Climb to the Next Level



Next Level Recorder Retreat

a Tibia Adventures in Music Workshop

May 29 - June 2, 2022

A retreat for intermediate to advanced recorder players who want to work 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.

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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.

Please see the separate Important Information Sheet for afternoon topic ideas, COVID-19 protocol, and much more!

Workshop Location

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 Hidden Valley Inn next door may also be available.

Faculty

Miyo Aoki, Letitia Berlin, Frances Blaker, Vicki Boeckman

Miyo Aoki performs music ranging from medieval to modern and teaches students of all ages and levels. She has performed in the US, Germany, and Poland, with groups including Farallon Recorder Quartet, Salish Sea Players, Utopia Early Music, and Gamut Bach Ensemble, and at the Bloomington Early Music Festival and Whidbey Island Music Festival. She is a founding member of the Seattle-based chamber group sound | counterpoint and has premiered works by contemporary composers Natalie Williams and Agnes Dorwarth. Miyo holds a KAZ Diplom (Artist Diploma) from the University of the Arts in Bremen, Germany, where she studied with Professor Han Tol. She holds 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. Ms. Berlin has performed as a soloist with the Atlanta Baroque Orchestra, the San Francisco Symphony, and the North Carolina Baroque Orchestra. Ms. Berlin 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. While she enjoys teaching online she is very grateful to the scientists and volunteers who brought us the COVID-19 vaccine so we can teach and perform in person again.

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.

Vicki Boeckman has been performing and teaching since the 1980s and is delighted to be returning to teach at the Next Level Workshop. Pre-pandemic she was an internationally acclaimed performing artist who traveled all over the US and to many European countries to perform and teach. She has recorded about 15 CDs with various ensembles and loves playing a wide variety of musical styles. When the world went virtual she adapted to the challenges hesitantly, but now embraces the virtual platform with enthusiasm and awe, discovering formerly inconceivable possibilities for reaching students all across the globe. Vicki is a two-time recipient of the recorder residency at the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology in Oregon, and a two-time recipient of the Jack Straw Artist Support Program. Currently she is Music Director for the Seattle Recorder Society, co-director of the Recorder Orchestra of Puget Sound (ROPS), and Artistic Director for the Port Townsend Early Music Workshop.