

October 2017

The American Guild of Organists

San Francisco Chapter Newsletter

The Organ Concerts at the Legion of Honor

from Jonathan Dimmock

In 1924, Alma Spreckels gave the magnificent Ernest M. Skinner organ to the people of San Francisco that resides in the ceiling of the Legion of Honor. The museum architect worked with Skinner in creating this marriage of acoustic and organ pipes. Since the museum's opening, the organ has always sounded for weekend concerts presented by local and visiting artists. The only exception was following the 1989 earthquake when the museum was closed for retrofit. Ed Stout did a superlative job maintaining this instrument - which Skinner, himself, considered the zenith of his orchestral organs; and Louis Patterson, of Schoenstein & Co., continues the tradition of keeping the instrument in excellent working condition.



But on September 17, the organ will sound for the last time for approximately five months. The new Director of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco plans to use Gallery 10 (the central gallery, where the organ console resides) for an exhibit of Gustav Klimt, and feels that there is no possibility to set up chairs for organ concerts, nor is there room for the console itself. The console will be moved behind the Rodin sculpture entitled The Three Shades.

It is anticipated that concerts will resume in mid-February. Stay tuned! 

Next SFAGO Board Meeting

**Monday, October 16 at 7:30pm
St. Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco**

Luther's 500-year Celebration

- 10:00 a.m.** Rehearsal for Choir
- 11:30 a.m.** Lunch
- 12:15 p.m.** Rehearsal with Instruments
- 1:00 p.m.** Hymn Festival
- 2:30-6:00 p.m.** Oktoberfest



See page 2 for more information about the HymnFest 500

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Submission deadline for the **November** issue is **October 10**


HymnFest 500

Saturday, October 28, 1pm

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church
1111 O'Farrel Steet
San Francisco, California

In Wittenberg, Germany five hundred years ago, a relatively obscure musician who also happened to be a monk and a professor of theology published ninety five theses, or topics for public debate dealing in part with objections to the Church's sale of indulgences. Whether Martin Luther did so by nailing the theses to the castle church door or merely sent them to his bishop is subject to debate now, but what is certain is that he set in motion events that continue to reverberate today. Our hymn festival at 1:00 pm on Saturday, October 28 at St Mark's Lutheran Church in San Francisco will not be a forum for theological debate, but rather recognition of Luther's contribution to church music as composer and hymn-writer, and a celebration of some of the musical traditions that have grown out of the Lutheran Reformation.


Hymn-singing can be particularly robust in Lutheran congregations, and hymn festivals are very much "audience participation" with hymnody lifted up in sometimes innovative and hopefully inspiring ways. From the Taylor and Boody organ we will be led by several AGO members, including our SFAGO Dean, William Vaughan, Chris Tietze, William Visscher, Timothy Getz, and Timothy Zerlang. Bach's cantata "Gott der Herr ist Sonn und Schild," BWV 79 and Brahms' motet, "Es ist das Heil uns kommen her" will also be presented by a choir formed by area singers for the occasion led by SFAGO member Erich Choate. If you would like to be a part of the choir (rehearsal is at 10:00 am on October 28) please get in touch with Timothy Zerlang (timzer@stanford.edu) for details.

At the conclusion of the hymn festival the fun continues with the St Mark's Oktoberfest — beer and sausage and sauerkraut, German polka band with dancing. Lederhosen optional! 



Directory News

from Bill Vaughan

The new SFAGO Chapter directory is available. Please let me know if you would like a digital or a hard copy. (For those of you with no email address, I will send you a hard copy.) 

Dean's Column

by William Vaughan

I am sitting at my computer at home writing you this monthly article on Thursday, September 7, my new day off from school. As I am gathering my thoughts as to what to write for our local organ world, my mind is overwhelmed with all the world events happening at this very moment. Among the many are hurricane Harvey which has blown in and out of Texas and Louisiana, hurricane Irma just about to pummel Florida, and so on.

