



October 2014 Meeting: *Lamentations*

DATE: Sunday, October 19, 2014
TIME: 2:00 to 4:30 p.m.
PLACE: Unity Church of Denver, 3021 South University Blvd.,
Denver
CONDUCTOR: Jennifer Carpenter

Lamentations

To open our 2014-2015 season, we're taking advantage of a talent windfall. Jennifer Carpenter is a rising star in the recorder world and a new resident of Colorado. A member of the national ARS Board of Directors, as well as a prominent performer and teacher, she will lead a unique and engaging program for our October meeting. About the *Lamentations* she will bring to us, here's what she says:

Some of the most beautiful music were Renaissance compositions inspired by a composer's death. We will look at déplorations and lamentations written on the deaths of Binchois, Ockeghem, and Josquin. If time allows, we may look at a portion of Lassus' *Lamentations of Jeremiah*, a work that remains one of my most loved compositions. Bring tissues--this is poignantly beautiful music!

Our Leader for This Meeting

Jennifer Carpenter holds a Bachelor of Music degree in clarinet performance from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and a Master of Music degree in musicology with an emphasis in early music performance from the University of North Texas. Jennifer received a Toulouse Graduate Fellowship toward her Ph.D. studies in musicology and early music performance at UNT. As a recorder player, she performs as a soloist and in ensembles, including the Denton Bach Players and Trio Giocoso and has been a guest artist with the Dallas Bach Society and Texas Camerata. Jennifer is currently on the board of directors of the American Recorder Society and was the music director of the Dallas Recorder Society from 2009-2014. She has also been on the faculty of early music workshops in both TX and CA. Jennifer worked as a teaching fellow at UNT and was an associate professor

President's Message:

Welcome back everyone! We are starting one month late thanks to Recorderfest in the West. I am happy to say that Recorderfest was a rousing success. It kicked off with a very nice reception and exhibit at the Recorder Music Center, followed by a celebratory dinner, and then launched immediately into group recorder playing. The next 2 1/2 days featured a variety of workshop sessions and two wonderful concerts. We had bonus performances by our very own **StopTime** consort, the **Four Winds** ensemble, and the **Colorado Recorder Orchestra**. It was a great chance to play the recorder, to make new friends, and to catch up with old acquaintances.

I want to thank those Denver Chapter members who helped out with Recorderfest in a variety of ways: Joe Wilcox, RoseMary Glista, Victoria Taylor, Pat Selby, Dick Munz, Sharon Bolles, Bruce Nelson, Diane Wagner, and Lisa McInnis. These members helped with planning, transportation, registration, and more. All of them helped to make Recorderfest a success.

Now we can look forward to another great year of monthly music get-togethers led by a wealth of guest conductors. In addition, we will start planning for Rocky XI, which will be held May 15-17th, 2015, at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park. Mark your calendars! Please let me know if you are willing to help out in some way.

I hope you will choose to renew your membership in the Denver Recorder Society. We have managed to keep our dues at the low level of \$20/year even though our expenses go up every year. Your dues help to pay for the use of Unity Church for our monthly meetings as well as faculty fees and associated expenses. Please pay your dues by the November session. We'll have copies of the enrollment form at the October meeting, or use the form at the end of this newsletter.

Group Corner

News of the activities and postings from area musical groups having recorder players. Check the chapter website for a listing of all groups that we know of, including contact information.

Four Winds Ensemble (Colorado Springs): Four Winds had an enjoyable summer. We opened an art show in Manitou Springs with a 60's-themed set. We were also invited by the Colorado Springs Downtown Association to perform for a Farm & Art Market at Acacia Park. Our program featured popular music through the ages. Finally, we were honored to give a lunchtime performance at Recorderfest, featuring Vivaldi, Passereau, Mozart, Dick Wood, Glen Shannon, Stan Davis, and Jon's arrangements of Mr Sandman, Tumblin' Tumbleweeds, and The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly. We will start our elementary school outreach program with a performance at Skyway Elementary school on September 26th, and we're starting to think about Christmas gigs! We are fortunate that Jennifer Carpenter has moved to our area and stepped in to sub when a member isn't available for a gig.

