

Climb to the Next Level



Next Level Recorder Retreat

a Tibia Adventures in Music Workshop

NEW DATES: March 25 - 30, 2024

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

Instructors: Letitia Berlin, Frances Blaker, Vicki Boeckman

With special Tuesday guest Shira Kammen

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



Classes include articulation, finger facility, and tone; special topics including Impossible Rhythms, Contemporary Repertoire, Pulse & Rhythm, Ensemble Leading, and Sightreading Skills; and consort sessions. Evening activities include ad hoc playing sessions, faculty concert, coached large-group sessions, and open mic.



See below for faculty biographies, COVID protocol, and more!

Faculty: Letitia Berlin, Frances Blaker, Vicki Boeckman, Shira Kammen

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.

Before settling in Seattle, **Vicki Boeckman** lived in Denmark for 24 years and collaborated with some of its finest musicians and composers of the day. Her Danish recorder trio Wood'N'Flutes performed all over Europe and worked 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. 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 has been on the faculty at Music Center of the Northwest since 2005 in addition to having a thriving home and Zoom studio. Vicki will join us beginning Tuesday evening.

Multi-instrumentalist **Shira Kammen** has spent much of her life exploring the world of early music. A member for many years of the early music Ensembles Alcatraz and Project Ars Nova, and Medieval Strings, she has also worked with Sequentia, Hesperion XX, the Boston Camerata, the Balkan group Kitka, the King's Noyse, the Newberry and Folger Consorts, Parthenia, Anonymous IV, Rose of the Compass, the Oregon, California and San Francisco Shakespeare Festivals, singer Anne Azema, storyteller Patrick Ball, clown Jeff Raz, among many other fine performers, and is the founder of Class V Music, an ensemble dedicated to providing music on river rafting trips. She has performed and taught in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Europe, Israel, Morocco, Latvia, Russia, Abu Dhabi and Japan. Shira will join us Monday night and during the day on Tuesday.

Practical Information

~ See Next Page ~

Next Level Recorder Retreat is a workshop aimed toward recorder players at intermediate level and above who want to immerse themselves in technique, special topic classes, and consort sessions that will help them improve their playing skills and musicianship. Our aim is 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.

The Next Level Recorder Retreat will take place at Hidden Valley Institute of the Arts in Carmel Valley Village, California. Just inland from Carmel by the Sea, HVIA is 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. **Arrive in time for dinner on Monday and leave at noon on Saturday before lunch. Late arrivals and early departures can be accommodated if necessary.**

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 with your deposit* check for \$200 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. The remainder of tuition and room and board payment is due upon acceptance. If you are not accepted, we will return your deposit. You may pay with Venmo using @Letitia-Berlin-1, or Zelle using tibiarecorderduo@gmail.com if you prefer, as the account name. Please do not use other account names you have used to pay either Tish or Frances.

Method of Acceptance: We will choose the best-matched applicants who have compatible areas of interest. Enrollment is limited to 24 participants. Due to the postponement of our original dates and the need to move quickly, compatible applicants will be accepted in order of receipt of application.

*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.

COVID-19 and other Respiratory Illness 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 before the start of the workshop 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 a rapid at-home COVID test the day before arrival, the day of arrival, and on Wednesday. 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.

If you develop cold symptoms but continue to test negative for COVID you may audit classes while masked.

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

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 Mon - Fri, lunch Tues - Fri, breakfast Tues - Sat). 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. Yes, Hidden Valley's rates have gone up!

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. You may pay with Venmo using @Letitia-Berlin-1 or Zelle, using tibiarecorderduo@gmail.com as the account name if you prefer. Please do NOT use tishberlin@sbcglobal.net for electronic payments.

Early Arrivals: If you would like to arrive a day early, please contact Hidden Valley Institute of the Arts at info@hiddenvalleymusic.org or 831-659-3115. 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 Jeanne Lynch Next Level Scholarship Fund. We look for recorder players striving to improve their playing and who want to help others do the same. Full- and half-tuition scholarships are available.

Would you like to make a donation 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 _____

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

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

Other _____ Do you play Alto up an octave? _____

Renaissance recorders: Size and maker _____