In seminary, I had a homiletics professor who said that when you preach, you need to have the newspaper in one hand, and Sacred Scripture in the other. We, as musicians, of course preach through our choice of music. A friend of mine shared with me a very powerful text, which I have reproduced for you here.

AS THE WATERS RISE AROUND US

As the waters rise around us
and the winds rage overhead;
as destruction's wake confounds us
with its mounting toll of dead;

(Refrain) Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Hear your people's yearning cry.
Hear your people's yearning cry.

Numb with grief, our hearts are heavy,
seeking courage to endure,
as the harshest cost is levied
on the poorest of the poor.

Homes and city streets are ravaged,
many lost beyond repair.
Brooding Spirit, help us salvage
signs of life from such despair.

Gracious God, your strong compassion
stilled the storm and parted seas.
Free and lead us till we fashion
worlds of justice, hope, and peace.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, 2005; © 2006, GIA Publications, Inc.
Permission granted to reprint at no charge through November 1, 2017

Mary Louise Bringle wrote this text when Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Gulf Coast of the United States in 2005. Mary Bringle goes on to say, "Scenes on the nightly news showed waters rising to unimaginable heights, flooding cities, destroying lives and livelihoods. The 'dirty secret' of poverty in our country of affluence emerged in stark relief, as the 'poorest of the poor' had no way to escape the wake of destruction."

► **Dean's Column**, page 7

San Francisco Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

2017–2018 Program Year

Sunday, September 24

St Mary the Virgin Church, San Francisco

~ **Opening Event** ~

4:15 – Evensong and
Installation of Officers,
5:00 – Catered Dinner (\$35)

Saturday, October 28

St Mark's Lutheran Church, San Francisco

~ **Luther's 500-year Celebration** ~

10:00 – Rehearsal for choir
11:30 – Lunch
12:15 – Rehearsal with instruments
1:00 – Hymn Festival
2:30-6 – Oktoberfest

Saturday, November 18

St Luke's Episcopal Church, San Francisco

~ **Masterless Class** ~

10:30 – Members play for one another
12:00 – Lunch (\$15)

Sunday, January 28, 2018

Grace Cathedral, San Francisco

~ **Jonathan Ryan** ~

4:00 – Organ Recital
Reception to follow

Monday, February 19

St Mark's Episcopal Church, Berkeley

~ **Presidents' Day Workshop** ~

10:00 – Choral Reading Session:
Sacred works by Bay Area composers,
and Organ Music sale
12:00 – lunch (\$15)

Saturday, March 3

First Presbyterian Church, Oakland

~ **Improvisation Masterclass** ~

10:00 – Masterclass with
Jonathan Dimmock
and John Karl Hirten
12:00 – Lunch (\$15)

Wednesday, April 18

St Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco

~ **Katelyn Emerson** ~

7:00 – Organ Recital
Reception to follow

Sunday, May 20

St Stephen's Church, Belvedere

~ **Concert and Annual Dinner** ~

4:00 – Young Organists and
Dominic Pang (competition winner)
5:00 – Annual Dinner (\$35)

Steve's Corner

by Steve Repasky

A couple months ago I mentioned Fedak's variations on BEACH SPRING. The composer sent me this list of printing mistakes in the first edition:

Errata for *Variations on Beach Spring* by Alfred V. Fedak, Selah Publishing Co., Pittsburgh, PA. From the composer:

1. Page 4, m. 28, left hand, beat 2: the eighth-note B should be an A.
2. Page 7, m. 17, left hand, second half of beat 3: the D should be a C.
3. Page 9, m. 17, right hand, first beat: the quarter-note chord should be an A Minor triad in root position (ACE).
4. Page 11, m. 4, right hand, third beat: the first eighth-note should be an E, not a C.
5. Page 15, m. 31, pedal, first beat: the quarter-note should be and F, not an A.

