

Sine Nomine *Meet the Performers*



Richard Spittel holds degrees in Bassoon Performance and Music Education from Towson University, Peabody Conservatory of Music, and the University of Maryland. He is a former member of the U.S. Army Field Band, and has been a member of the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra on bassoon and contrabassoon for over 30 years. In addition to being an Adjunct Professor at the University of Maryland - Baltimore County, he maintains a private teaching studio. He is also the current Music Director of the Baltimore Chapter of the American Recorder Society. Richard works in Medical Credentialing for a large health care organization in Baltimore. When otherwise not busy, he is a bicycling fanatic and a train buff.

David McGown pursues early music as a strong avocation while maintaining a career in a DC area naval architecture /marine

engineering firm. He holds degrees in both music and engineering from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg. While in college, he helped found the New River Consort. David is currently a student of Gwyn Roberts, with masterclass instruction from Saskia Coolen, Marion Verbruggen, Bart Spanhove and others. In addition to Sine Nomine, he is also a member of Consort Anon, 12th Street Consort, and Concerto Degli Imperfetti. David serves as co-music director of the Washington Recorder Society and is President of Capitol Early Music.



Colleen Vernon holds a Master's degree in Music Education with a specialty in bassoon performance. She has had a thirteen-year career in K-12 teaching general music for children, and seven years of teaching swing dance classes for adults. This year, she started her own business, Colleen Vernon Music, to offer music and movement classes to children, families, and seniors. She is passionate about helping people of all ages find joy and togetherness through music and dance. Colleen has been a member of Sine Nomine since its inception in 2012.

Rachel Isaacson is a lifelong recorder player, who began studying with Suzana Cooper at the age of seven. Her love of early music has led her to study with Eva Legêne, Recorder Virtuoso and Professor at Indiana University, and with the late Scott Reiss of Hesperus; she performs with various ensembles in the Washington DC area. She maintains a private studio and both teaches individuals and directs several ensembles; her professional joy is to connect her students with their innate musical ability. She is delighted to be a recent addition to Sine Nomine.



George Simmons has been involved with renaissance and baroque performance for a number of years, and has played in early music groups wherever he has lived, including Los Angeles, Seattle - Big Byrds, Moscow, Idaho - Palouse Ensemble for Early Music, and now the Baltimore/Washington area. He specializes in the large recorders, double reeds, and early keyboard instruments. He recently performed with the Oregon Renaissance Band in the movie "BuddyMoon" (released by MGM, Netflix, and iTunes). George has previously served as professor and dean of engineering and science, and holds degrees in chemical engineering from the University of Idaho and Stanford University.

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