



May 2016

The American Guild of Organists

San Francisco Chapter Newsletter

Dean's Column

by Simon Berry

My Dear Colleagues:

Spring is here. We're well over the start of the Easter Season and looking forward to Pentecost. After that we may be able to look forward to a less hectic pace for the middle of the musicians' year. But then the wedding season has just started ... and then in May our choir members start being absent for graduations and family events and vacations. The church and synagogue musician's life is not an easy one. There's never a dull moment.

I wonder if you have plans for some personal growth as an organist this spring season. I know that some of you will be attending conventions and courses of some kind, but I'm thinking of something for everyone; for all of us organists; something engaging that we can do ourselves.

Try reading. I've just finished *The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob* by Steven F. Darsey (Wipf & Stock, Eugene, OR). You'll find it supports the more traditional approach to music in worship that many of us organists prefer. I also just reread *The Man Who Planted Trees* by Jean Giono. (See http://www.perso.ch/arboretum/Man_Tree.htm) It's a short story that filled me with joy and hope.

Here are some strategies at the organ console:

Use that stop on the organ that you never draw. I suspect that lots of Dulcianas get very little use! Have a look at your stop list and see if there's a stop or combination that you rarely use.

Try some different registrations in your hymn playing. Do you always draw the Twelfth with the Fifteenth? Do you always draw the Fifteenth with the Mixture? Do you always draw manual reeds with pedal reeds? This spring could be a great time to reconsider the standard registrations that you've been using recently.

Consider resetting your pistons. If, say, Great 3 piston draws the Open Diapason and Flute, try a different combination for the new season. Perhaps just the Open Diapason, or perhaps with the 4' flute as well as the 8' flute. Does your full swell piston draw everything? Try thinning it out a bit and saving some wind and using a slightly lighter sound.

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May SF Chapter Program

by Arthur West

Please join with fellow SFAGO members for an evening of fine dining and fine music. Start making your plans to attend the last recital of the 2015-16 season which will take place on Monday, May 23, 2016, 8:00pm at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in the North Beach area of San Francisco.

The neighborhood of North Beach has historically been home to a large Italian American population. At one point in time Saints Peter and Paul Church, where the recital will take place, was known as "La cattedrale italiana dell'Ovest," or "The Italian Cathedral of the West". The rich culture of this area now includes a significant congregation of Chinese-Americans. Supporting this multi-lingual and wonderfully diverse congregation musically is the present organ at Saints Peter and Paul Church, installed by Schoenstein (Opus 104) in 1987 with 2 additional ranks added in 1989. It speaks from 2 enclosed cases into a lovely, ornate sanctuary and will be put through its paces by the evening's recitalists.



Before the recital we will gather at Original Joe's Restaurant, one of the many fine Italian restaurants in the area, for dining and a short meeting following the meal. Dining will start at 6:30pm but come early and enjoy some social time with fellow members. The cost for the meal will be \$50 per person and includes tax and tip. There will be a no host bar for those interested in wine with their meal. It is North Beach, where

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Submission deadline for the **June & July** issue is **May 10**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL — When and Where to Find Details

from Pat During, Membership Chair

It's that time again! Here are the **when** details: For most of us, our AGO membership ends 7/1/16. If you are a long time member without recent lapses in membership, the AGO National Headquarters began sending renewal invoices in April (to those on the July–June renewal schedule). If you became a member (or had a late renewal) in the past 2 or 3 years, your membership “year” lasts for 12 months after your date of joining (or late renewal). For example, if you didn't renew last year until October or November, THAT's the time your renewal will be due.

Where can you find your due dates and directions for renewing? Unless you have checked one of the two choices to complete the statement “Send my member dues invoice by (email) or (mail)” under the space for filling in your email on ONCARD, you will receive your invoice via email. If you provided no email address, you will be contacted by mail. There are **55** members of SFAGO who have requested that a paper invoice be sent via USPS to their home or church address. The remaining **200** members will only receive notification via email. You can determine which of these two methods applies to you by logging into ONCARD and checking your personal information (which you can and should alter whenever appropriate!).

Enjoy a good book over the summer



May Program, from front page

the dining is exquisite but it comes at a higher price than other areas of the city. Washington Square sits directly between the restaurant and the church making our transition from dining to listening an easy stroll across the this beautiful little park.