Here I would like to recommend three large volumes published by Kevin Mahew Publishers that every church organists should have in their quiver:

1. *50 Sublime Organ Transcriptions*. Contains some very beautiful pieces.
2. *Playing Them In & Playing Them Out*, also for manuals only. Quite useful when the bride says, "I would like something different."
3. *Processionals and Recessionals*. 100 selections including some by women composers.



San Francisco AGO Chapter Recital Series Donors

The San Francisco Chapter of the American Guild of Organists thanks the following people for their support of the 2017–2018 Recital Series.

Bombarde (\$1000+)

Contra Costa Performing
Arts Society Organ
Workshop

Tuba Mirabilis (\$500-\$999)

Trompette en Chamade (\$250-\$499)

John Agraz
Jonathan Dimmock and
George Emblom
Thomas Flesher
Father Robert Rien
Jason M. Surles
Arthur West
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Christoph Tietze
William Vaughan
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Leilani Camara
Robert H. Douglass
Susan Henderson Fisher
Steven C. Gray
Lois Nelson
Marian E. Ott
Elisabeth Vache Pintar

Vox Humana (\$1-\$24)

Patricia Harre

Thank you very much for your donations!

There is still plenty of time to send in a tax-deductible gift.

Schoenstein & Co. Open House

from Jack Bethards

Schoenstein & Co. celebrated its 140th anniversary with an Open House demonstrating new organs for Holy Cross Church, San Jose, CA, and Mikell Chapel of the Cathedral of St Philip, Atlanta, GA. The 150 guests were fascinated with the extremely complex arrangement of pipes, windchests, bellows and wind conductors necessary to fit in the Chapel's small, irregular shaped chamber, "One of our most challenging installation sites!" said company president Jack Bethards.



Grandchildren of company founder Felix F. Schoenstein: Sister Mary Mark, Norman, Vincent and Edward with company president Jack Bethards. Photo by Louis Patterson

Twenty-four members of the founding Schoenstein family representing the fourth, fifth and sixth generations joined the celebration and presented a commemorative glass sculpture for the firm's archive, which includes Schoenstein records and artifacts dating from the mid-19th century in Germany.



Organ Preview at Sch & Co. Open House

from Bill Vaughan

I had a wonderful time playing the Schoenstein organ which is going to the chapel at the Cathedral of St Philip in Atlanta. I started at 2pm and finished at 5pm, and time flew by. Even without expression pedals, since the walls of the chapel will be the swell boxes, I was able to create many beautiful contrasting sounds. I wish I had this instrument in my church!



Reformation Hymn Festival in Morgan Hill

from Kenneth Talbot, San Jose AGO Newsletter Editor

MUSIC
AT ADVENT LUTHERAN
presents
Come, Christians, Join To Sing!

Greetings from Morgan Hill, CA! As you may know, 2017 marks the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. Advent Lutheran Church is planning a special Reformation Hymn Festival titled "Come, Christians, Join To Sing!" on Sunday, October 22, 2017, at 5:30 pm in the sanctuary on Advent's Campus. This event will include a congregational hymn sing, focusing on a number of Martin Luther's hymns, as well as choral anthems featuring guest organist Elisabeth Pintar, a professional brass quintet, timpani, and festival choir, including singers from around the community. This festival choir will be sharing many great hymns of the faith as well as premiering a new hymn and arrangements of texts both old and new that highlight the five "solas" of the reformation. In addition, original artwork inspired by these solas will be on display and shown during the hymn festival.

We invite you to join us in person or to be a part of the festival choir. I ask that you help spread the word about our celebration by forwarding this email to your musical peers.

FOR PASTORS I would ask that you consider your participation in our event through one of two ways: share this opportunity for great music and fellowship with your congregations via bulletins, newsletters, service announcements; come to the hymn festival and be involved as a speaker or simply a listener. I have included flyers and bulletin inserts for you to share with your congregation. If you wish to be involved in a speaking part, please email me to indicate your interest – kyle.jones@advent-lutheran.org.

