tish and Frances were honored to receive the ARS Distinguished Achievement Award in 2022.

Vicki Boeckman has been performing and teaching since the 1980s. Before settling in Seattle, she resided in Denmark from 1981-2005 and had the opportunity to collaborate with some of the finest musicians and composers of the day. Her Danish recorder trio Wood'N'Flutes had a fantastic 15-year run performing all over Europe and working with contemporary composers in addition to doing children's theater. She was an adjunct professor at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen for 12 years and taught at the Ishøj Municipal School of Music for 23 years. Many of those students are now professionals, performing and teaching in conservatories in Denmark and around Europe. In the Pacific Northwest Vicki has been a featured soloist with the Seattle Symphony, Seattle Baroque Orchestra, the Yakima Symphony, Portland Baroque Orchestra, The Oregon Symphony, Portland Opera, Medieval Women's Choir, Gallery Concerts, Boise Philharmonic, Philharmonia Northwest Orchestra, and the Skagit Symphony. She is currently a member of the Farallon Recorder Quartet, Music director for the Seattle Recorder Society, co-director for the Recorder Orchestra of Puget Sound (ROPS), and Artistic Director for the Port Townsend Early Music Workshop. She adores teaching children as well as adults, and has been on the faculty at Music Center of the Northwest since 2005 in addition to having a thriving home and Zoom studio. She is overjoyed to be returning to live, in-person concerts and workshops after the pandemic hiatus.

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Next Level Recorder Retreat is a workshop aimed toward recorder players at intermediate level and above who want to immerse themselves in technique and special topic classes that will help them improve their playing skills and musicianship. We hope to provide the tools you need to play music expressively, with facility and passion. We include time during the intense schedule for practice and rest. Your morning classes are devoted to technical topics, and the afternoon to special topics chosen from the list below.

The Next Level Recorder Retreat will take place at Hidden Valley Institute of the Arts in the village of Carmel Valley, California. Just inland from Carmel by the Sea, Hidden Valley is near a quiet village surrounded by wooded hillsides. Hidden Valley's secluded grounds include a dormitory wing with small but comfortable rooms for two, each with its own bathroom, and the new Lubow Lodge with larger rooms. Meals are served in the dining hall, and classes take place in various buildings around the campus. Participants may choose between a double room with roommate (we do our utmost to match people well) or a single room (singles are limited). Rooms in the motel next door may also be available. The closest airport is the Monterey Regional Airport. Closest international airports are San Jose, San Francisco, and Oakland. The Monterey Airbus provides service from the San Jose and San Francisco airports to the Monterey area.

Application and Payment Information

Step 1. Rate your playing and musicianship using the Berlin/Blaker Self-Rating Chart (http://tibiaduo.com/wp-content/pdf/self_rating.pdf) *If you need help with this, send us an e-mail at tibiarecorderduo@gmail.com*

Step 2. Fill out the application on page two of this document, including your current rating scores. *(Please note that these scores are not a judgment, but a measuring tool to help you work on your music in a focused and rewarding manner.)*

Step 3. Send the application and your \$200 deposit* as an e-payment, or check made out to Letitia Berlin, 806 Washington Ave., Albany CA 94706. Canadian checks MUST have the name of a US bank printed on the front. Electronic payments are preferred if possible: Venmo using @Letitia-Berlin-1, or Zelle using tibiarecorderduo@gmail.com as the account name. Please do not use other account names you have used to pay either Tish or Frances. If you are accepted the remainder of tuition and room and board payment is due upon acceptance. If you are not accepted, we will return your deposit.

Method of Acceptance: We will compare applications received by January 1st and choose the best-matched applicants who have compatible areas of interest. Enrollment is limited to 28 participants.

*Once accepted to the workshop your deposit is non-refundable. Once the balance is paid, that amount is non-refundable unless we can find a suitable replacement for you.

APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Cell phone #: _____ Landline # if no cell phone: _____

Tuition: \$460.00 Deposit check enclosed: \$200 _____

Room and board fees (these include dinner Wed - Sun, lunch Thur - Sun, breakfast Thur – Mon). Single rooms on campus are limited. Please indicate your housing preference, using 1 as your first choice, 2 as your second choice, and 3 as your third choice.

Double Room in Waddell Center (\$625) _____ Single Room in Waddell Center (\$825) _____

Double Room in Lubow Lodge (\$725) _____ Single Room in Lubow Lodge (\$1,060) _____

Commuter (\$475) _____ RV parked on campus (\$525) _____

A deposit of \$200 is due with your application. The remainder of tuition and room and board payment is due upon acceptance. See above for payment details.

Early Arrivals: If you would like to arrive a day early please let us know so we can see if you can be accommodated. No meals are provided for early arrivals but the nearby village has a good deli and cafe and restaurants.

If you know someone who would like to come to the workshop but whose finances prevent them from attending, please let them know about the workshop and the Jeanne Lynch Next Level Scholarship Fund. We look for recorder players who are striving to improve their playing and who want to help others in their community do the same. Full- and half-tuition scholarships are available.

Would you like to donate to the Jeanne Lynch Next Level Scholarship Fund? If yes, please indicate the amount of your donation here _____. If you would like to receive a tax deduction for your donation, you must make your donation through our parent organization, InterMusicSF, at <https://sffcm.giv.sh/5b2d>.

Your scores from the Berlin/Blaker Self-Rating Chart

If you have trouble rating yourself send us an e-mail requesting help.

Please rate yourself even if we know you. Your ratings may have changed!

Tone _____ Fingers _____ Tongue _____ Breathing _____ Intonation/Listening _____ Recorder Sizes _____

Sight reading _____ By Ear _____ Clefs _____ Rhythm _____ Phrasing _____ Keeping place _____ Repertoire _____

Expression _____ Styles/Ornamentation _____ switching from F to C recorders _____

Total Score _____ Do you play Alto up 8 _____

Recorder sizes you play and will bring (If you play bass, please bring it). Workshop pitch is A=440.

Sopranino _____ Soprano _____ Alto _____ Tenor _____ Bass _____ Great Bass in C _____ Contrabass in F _____

Other _____ Renaissance recorders: Size and maker _____

Areas of particular interest for special topics

This item is very important as we choose topics based on your answers. Possible areas to consider, but please add your own:

Baroque ornamentation _____ Renaissance ornamentation _____ extended (modern) techniques _____ impossible rhythms _____
playing away from the page (improvisation, playing by ear, memorization) _____ ensemble-leading _____

contemporary repertoire _____ sightreading skills _____ pulse and rhythm _____ understanding Baroque style _____ understanding
Renaissance style _____ understanding Medieval style _____

others? _____

COVID-19 PROTOCOL

We no longer require proof of vaccination but highly recommend that you are fully vaccinated against COVID and the flu, including RSV. In the week before the workshop it is your responsibility to avoid contact with people known to you to have COVID or other infectious diseases, and to mask when being indoors around other people unknown to you. If, despite these precautions you are experiencing any of the following symptoms we will ask you to cancel your participation and will credit your payment toward a future Next Level workshop: cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing; fever or chills; muscle or body aches; vomiting or diarrhea; new loss of taste or smell. You will need to take an at-home COVID test the day before arrival, the day of arrival, and on Friday. If you test positive you will have to leave the workshop. We may also ask that we all stay masked when indoors and not eating or playing.

Please check here to indicate that you have read and accept this protocol: _____