As many of you are aware, we have been using resources from the Johanna Smullin Fund to promote organ education in our chapter this past year and in the spirit of supporting a new generation of organists this member recital will include 2 outstanding student organists, Eric Zhang and Daniel Chang along with Susan Jane Matthews, one of our talented, long-standing members.

Susan Jane Matthews has performed throughout the United States and in Europe, including solo organ recitals at St John the Divine Cathedral, New York City; La Madeleine and Saint-Sulpice, Paris; and the Himmerod Abbey, Germany. She has been featured on the American radio programs Pipedreams, Organ Loft, and With Heart and Voice. Since October 2005, she has been Director of Music at St Paul's Episcopal Church in Burlingame, California where she is organist, director of the Chancel Choir, and founding director of the St Paul's Choir School for boys and girls. She previously served as Director of Music at St Michael's Episcopal Cathedral, Boise, Idaho, and as Principal Organist of Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, where she recorded the solo organ CD Chosen Tunes for the Gothic label.

Eric Zhang lives in Alameda, California and is currently in 11th grade at Alameda High School. He has taken piano lessons for 10 years and organ for 10 months. He is currently studying piano with John McCarthy and organ with Christoph Tietze in San Francisco.

Daniel Chang began his musical education at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Preparatory Department, where he studied composition with Michael Kaulkin and piano with June Choi Oh. He continued his education at the San Francisco Conservatory studying composition with David Conte and piano with Alla Gladysheva, graduating with a B.M.A. While at the conservatory he attended the European American Musical Alliance in Paris, France, where he studied with composer Narcis Bonet. Since graduating, Daniel has been pursuing organ studies at St Dominic's Catholic Church in San Francisco, studying under Simon Berry, where he serves as Organ Scholar. Daniel recently won a scholarship to the Eastman School of Music in the fall of 2016, where he will be studying for a M.M. in Organ Performance in the studio of David Higgs.

The recital will include works by Bach, Alain, Byrd, Franck, and Widor.

Help us finish raising the last \$5000 for POE at Stanford 2016.



Dear Members of Region West,

The PALO ALTO/PENINSULA CHAPTER of the AGO hosts PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTER (POE) AT STANFORD

AUGUST 7–13, 2016

We have raised almost all we need. We need only \$5000 more. Since this is truly a regional event, not just a chapter event, I ask you to contribute what you can to help raise the last dollars and ensure the success of the POE for the sake of our students. Some of our students have never touched an organ before, and this is the perfect time.

Our twenty students will:

- receive daily private lessons and daily master classes on technique, repertoire, improvisation, and historical keyboards
- Hear recitals by prominent organists, such as

Robert Huw Morgan • Barbara Baird
Angela Kraft Cross • Alcee Chriss III
Weston Jennings • Adam Detzner
Dorothy Van Dine

(Every night will include a free recital open to the public at Memorial Church, Stanford University.)

- Tour instruments at various locations around the San Francisco Bay Area
- Visit Schoenstein & Company
- Participate in a closing student recital at Memorial Church, Stanford University on Friday, August 12, 8 pm, open to the public

Tuition covers approximately 35% of the nearly \$30,000.00 needed for room and board, insurance, and transportation around the Bay Area. All faculty, performers, and chaperones are donating their time and services. We are indebted to The Office of Religious Life at Stanford University for donating its buildings and resources.

PLEASE GIVE WHAT YOU CAN TO THIS REGIONAL EVENT.

Thanks,

Rani Fischer, Director of POE at Stanford, 2016

New Schoenstein for St. Louis

from Jack Bethards

Schoenstein & Co. of Benicia, California, Completes New Organ for Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church, St Louis, Missouri

Schoenstein & Co. has built a three-manual, 40 voice, 46 rank organ for Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church in St Louis, Missouri. The new organ is the result of a musical journey common to many American congregations. Their first organ, built by Kilgen and dedicated by William H. Barnes, was warmly received with praise for its “dignified and churchly ensemble”.

By 1971, however, the academic pressure to forsake “accompaniment” organs in favor of “solo repertoire” instruments was so great that a large mechanical action organ by the German firm of Werner Bosch replaced the Kilgen.

The congregation began to miss the pleasing tones of the old organ. After two major attempts at re-making the neo-Baroque instrument it was decided that it was time to start fresh. The exceptionally fine music program developed by Director of Music Ministry and Organist, David Erwin, deserved an equally fine instrument.