FOR MUSIC DIRECTORS I would ask that you share this musical opportunity with your choir members and encourage them to prayerfully consider their participation in the event as a singer or listener. Should you elect to have your choir participate in our festival, you may wish to program some of the festival anthems for your own Sunday services to share these beautiful anthems with your own congregations, as well as prepare your singers for the festival. I have included flyers and bulletin inserts for you to share with your congregation. If you wish to participate personally or involve your choir, please email me to indicate your interest – kyle.jones@advent-lutheran.org.

► **Hymn Festival, next page**

Hymn Festival, from page 5

FOR SINGERS We want you to join us as we lift up our voices in celebration of 500 years of the protestant reformation. The rehearsal commitment is limited to one weekend only and you will enjoy singing and fellowshiping with other singers in the community in the first of many more collaborative musical events at Advent Lutheran. Rehearsals are mandatory for participation in the Festival Choir; please see details below regarding schedule and music. I also request that you share this opportunity with your other singing peers by giving them a flyer or forwarding this email.



FESTIVAL CHOIR INFORMATION

The Music – Each song within this series focuses on a different “sola” of the reformation. Repertoire will include:

Come, Christians, Join To Sing – Arr. Sterling Procter (Brass Quintet, Organ, Timpani, Choir)

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God – Arr. Kyle T. Jones (Brass Quintet, Organ, Timpani & Percussion, Choir)

WORD OF GOD

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word (Organ, Choir)

As Newborn Stars Were Stirred To Song – Kyle T. Jones (Organ, Choir)

GRACE

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing – Arr. Sterling Procter (Brass Quintet, Organ, Timpani, Pipes, Choir)

Grace – Arr. Mark Hayes (Piano, Choir)

FAITH

How Firm A Foundation – Arr. Richard Walters (Brass Quintet, Organ, Timpani, Choir)

If Thou But Suffer God To Guide Thee – Arr. Jody Lindh (Organ, Choir)

CHRIST

All Hail The Power of Jesus' Name – Arr. Sterling Procter (Brass Quintet, Organ, Timpani, Choir)

Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus – Arr. Dan Forrest (Organ, Choir)

GOD'S GLORY

O God Beyond All Praising – Arr. Kyle T. Jones (Brass Quintet, Organ, Timpani, Choir)

New Members

from William Vaughan

As of September 12, the following new members have joined the Chapter.

Mark Biales	Roger Inkpen
Don Scott Carpenter	Harold Julander
Karen Hastings-Flegel	Christopher Keady
Daniel Gonzalez	Stephen Price
William Hesterman	Charles Rus

God Of The Sparrow, God Of The Whale – Arr. Carl Schalk (Organ, Trumpet, Choir)

When In Our Music God Is Glorified – Arr. Sterling Procter (Brass Quintet, Organ, Timpani, Choir)

You can find recordings of this beautiful music, including pdfs to preview the actual sheet music and publicity resources such as flyers and bulletin inserts in this Dropbox link:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ckx95myk9i3kuh/AAB_RHfjRNHRFhrWODYX-HLea?dl=0

It is expected that singers learn their part of the performance music before the rehearsal.

The festival choir schedule is as follows:

Saturday, October 21

10:00 am – 12:00 pm Festival Choir Rehearsal with Guest Organist, Elisabeth Pintar in the Sanctuary (use choir entrance)


12:00 am – 12:30 pm Break for light snacks and drinks in the courtyard (weather permitting)

12:30 pm – 2:00 pm Festival Choir Rehearsal with Guest Organist, King's Brass and Timpani in the Sanctuary

Sunday, October 22

4:30 pm – 5:15 pm Warm up and touch up rehearsal in the Sanctuary

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm Hymn Festival with organist Elisabeth Pintar and King's Brass

More information will be forthcoming, but in the meantime, please RSVP to reserve your place; contact Kyle Jones at kyle.jones@advent-lutheran.org Please include your name, voice part, and church you regularly attend. 