Marylebone Garden Players continues to meet this fall on Saturday mornings at 10 am and Mondays at 9 am. We do have an opening in the Monday group. Although we don't have an opening in the Saturday group, you can get on the sub list and you will probably get to play a couple of times a month. This coming season is our 8th season of regular playing although the group was originally founded in 1986 and we played around town at bars and restaurants.

We have a huge library of music, I recently added a lot of Baroque Chamber Orchestra music that I obtained from vendors at the ARS Workshop.

We are not a recorder group, we are a mixed group of strings and woodwinds. Recorders are always welcome.

We sight-read through a great deal of music. If you have always wanted to play recorder with a small chamber orchestra, now is the time. You won't find anything like it in Denver. I don't advertise much for new members because we get most new members from word of mouth and we have very little turnover. Generally we have more than one person on a part, so if you are an intermediate or above player, you should enjoy this group, you can shadow another player on the more difficult parts.

In most sessions, we have recorders, wooden flutes, violin family, gamba family and harpsichord with added lute and organ sounds as needed. We have a central location with lots of parking and great snacks including home made cookies and Starbucks Coffee. Call me if you are interested. **Bill Conklin 303-455-0837**

StopTime had a busier summer than usual. In July, we

provided entertainment at two retirement homes. In August, we were on stage at the Mercury Cafe with our annual performance for our friends. And in September, we were honored to provide background music for the "RecorderFest in the West" Thursday night banquet.

Newbie News

Dick Munz, former president of the Denver chapter for 5 years and founder of StopTime Recorder Jazz Band will host October's Newbie session. He will present a session titled "Another Way To Play It." What does he mean by that? Come to the Newbie session and find out.

Sunday, October 19th, 2014
12:45 to 1:45 pm,
4th and 5th Grade Classroom, second floor
Unity church
3021 S. University Blvd, Denver
Enter South door.

The Newbie Group gives players new to the recorder or new to the Denver Chapter an opportunity to play small ensemble music in a safe setting. Session is free of charge and open to the public. Drop-ins welcome. Newbies generally know some fingerings and have at least minimal skill at reading music. All voices of recorder are welcome. A chapter member volunteer will host the playing session. Attendees will have the option of observing or playing at the monthly meeting, which follows at 2:00 – 4:30 at the same location. For more information, contact **Janet Handmaker** at recorderteacher@comcast.net or call **303-221-6066**.

Denver Chapter Members/Friends in good standing as of August 2014:

Louise Adler, Karen Anderson, Rebecca Beshore, Sharon Bolles, Jeannine K. Bramwell, Paul Brunson, Marlys Butler, Jon Casbon, Sally Collins, Bill Conklin, Virginia Cortes, Lynda Coy, Keith Emerson,
Barbara Fahey, Nancy Fey, Judy Fritz, Joice Gibson, RoseMary Glista, Elaine Granata, Pamela Grotegut, Janet Handmaker, Patrick Heid, Diane Hoepfinger, Eve Johnson, John M. LeVett, Maureen Liegl,
Bob McCarroll, Lisa McInnis, Pat Midyet, Judy Miller, Dick Munz, Lori Murphy, Jennifer Myers,
Bruce Nelson, Ruth Neubauer, Gail Nickless, Susan Osborn, Margaret Peterson, Sally Pyle, Justine Romero, Virginia Schlieker, Mary Scott, Pat Selby, Mary Sloan, Victoria Taylor, Gerrie Vendegna, Diane M. Wagner, Trudy Wayne and Joe Wilcox.

We are now collecting dues for the 2014-2015 season. Chapter dues are \$20 and are payable by November 15, 2014. We also accept payment for ARS National Dues if you would like us to process the dues for you. Please complete the Dues Form under "Join" on the website (or use the attached form) and submit the form with the dues.

A Simple Request

Please pay attention, because I'm about to start begging. Half of you reading this are guilty, well at least I'm guessing at half. So, if you are not, then the people playing next to you are, and you have seen them do this. When after a few minutes of playing and moisture begins to clog the windway, please do not ever stick your finger in the window over the labium and blow that condensation into the recorder. Please, for the love of the recorder, don't do it. There is no single reason why this technique is detrimental to your recorder... there are many.