Schoenstein & Co. was selected to design an organ primarily to support and accompany the service. The firm’s approach recognizes that a church organ is a specific type of instrument that must have the ability to capture and hold the interest of listeners and musicians over a long period of time. It is perhaps the only instrument heard by and played by the same



people week after week, year after year, and sometimes generation after generation. If it doesn’t have enough variety and the ability to make a strong emotional connection – to celebrate joy, to comfort in grief – it is a failure. The church organ has a heavy musical job to accomplish, and its most important characteristics are versatility and beauty.

The main divisions are located in side chancel chambers for excellent dynamic control. The large open wood pipes are arranged horizontally behind the choir risers. The Echo organ is in a chamber at the rear of the balcony. Acoustical renovation was designed by Scott Riedel & Associates of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Casework was built by New Holland Church Furniture.



The organ was dedicated in a recital by Scott Dettra on March 6, 2016 before a packed audience and included stunning performances of works by Gigout, Bach, Guilman, Saint-Saëns, Craig Phillips, Howells, Whitlock and Stanford. It was broadcast via live streaming over OrganLive.com, a project of the Organ Media Foundation. At the Sunday April 10 Choral Vespers, “Te Deum laudamus” by Robert Lehman will have its world premiere.

Photos by Louis Patterson

Stolist on page 6, column 3



Dean’s Column, from front page

If you use general pistons a lot in hymn playing, try avoiding them and either hand register or just use divisional pistons. You will discover some new possibilities that way.

Listen to someone else play your repertoire. Use YouTube, as it’s free and one can hear many versions of the same piece.

I teach my students to obey the registrations set down by French composers to the letter so that they understand the way in which French organs work. But the overriding principal is always to listen critically and see if the registrational scheme is musical and reflects the desires of the composer, as closely as it’s possible to tell. Then we listen to CDs and YouTube recordings of the music and see what other organists have done and discuss if we think it works. We pay very close attention to speeds and articulation, noting the range of speeds in published recordings and those of home made recordings. It’s a kind of learning style that enables the students to become more attentive to the published instruction; to the actual sound being made; to the traditions of the style and to what their colleagues are doing around the world.

I encourage us all to read, to inwardly digest and to listen. Above all, I encourage you to support your chapter and grow through attending our superlative program!

Classified Ads

Collected by David Howitt

This information is provided as a service to SFAGO members and the employing institutions. Inclusion of information in this column does not imply endorsement by the SFAGO. Send **Job Referrals** items, **Substitutes Available** notices, and **For Sale** items to: dhowitt@sjbalameda.org. Deadline for the **June & July** issue is **May 10**. Online listings available at: www.sfago.org/jobs/

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SAN FRANCISCO

ORGANIST, Star of the Sea Catholic Church The Organist is responsible for accompanying Mass in the Ordinary (Novus Ordo) as well as the Extraordinary (Traditional Latin) Form. The average work week is estimated at 7 hours on site with no administrative or directorial responsibilities. The salary is equal to the AGO rates for 1/4 to 1/3 time position. If interested please contact Sven Edward Olbash, sven.edward@gmail.com, Director of Music, Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 4420 Geary Boulevard, San Francisco, CA 94118; www.StarParish.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR AND ORGANIST, St Elizabeth Catholic Church. Available June, 1, 2016. Position includes Saturday 4:30pm Mass and Sunday 9:30am Mass with parish choir, Holy Week and Christmas (including a Christmas Midnight Concert & Mass), weekly choir rehearsal September through May, planning hymns, choir anthems and scheduling cantors. 21-rank Schoenstein organ. For information on salary and/or further information on job description please contact Joellyn Bischeri, Parish Administrator at 415-468-0820 or email letter of interest and résumé to: jbsaintelizabeth@yahoo.com St Elizabeth Catholic Church, 449 Holyoke St., San Francisco.

EAST BAY

ORGANIST, Lakeside Temple of Practical Christianity, Oakland. Weekly 11am Sunday service plus four special services a year: Christmas Eve, Good Friday, Thanksgiving Day and evening Communion. Responsibilities include: play for services, coordinate, rehearse, and accompany the soloists, choose and play hymns and service music. There are no choir responsibilities. Salary is about \$9000/year. The organ is a 1979 Rodgers 350 combination with 15 ranks of pipes; with electronics, the equivalent of 75 ranks. Please call Jennifer Lilburn, Minister, at 510/834-8855 or email ministry@lakesidetemple.org. Lakeside Temple of Practical Christianity, 144 Athol Avenue, Oakland, CA 94606; 510/834-8852

INTERIM ORGANIST, First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley.