Dean's Column, from page 2

Mary Louise Bringle set the text to the tune Bryn Calfaría. We do not yet sing this wonderful tune at Church of the Assumption, so I looked to see what tune I could wed this text to. The meter of this text is 87 87 with refrain. I picked the 87 87 D metrical tune Beach Spring. One could pick Suo Gân, Nettleton, Ode to Joy or many other tunes that are 87 87 D. I thought though Beach Spring wasn't too overly triumphant or somber. I did have to change the refrain in order for the text to fit 87 87 D. This is how I changed it.

(Refrain) Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Hear your people's yearning cry,
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Hear your people's yearning cry.



On this particular Sunday that we will sing this text, there will be a collection taken up for the victims of hurricane Harvey. No doubt there will be a collection soon for the victims of hurricane Irma.

In the wake of all this tragedy, I think about the wonderful time I had in Houston at the AGO National Convention in 2016. Some of my fellow classmates from Southern Methodist University live there, and I can only imagine the devastation they are coping with. I also have friends in South Florida. Living here in earthquake country, though, makes us more sensitive to that fact that devastation can happen in the Bay Area at any time. 

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 **November** issue is **October 10**. Online listings available at: www.sfago.org/jobs/

FOR SALE / AUCTION

ANDOVER ORGAN, manufactured 1976, single manual, 6 stops (2 x 8, 2 x 4, 2 x 2) to be auctioned soon; if interested, contact Margie Williams, margiew@sfsu.edu or (415) 338-6133. Information regarding viewing the organ and a link to the auction website will be sent to you if you are interested in bidding.



SFAGO Board 2017–2018 Officers

from William Vaughan

Dean	William Vaughan
Sub Dean	Eric Choate
Sub Dean Elect	Kymberly Payne
Secretary	Liz Forsyth
Treasurer	Michael Page

If you are interested in serving on the board this year, please let William Vaughan know. He may be reached at billyv32@gmail.com

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Dean: William Vaughan, billyv32@gmail.com
Sub Dean: Eric Choate, ericchoatemusic@gmail.com
Sub Dean Elect: Kymberly Payne, kymberly.stone@gmail.com
Secretary: Liz Forsyth, e_forsyth@yahoo.com
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Registrar: Christoph Tietze, 415.924.1377, orgelchris@yahoo.com
Webmaster: Frank Torrano, ftorrano@gmail.com
Chapter Website: www.sfago.org

Newsletter Departments: *Send your entries to the appropriate editor; all submissions due by 10th of the month preceding publication*

Events Calendar Listings: Brian Swager, 415.551.7866, sfagocal@gmail.com

Job Placement & For Sale Listings: David Howitt, 510-437-0254, dhowitt@sjbalameda.org

Obituary Listings: William Vaughan, billyv32@gmail.com

Newsletter Articles: George Morten, 209.565.6660, sfago-editor@att.net

2017–2018
Last updated 08/13/2017

Bay Area Concert Calendar

Collected by Brian Swager

October ²⁰¹⁷

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 **November** issue is **October 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.

CACK: Ch. of the Advent of Christ the King

CSMA: Cath. of St Mary of the Assumption

DSH: Davies Symphony Hall

FPC-O: First Presbyterian Ch, Oakland

GC: Grace Cathedral

MDB: Mission Dolores Basilica

SME-B: St Mark's Episcopal Ch, Berkeley

SPE-BU: St Paul's Episcopal Ch, Burlingame

October

1 Sunday

4pm. Dave Hatt, Organ. Program of improvisations of Marcel Dupré transcribed by David Stech, featuring "La Lutte de Jacob avec l'ange," "La Nuit écoute," and the *Symphony in C minor*. \$10 donation requested. CG

4pm. Thomas Heywood, Organ. Music of Verdi, Elgar, Rachmaninoff, West, Lemare, Mascagni, and Fletcher. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

5pm. Robert Gurney, Organ. 25th Anniversary Concert. Choir and Soloists of Trinity-St Peter's and SF Lyric Chorus. Trinity Episcopal Church