Here is one basic fact: recorders abhor excess moisture. Whenever excess moisture is blown through the windway into the bore it cascades down and is quickly absorbed into the interior end grain surface of the block. That moisture contains saliva, food particles, and other debris. By not intentionally blowing that excess into our instruments, as well as making it a habit to avoid playing directly after eating, most of the problems this causes can be avoided. Inspection with a light held up to the head joint will help identify any buildup on any surface of the block. All surfaces should always appear clean, and any debris will negatively affect the instrument's tone.

Mold on the moisture absorbing surfaces of the recorder is the most common and often most serious problem. Black mold tends to grow on instruments that are well played and not allowed to dry properly before storing them. Black mold in the windway is a potential health hazard and often extremely difficult to remove permanently. Black mold can cause permanent damage to the block and windway if left untreated. At the very least black mold will permanently discolor any affected surfaces. Green mold, which is less of a problem to remove, can still be an issue when left untreated for any extended period. Mold can damage your recorder regardless of the material from which it was made. Plastic recorders, although durable and machine washable, are usually neglected for these reasons and often go many months without cleaning.

The block's end grain surface absorbs moisture faster than the plain sawn surface and leads to swelling. Swelling, after extended practice sessions, will usually cause poor intonation, especially in the upper register. Although cracking is not a common problem associated with regular playing it is something to consider on a recorder not yet broken in or acclimated to its environment. Ever notice that your well played wooden recorder has the block sticking slightly out from the head joint. That is often a result of swelling on the interior

side of the block which causes the tapered block to pop from the joint. The simple fix is to push it back in place after it has had time to thoroughly dry.

The simple act of placing your finger over the window to block the outward flow of air can have negative consequences. Any recorder with excess moisture blown onto the cutting edge of the labium is fragile. The cutting edge is often so thin that any moisture softens it so that any pressure from your finger has the potential to bend or even break it. While this is not the case with plastic, and less severe with woods like ebony, the labium is the voice of the instrument and should be very delicately handled and protected from foreign objects like your fingers.

Moisture that collects in the middle joint will have a tendency over time to glue any debris on any uneven surface of the bore and especially in the tone holes. Mold is less of an issue in the middle joint as a result of the greater surface area which allows it to dry quickly after playing. Regular cleaning with a flute swab will prevent most of these very simple tone affecting problems in the middle joint.

Here are a few simple techniques you can employ that are printed in most recorder care manuals. Properly warm up the head joint prior to playing, and even during practice, by placing it under your arm or in your pocket; a warm head joint is less likely to clog. Make a habit of sucking the moisture back through the windway before it ever builds to excess and you'll probably never even notice it. If long playing sessions without rest lead to serious condensation place your hand over the tone holes and your mouth over the windway and the moisture can be expelled out the beak with a forceful breath. Ideally, when time allows, remove the head joint and with your mouth positioned over the window place your hand over the open end of the bore and blow.

So I am pleading with all my recorder loving friends, most of whom are not aware they are doing anything wrong, to pay more attention to these basic concerns. With regular focus on proper care and cleaning your recorder may never have any permanent problems associated with excess moisture. I would be happy to answer any questions regarding the care and maintenance of your instruments. Please submit any repair and general recorder questions to Orthwest@gmail.com or contact me directly by phone 772-321-1498. I await your call.

John Orth
Orthwest Studios LLC
Golden, Colorado

ENROLLMENT FORM

DENVER CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RECORDER SOCIETY (ARS)

Name:					
Address:					
City:		State:		Zip:	
Home Phone:		Cell Phone:			
Email address:					

Are you a National ARS member? Yes____ No____

Please specify your interests by circling any of the following that apply and adding your other skills:

Recorders played: Soprano Soprano Alto Tenor Bass GB CB

Skill level: Beginner Advanced Beginner Intermediate Advanced Intermediate Advanced

Other instrument or voice skills:

DUES

Denver Chapter dues for 2014-15 season:	\$20
OPTIONAL: Donation to the Denver Chapter (fully tax deductible):	
OPTIONAL: ARS National dues for twelve months, individual @ \$50:	
OPTIONAL: New! ARS electronic membership*, 1 year @ \$45:	
Standard delivery of monthly Newsletter is via website, preferred and free	\$0
OPTIONAL: Postal delivery of monthly Newsletter @ \$6:	
Total:	

*No hard copy of American Recorder magazine, Newsletter or Members' Library. The publications are available for download.

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