Seeking an organist for 9am traditional Sunday morning worship and Chancel Choir rehearsal 7:30-9:30pm Thursday evenings starting Thursday, March 31, until the permanent position is filled. The weekly stipend for 1 service + 1 rehearsal is \$325. Hymns, choral anthems, and musical offerings are selected by others and supplied to the organist; suitable prelude and postlude music will be selected by the organist. Continue at *Instrument & Contact Info*.

ORGANIST, First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley. This is a congregation with a rich history of university ministry, mission outreach, and a multi-level choral music program, and seeks a classically trained organist to play for Sunday worship services and accompany an adult choir in weekly rehearsals during the academic year. Major duties include, but are not limited to, providing musical leadership on organ and/or piano for Sunday 9am worship and special services throughout the year, including Christmas Eve, Holy Week, choir concerts, etc. Salary base is a minimum of \$25K commensurate with education and experience. Visit www.fpcberkeley.org/ employment for a complete job description and application. Continue at *Instrument & Contact Info*.

Instrument & Contact Info:

Sanctuary instruments are a Fratelli Ruffatti III/37 (1975) with an updated electro-pneumatic console and a Grottrian 7'4" Model 225 Concert in excellent condition, purchased in 2005. For more information, please contact Mary Lins, Director for Worship Arts, maryl@fpcberkeley.org

FREE

Two legal size cabinets of organ music in good condition, including the complete, 9-volume Barenreiter edition of Bach organ music. Also three cartons of organ LP's and 200 CD's in mint condition. This is a "winner take all" in which all items must be taken. The music, cabinets and LP/CD's are stored in a room with 14 descending steps. If interested please call Harold Pavelis at 925-825-8259.

SFAGO Newsletter is published monthly, August thru May, with a Summer issue for June/July, by the San Francisco Chapter, American Guild of Organists. Opinions stated herein are those of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect official policies of this Chapter. The deadline for receipt of all newsletter items is the 10th of the month preceding publication.

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2015-2016
Last updated 08/13/2015

Bay Area Concert Calendar

Collected by Brian Swager

2016 May

Events, dates, times, and locations are subject to change without notice. Compiled from flyers, press releases, and listings submitted by members and organizations. SFAGO is not responsible for errors, although every effort is made to be accurate. Submission deadline for the **June & July** issue is **May 10**. Send event listings to sfagocal@gmail.com. For the most up-to-date calendar, visit www.sfago.org, click on **SFAGO Bay Area Concert Calendar**.

Recurring Venues

Churches and institutions offering programs on a regular basis have been assigned abbreviations so as to save space in our listings. Abbreviations are listed below with the full name of the venue. When no city is stated, San Francisco is assumed.

CPLH: Calif. Palace of the Legion of Honor
CSMA: Cath. of St Mary of the Assumption
FCC-B: First Congregational Ch, Berkeley
RP-SR: Resurrection Parish, Santa Rosa
SME-B: St Mark's Episcopal Ch, Berkeley

May

1 Sunday

4pm. Las Vegas Academy of the Arts: Bella Voz women's choir & Konzert Chorale concert choir; Rosanna Cota & Megan Franke, Directors. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

4pm. Jerome Lenk, Organ. CPLH

7 Saturday

4pm. David Hegarty, Organ. CPLH

8 Sunday

4pm. Cathedral 45th Anniversary Concert: Vivaldi's *Gloria*. Cathedral Choir & Orchestra. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

4pm. Paul Meier, Organ. Mission Dolores Basilica

4pm. David Hegarty, Organ. CPLH

6:05pm. Christopher Henley, Organ. Preceded by 5:30 Evensong. Reception follows. SME-B

14 Saturday

4pm. Jonathan Dimmock, Organ. CPLH

15 Sunday

4pm. Jonathan Dimmock, Organ. CPLH

5:30pm. Choral Evensong. St Francis Choir; Robert Kerman, Director; Rodney Gehrke, Organ. Bach *Cantata 173*, music of Corigliano and D Ashley White. St Francis Episcopal Church