8 Sunday

4pm. Jonathan Dimmock, Organ. Freewill offering. Mission Dolores Basilica

4pm. Christoph Tietze, Organ. Music of Bach and Rheinberger. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

6:10pm. Matthew Middleton, Organ. Preceded by Evensong at 5:30. Reception follows. SME-B

15 Sunday

4pm. Solemn Evensong & Benediction honoring Herbert Howells' 125th birthday. Schola Adventus, Paul M Ellison, Director. Festive reception follows. CACK

4pm. Philip Manwell, Organ. Music of Brahms and Mendelssohn. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

22 Sunday

3pm. Nathan Laube, Organ. Tickets \$28-\$38. sfsymphony.org DSH

4pm. Emanuele Cardi, Organ. Music of Bach, Gigout, and Reubke. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

5:30pm. Reformation Hymn Festival. Advent Lutheran Church, Morgan Hill

28 Saturday

10am-6pm SFAGO CHAPTER EVENT
Luther's 500-year Celebration: **10:00am** Choir Rehearsal; **11:30am** Lunch; **12:15pm** Rehearsal with instruments; **1:00pm** Hymn Festival; **2:30-6pm** Oktoberfest. St Mark's Lutheran Church, San Francisco

29 Sunday

10am. All Souls' Sunday. Susan Jane Matthews, Director. Mozart *Requiem*. SPE-BU

4pm. Raymond Hawkins, Organ. Music of Buxtehude, Bach, Mendelssohn, and Vierne. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

4pm. Lutheran-Catholic Commemoration of the Reformation in 2017. Free. St Ignatius of Antioch Catholic Church, Antioch

31 Tuesday

8pm. James Welch, Organ. Halloween Concert. \$10. St Mark's Episcopal Church, Palo Alto

Looking Ahead

November

5 Sunday

3pm. James Welch, Organ. Dedication of Reuter organ. St Robert's Catholic Church, San Bruno

4pm. Mateusz Rzewuski, Organ. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

12 Sunday

4pm. Simon Berry, Organ. Freewill offering. MDB

6:10pm. Christopher Lynch, Organ. Preceded by Evensong at 5:30. Reception follows. SME-B

18 Saturday

10:30am. SFAGO CHAPTER EVENT
Masterless Class **10:30am** Members play for one another; **12:00** Lunch (\$15)
St Luke's Episcopal Church, San Francisco

5pm. Choral Evensong for St Cecilia. Susan Jane Matthews, Director. Music of MacMillan and Howells. Free-will donation. Reception. SPE-BU

19 Sunday

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

26 Sunday

4pm. Ann-Helena Schlueter, Organ. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

December

2 Sunday

5pm. Advent Lessons and Carols. Susan Jane Matthews, Director. Free-will donation. Reception. SPE-BU

10 Sunday

6:10pm. Ron McKean, Organ. Preceded by Evensong at 5:30. Reception follows. SME-B

17 Sunday

4pm. Christmas Concert. Choir of St Paul's. Susan Jane Matthews, Director. Highlights from Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* and Handel's *Messiah*. SPE-BU

2018

January

14 Sunday

6:10pm. Frederick Jodry, Organ. Preceded by Evensong at 5:30. Reception follows. SME-B

27 Saturday

5pm. Choral Evensong for St Paul. Susan Jane Matthews, Director. Music of Baynon, Rütli, and Stanford. Free-will donation. Reception. SPE-BU

28 Sunday

4pm. Jonathan Ryan, Organ. SFAGO Chapter Event. Reception follows. CG

February

11 Sunday

6:10pm. Rani Fischer, Organ. Preceded by Evensong at 5:30. Reception follows. SME-B

19 Monday

10am. SFAGO CHAPTER EVENT Presidents' Day Workshop. SME-B

March

3 Saturday

10am. SFAGO CHAPTER EVENT
Improvisation Masterclass with Jonathan Dimmock and John Karl Hirten. FPC-O

