



Viola da Gamba Society—New England
Spring Workshop

***Comme femme desconfortée:*
a fifteenth century song goes
viral**

**Trinity Episcopal Church
81 Elm St.
Concord MA 01742
April 27, 2019**

**Wendy Gillespie, Music Director
Anne Legêne, Local Coordinator**

Registration Deadline: March 31, 2019

How did tunes go viral centuries before there was any such thing as social media? One way is that composers borrowed them to use as the basis for polyphonic compositions. The tune then took on a life of its own, separate from its original setting and intent.

The song of the day, *Comme femme desconfortée*, appears in eleven manuscript sources, one (and only one) of which attributes it to Gilles Binchois. Whoever the composer was, its wide dissemination suggests that *Comme femme desconfortée* was one of the best-known chansons of the late 15th century, and the many sacred and secular compositions that draw on its tenor line further attest to its popularity. Josquin, Isaac, Senfl and Agricola are among the composers who used the tune to spectacular effect in music of 3-6 parts that includes some of the most sublime polyphony that has ever been.

Coaches, besides Wendy, will include Jane Hershey, Sarah Mead, Alice Robbins, and Emily Walhout. Singers are welcome to this workshop. If there is interest, there will be a beginners' class as well as an ensemble skills class for advanced beginners.

Schedule

9 - 9:30 Registration & coffee
9:30 - 10:15 Lecture/Demonstration
10:30 - 11:45 Class I
12:00 - 1:00 Lunch and Annual Meeting
1:15 - 2:30 Class II
2:45 - 4:00 Class III

Pitch A= 415
Please bring a stand

For further information contact Wendy Gillespie (wendygil@indiana.edu) or Anne Legêne (alegene@simonsrock.edu)

Directions to Trinity Episcopal Church 81 Elm Street, Concord, MA 01742

- **From Route 128 (I-95), take Route 2 West**
 - Continue on Route 2 which bears to the left at Route 2A
 - Go through light for Route 126
 - Go through light for Sudbury Road
 - Watch for Emerson Hospital (on left), and Concord Health Care (on right)
 - Turn right at light onto Old Road to Nine Acre Corner
 - Bear right at next intersection onto Main Street (Route 62)
 - Continue on Route 62 (under low bridge, and past a canoe rental)
 - Turn left onto River Street (just past the canoe area)
 - Trinity is at the intersection River Street and Elm Street
- **From the Route 2 Rotary**
 - Go East on Route 2 past the prison
 - Turn left at the second light
 - Turn right onto Elm Street towards Concord Center (at the Best Western motel)
 - Trinity will be on the right after you cross a bridge
- **Trinity is at the intersection of River Street and Elm Street**
- **There is a parking along Elm Street (with Handicap spaces)**
- **There are also a limited number of parking spaces (with Handicap spaces) in lots on River Street and Main Street**

Name _____

Please circle your level for the instrument(s) you wish to play and the clefs that you are cheerfully willing to deal with for each instrument:

Treble	B	LI	MI	HI	A	Clefs:	Treble	Treble8	Alto			
Tenor	B	LI	MI	HI	A	Clefs:	Treble	Treble8	Alto	Tenor	Bass	
Bass	B	LI	MI	HI	A	Clefs:	Treble	Treble8	Alto	Tenor	Bass	

(A self-rating guide is available on the national website, vdgsa.org)

Are you currently studying viol? _____ Teacher _____

I would like to play in an Introduction to the Viol Class (one session, no experience expected; invitation to audit other sessions)

I would like to pay in the Ensemble Skills Class (some viol experience; music will be sent ahead; two sessions)

I would like to sing: Soprano; Alto; Tenor; Bass

I enjoy being challenged.

We would like to play as a pre-formed consort for **one** period.

Other players:

Please send me music in advance. My email is:

Please indicate your interest in any of these classes. Most are suitable for varied degrees of experience and your choices will be honored as far as possible.

Senfl *Ave rosa sine spinis* (5 pt.)

Isaac *Angeli archangeli* (6 pt)

Josquin *Stabat mater* (5 pt)

The three part music: Binchois *Comme femme* and Agricola *Comme femme* (Advanced)

Ghiselin *Inviolata* and Agricola *Comme femme* (4 part - especially good for lower level)

Name _____
Street _____
City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____
Phones _____
Email _____

This is a new or changed address.

I will contribute: salad for 6; fruit for 6; cookies

I will help with morning set-up

I will help set up lunch

I will help clean up at the end of the day

Members' Registration (\$70)

Non-members' Registration (includes annual dues) (\$85)

Reduced fare Registration (available only after consultation with Sybil Kevy) (\$40)

Introduction to the Viol (\$20) (beginners: pay *only* this fee)

Ensemble Skills Class (2 sessions \$50) Joining regular group for 3rd class: full fare

Dues only (2017-2018) (\$15)

Contribution

I want to support the VdGS-NE with a contribution:

\$25 Friend \$50 Sponsor

\$100 Patron \$250 Donor

TOTAL ENCLOSED

Please make your check payable to VdGS-NE and send with this form to:

Sybil Kevy, 154 Plain Rd., Wayland, MA 01778-2425

Registration deadline March 31, 2019. Late registrants will be accepted only if space is available.