

## VdGS-NE October Special Topics Class



Sunday, October 17, 2021  
3:00 - 4:30 PM

## Playford Tunes as Tech Hacks

Presented by  
**Tina Chancey**  
Alice Robbins, Coordinator

Registration Deadline: Oct. 12, 2021

As musicians, we're always faced with things we can't do; long notes we can't hold, low or high notes we can't reach, ornaments we can't play fast enough. Practice is the universal answer, and as classical musicians we're trained to isolate the issue, remove it and take it apart to study. But when we re-insert the problem notes back into the piece, sometimes they're no better. It seems that context matters when dealing with hard passages. How do you get into it (did your hand start out contracted or extended)? What end of the bow were you on, on the note before? Would using an open string help you move around faster?

Playing John Playford's dance tunes is a great way to learn technique in context; they're short, catchy, and generally stick to one or two musical motifs. We'll use 5 main tunes to study 5 common technical problems, though more tunes and more issues will come to light along the way. Your job is to notice; to listen for scratchiness or unclarity, to feel when your left and right hands go out of balance, to anticipate developing tension. We'll address 5 issues (Subdividing, Rushing, Octaves, Fast notes, Dance rhythms) and explore 5 Playford country dance tunes (Hole in the Wall, Dargason, Emperor of the Moon, Daphne).

All levels welcome.

Pitch: A=415

For more information: Tina Chancey at [tinachancey@cs.com](mailto:tinachancey@cs.com) or Alice Robbins at [arobbins@smith.edu](mailto:arobbins@smith.edu)

**Tina Chancey** is director of HESPERUS. She plays medieval fiddles, viola da gamba and renaissance, Old Time and Irish fiddle on roots music from Sephardic and Irish to medieval and jazz standards. Her particular specialty is the five-stringed pardessus de viole; her recent CD of pardessus trios by Boismortier was released in July, 2014. A member of Toss the Feathers, Sol y Sal and Trio Sefardi, she is a former member of the Folger Consort, the Ensemble for Early Music and Blackmore's Night. Recently artist residencies: World on a String, Oberlin Conservatory, Morgan

State Arts Council, the Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts, the Indy Convergence and the Smithsonian Resident Associates. She teaches, performs, records, improvises, produces recordings, writes articles and directs the SoundCatcher workshops teaching musicians how to play by ear and improvise. Dr. Chancey has been given a Special Education Achievement Award by Early Music America and four Wammies for best classical instrumentalist by the Washington Area Music Association.

**Registration for Zoom workshop**

Workshop fee: \$15 members/\$20 non-members. The Zoom link for the workshop will be sent to you once your registration is received as will the link to scores for the music.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phones** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

This is a new or changed address.

Workshop Registration (\$20 non-members) with class registration.  Yes! Sign me up.  No, thank you.

Workshop Registration (\$15 members)

Contact Treasurer (galegere@comcast.net) for scholarship information

Dues only (2021-2022) (\$20)

Contribution

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

\$25 Friend  \$50 Sponsor

\$100 Patron  \$250 Donor

TOTAL ENCLOSED

Register online at [vdgsne.org](http://vdgsne.org) where you may pay using Paypal, or make your check payable to VdGS-NE and send with this form to our Treasurer:

**Glen Legere, 1 Sherman Lane, Bedford, MA 01730**

***Registration deadline: October 12, 2021.***