

MUSICA PACIFICA

“The effect was transporting—a small miracle of precision and musical electricity.”

—WASHINGTON POST



SPARKS FLY when these high-energy performers get together! Musica Pacifica combines world-class musicianship with a spirited and communicative performing style and brings exuberant vitality to the intimate chamber music of the Baroque. An evening with Musica Pacifica spotlights the unique talents of each musician and combines them in diverse groupings within the ensemble, creating an ever-changing palette of instrumental color.

FEATURING

Judith Linsenberg, recorder
Elizabeth Blumenstock, baroque violin
Charles Sherman, harpsichord
Josh Lee, viola da gamba

MUSICA PACIFICA has become widely recognized as one of America’s premier baroque ensembles, lauded for both the dazzling virtuosity and the warm expressiveness of its performances. They have been described by the press as **“some of the finest baroque musicians in America”** (*American Record Guide*) and **“among the best in the world”** (*Alte Musik Aktuell*). At home in the San Francisco Bay area, the artists perform with Philharmonia Baroque and American Bach Soloists, and appear with many other prominent early music ensembles nationally and abroad.

They have performed on some of the most prestigious concert series in the U.S., including Music Before 1800 and the Frick Collection (NY), the Getty Museum (Los Angeles), the Cleveland Art Museum, the Pittsburgh Renaissance and Baroque Society, the Seattle Early Music Guild, the Houston Early Music Society, and the Los Angeles County Museum, among many others. The ensemble has been featured at the Berkeley Early Music Festival four times, and their first appearance there was cited in *Early Music (UK)* as **“perhaps the standout of the entire festival.”** They have performed at festivals in Germany and Austria and have been heard on German National radio as well as on National Public Radio’s “Performance Today” and “Harmonia” and on Minnesota Public Radio.

Musica Pacifica’s eight CD releases on the Virgin Classics, Dorian and Solimar labels have won national and international awards, including the highest ratings in several CD magazines and being chosen as “CD of the Month” by the early music journal *Alte Musik Aktuell (Regensburg)*. Their most recent CD, *Dancing in the Isles* was lauded in the prestigious British journal, *Gramophone* as **“one of the zestiest recordings of recent vintage,”** and featured on WFIU’s nationally syndicated program, *Harmonia*; *Fire Beneath My Fingers* was featured as CD of the Week on Minnesota Public Radio and touted as **“one of the most exciting Baroque recordings I’ve heard”** on Audiophile Audition.

www.musicapacifica.org
youtube.com/MusicaPacificaSF

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MUSICA PACIFICA

TOURING PROGRAMS



MUSICA PACIFICA'S core ensemble of recorder, violin, cello/gamba, and harpsichord expands to include oboe, percussion, additional strings, bassoon, lute, and voice, according to program and presenters' desires. Sample programs below – more are listed at www.musicapacifica.org.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

A “smorgasbord” of early music! In this very popular program of Baroque gems, we visit the major artistic centers of Europe and sample the musical forms of the 17th and 18th centuries. Colorful suites by Rameau or Marais, brilliant chamber concertos by Vivaldi, English country dances, and a Telemann Paris Quartet rub shoulders with virtuosic trio and solo sonatas by Handel, Castello, Bach, and others.

DANCING IN THE ISLES

Rousing Baroque and traditional music from Scotland, Ireland, and England. This program includes Musica Pacifica's arrangements of traditional Irish and Scottish folk tunes, a set of English country dances, Jacobean masque music, trio sonatas by Scots Oswald and McGibbon, as well as works with a Scottish flavor by Matteis and Veracini, and Purcell's haunting “Two in One Upon a Ground.”

A VENETIAN CARNIVAL

This lively program includes music that evokes the festive and magic Carnival season for which Venice was so renowned. Vivaldi's colorful chamber concertos reflect the extreme affects and topsy-turvy of this whimsical time. A suite from Campra's *Les Fêtes Vénitiennes* represents a foreigner's “take” on Venice and Carnival, while evoking the popular style and characters of the *commedia dell'arte*. Chamber music by other Venetian composers, such as Veracini, Albinoni, Uccellini, and Vitali, and amusing readings from the period round out the program.

A FAMILY AFFAIR, OR THE FATHER, THE SONS, AND THE GODFATHER

Trio, duo, solo sonatas, and chamber concertos from one of the greatest musical families ever, including works by J.S. Bach, W.F. Bach, C.P.E. Bach and his godfather, Georg Philipp Telemann. Readings from the personal letters of these composers offer an intimate glimpse into their lives and provide a context for the works themselves.

MUSICA PACIFICA also offers programs with distinguished guest artists – such as soprano Dominique Labelle; mezzo-soprano Jacqueline Horner-Kwiatk of Anonymous 4; and Baroque violinist Robert Mealy.

Finally, Musica Pacifica offers a variety of educational programs for students of all ages, as well as masterclasses, ensemble coachings, and community engagement programs.

