

American Baroque

**Stephen Schultz, baroque flute • Gonzalo X. Ruiz, baroque oboe
Elizabeth Blumenstock, baroque violin
Katherine Shao, harpsichord • Roy Whelden, viola da gamba**



New Music on Historical Instruments

“...there are few outstanding and perfect creations by human hands. And here is one of them!”

Alte Musik Aktuell

“Flawless artists...”

San Jose Mercury News

“...vividly characterized by musicians who have this music in their blood”

The Washington Post



American Baroque

Founded in San Francisco in 1986, **American Baroque** brings together some of America's most accomplished and exciting baroque instrumentalists, with the purpose of defining a new, modern genre for historical instruments.

American Baroque began exploring the territory through its collaboration with composer and member Roy Whelden. The collaboration resulted in two CD releases on the New Albion label: *Galax* and *Like a Passing River*. Intrigued, the group continued to pursue projects that involved combinations of new and old elements.

The 2001-2002 season included the long-awaited release on the Santa Fe New Music label of *Shock of the Old*, eight pieces commissioned by the composer's collective, *Common Sense*. The ensemble's one-of-a-kind radio play *The Path to the New Music* (written by member Katherine Shao) premiered in early 2002. The ensemble also played concerts at the Cleveland Museum of Art and the Library of Congress, at which they performed *Prix de Rome* winner Carolyn Yarnell's *Three Graces*.

The ensemble is proud to have been awarded First Prize in the 2000 ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming. **American Baroque** remains the only chamber ensemble committed to performing both new music and 18th-century works on historical instruments, while continuing to explore the issues raised by both genres, old and new.

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