4pm. Cathedral Choir School Spring Concert. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

21 Saturday

4pm. Katya Kolesnikova, Organ. CPLH

5pm. Choral Evensong. Susan Jane Matthews, Director. Howells: *Magnificat and Nunc dimittis*, Britten: *Rejoice in the Lamb*. Freewill donation. Choir ministry dinner celebration (ticketed) follows. St Paul's Episcopal Church, Burlingame

22 Sunday

3:30pm. Bella Piano Trio. \$15 donation. RP-SR

4pm. Jin Kyung Lim, Organ. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

4pm. Katya Kolesnikova, Organ. CPLH

23 Monday

SFAGO EVENT. Annual Dinner and Recital. SS Peter and Paul Church

28 Saturday

4pm. John Walko, Organ. CPLH

7pm. Celebration Concert for St Peter's Hall and 1896 Sohmer Grand Piano. Jerome Lenk & Robert Gurney, Piano & Organ. Soloists & members of Trinity Choir & SF Lyric Chorus. Music of Fauré & Vaughan Williams. Trinity Episcopal Church

29 Sunday

4pm. Christoph Tietze, Organ. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

4pm. John Walko, Organ. CPLH

Looking Ahead

June

4 Saturday

4pm. David Hegarty, Organ. CPLH

7pm. James Welch, Organ. Freewill offering. Holy Cross Church, 126 High St, Santa Cruz

5 Sunday

4pm. David Hegarty, Organ. CPLH

11 Saturday

4pm. Gail Archer, Organ. CPLH

12 Sunday

4pm. Gail Archer, Organ. CPLH

6:05pm. Katya Kolesnikova, Organ. Preceded by 5:30 Evensong. Reception follows. SME-B

18-19 Saturday & Sunday

4pm. Jonathan Dimmock, Organ. CPLH

25-26 Saturday & Sunday

4pm. John Walko, Organ. CPLH

Stoplist for Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church, St Louis, MO

GREAT (Enclosed)

16' Contra Salicional 2 2/3' Twelfth (TC From Nineteenth)
 8' First Open Diapason (Unenclosed) 2 2/3' Nazard (From Lieb Ged)

8' Second Open Diapason 2' Harmonic Piccolo
 8' Harmonic Flute (Unenclosed) 13/5' Tierce (TC)

8' Salicional 11/3' Nineteenth
 8' Bourdon 8' English Horn

4' Principal 8' Clarinet
 4' Silver Flute 16' Bass Tuba

2 2/3' Twelfth 8' Tuba
 2' Fifteenth Tremulant

1 1/3' Mixture (III-IV) Chimes (Echo)
 8' Tuba (Choir) Zimbelstern

8' Clarinet (Choir)
 Chimes (Echo)

ECHO (Enclosed - Floating)

8' Chimney Flute
 8' Voix Sérénissime
 8' Voix Céleste (TC)

4' Chimney Flute (Ext.)
 4' Voix Sérénissime (Ext.)
 4' Voix Céleste (Ext.)

8' Vox Humana
 Tremulant

8' Gamba Celeste
 8' Erzähler

8' Erzähler Celeste (TC)
 4' Gemshorn
 4' Harmonic Flute

2' Fifteenth (Extend Gemshorn)
 2' Mixture (III-IV)
 16' Contra Fagotto

8' Trumpet
 8' Fagotto
 8' Oboe Horn

Tremulant
 PEDAL
 32' Acoustic Bass

16' Open Wood
 16' Contra Salicional (Gt)
 16' Bourdon (Swell)

8' Principal
 8' Flute (Gt Har.Flute)
 8' Salicional (Great)

8' Horn Diapason (Swell)
 8' Stopped Diapason (Sw)
 8' Dulciana (Choir)

4' Fifteenth
 4' Flute (Ext. Gt Har. Flute)
 4' Flutes Unisono

32' Contra Fagotto (Ext. Sw)
 16' Bass Tuba (Choir)
 16' Contra Fagotto (Swell)

8' Tuba (Choir)
 8' Fagotto (Swell)
 4' English Horn (Choir)

4' Fugara
 4' Concert Flute (Lieb Ged Treble)
 4' Clarinet (Choir)

4' Lieblich Gedeckt
 Chimes (Echo)

