

## *THE FRIENDS OF FASCH*

**The Friends of Fasch** is named in honor of Johann Friedrich Fasch, because the ensemble was originally formed to give a series of concerts in 2008 to mark the 250th anniversary of his death. Although this was planned as a one-time-only venture, we reconvened in 2012 to present two more sets of concerts (including the American premiere of a piece by our namesake), and subsequently collaborated with Ensemble Gaudior for the first Baroque Bonanza in June 2014. The group features historical woodwinds and is notable for the versatility of its members, which allows us to offer an unusually wide variety of instrumental combinations.

**Rachel Siegel** studied recorder with Clea Galhano while earning a bachelor's degree in clarinet at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. After receiving her master's degree from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, she joined "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in September 2013.

**Sarah Weiner** has performed with a wide range of period-instrument ensembles both locally (Bach Sinfonia, Folger Consort, Washington Bach Consort) and around the country (New Trinity Baroque, Texas Camerata, Orchestra of New Spain, Vox Amadeus, American Classical Orchestra). Together with fellow baroque oboist Sarah Davol, she is a founding member of the ensemble Sarabande, and was formerly a member of the crossover group Ensemble Galilei.

**Michael Holmes's** career has encompassed a wide spectrum of musical pursuits, including the fields of historical performance, symphonic conducting, and scholarly research. The founder and artistic director of the Washington Cornett and Sackbutt Ensemble, he is also an active recorder player, and since 2004 has served as Music Director for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Silver Spring.

**Jeff Dilks** has been an active performer on period instruments—including recorder and baroque flute—for almost 30 years, in addition to teaching high school physics and leading professional development efforts for teachers of science and mathematics. From 1988 to 2006 he performed regularly with Iowa State University's Musica Antiqua.

For many years **Ellen Farrell** combined recorder playing with a career in labor and employment law. Since 2013 she has studied recorder with Gwyn Roberts and directed Capitol Early Music, a non-profit organization dedicated to producing concerts and workshops for early music lovers in the Washington area.

**Thomas MacCracken**, the director of The Friends of Fasch, performs in the Washington area on historical keyboard instruments (harpsichord, fortepiano, and continuo organ) as well as recorder and baroque flute, with groups including the Washington Bach Consort, Bach Sinfonia, Washington Kantorei, and Ensemble Gaudior. While earning a doctorate in musicology at the University of Chicago he was active as an early-music performer in that city and has been a founding member of several ensembles both there and since moving to Virginia in 1985.