

VIOLS OF HOUSTON FALL 2024

# NEWSLETTER



Hello Viol Enthusiasts,

I hope this message finds you well. We have several exciting events coming up for our Houston Chapter of the VdGSA, and I wanted to share the details with you.

### **Saturday Morning Reading Sessions:**

We continue to host reading sessions every Saturday morning at 10:00 AM. Please refer to the dates listed on the side for more information.

### **January Workshop with Carol Lewis:**

In January, we are thrilled to welcome Carol Lewis for a two-day workshop on song and dance music at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Meyerland. On Saturday evening, I will also host a reading session, offering additional opportunities for engagement.

### **February Presentations:**

On February 10, I will be giving a presentation to the VdGS of the UK on the pedagogy of teaching viols to middle and high school students. This session will be available to members of the VdGS for live streaming or will be posted on YouTube for a month.

Additionally, on February 13, I will present a lecture and demonstration at Chamber Music America in collaboration with Early Music America, focusing on the viol consort. This event will feature the Viols of Deer Park and Les Touches at Rice University, beginning at 2:30 PM.

I look forward to seeing many of you at these upcoming events!

Thank you all for your support!

Pedro Funes-Whittington, President  
Viols of Houston

## Reading Sessions 2024

**December 7th**

Hosted by Pedro Funes

**December 14th**

Hosted by Blades Family

**December 21st**

Christmas Music Session

Hosted by Pedro Funes

Sessions start at 10am

If interested please email Pedro at [pafunes@me.com](mailto:pafunes@me.com) to include you in the email list for reading sessions.



# Viol Workshop: Songs and Dances for the Viol

## January 11-12, 2025



### About Carol Lewis

CAROL LEWIS has been called a “zestful and passionate champion” of the viola da gamba. She has frequently demonstrated her musical virtuosity and versatility as a soloist in recitals in the United States and abroad. A former student of Jordi Savall, Carol has toured and recorded with Hespèrion, Boston Camerata, and many other groups. She has taught at Festival dei Saraceni (Pamparato, Italy), Milano Civica Scuola di Musica (Italy), Bunker Hill Community College (MA), Amherst Early Music, Pinewoods Early Music Week, and the annual summer conclave of the Viola da Gamba Society of America. Carol Lewis is on the faculty of New England Conservatory of Music. She teaches a viol consort class at Somerville (MA) High School and has been a frequent coach for the Viola da Gamba Society-New England. She teaches and coaches privately as well, and she’s the current vice president of the VdGS-NE

### Songs and Dances for Viols

#### Schedule:

#### Saturday, January 11, 2025

1) 1:00-2:15pm

Break

2) 2:45pm-4:00pm

#### Sunday, January 12, 2025

1) 1:00-2:15pm

Break

2) 2:45pm-4:00pm

**Location:** St. Thomas Episcopal

During the renaissance, musicians all around Europe sang in choirs (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) and played instruments in “families”, and the viola da gamba family (treble, tenor, bass) is no exception. We’ll do instrumental music modeled on vocal music, and vocal music modeled on instrumental music, with Italian balletti by Gastoldi, French chansons by Le Jeune and Gervaise, German dances by Praetorius, and frottola-style pieces by Josquin and others. And we’ll be sure to include some of the great four-part songs by Dowland, all with very singable tunes and danceable rhythms.

## To Register



Fee: \$75 for both days, \$40 for each day only

Pay at: [PayPal.Me/houstonviols](https://www.paypal.com/merchot/?cmd=_express-checkout&from=paypal.com&source=paypal)



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