

Dr. Pascual to Present Liturgical Repertoire Program

February's program guest will be Dr. Jennifer Pascual, music director/organist at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. Dr. Pascual will present, at the chapter's February 23 meeting, a workshop on organ-based repertoire for the liturgical year — seasonal music that can be used by organists of all denominations. The program begins with dinner at 6:30 p.m. in Boland Hall at the Cathedral Basilica complex. The workshop begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Cathedral Basilica.

Dr. Pascual was appointed director of music at St. Patrick's Cathedral in 2003. She is the first woman to hold this post. She follows many well-known organists in this prestigious position, including the famous Pietro Yon, who gave a recital at the St. Louis Cathedral Basilica in 1926 to help introduce the church's newly installed Kilgen organ.

Dr. Pascual earned a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in organ performance from the Eastman School of Music, where she studied with David Higgs and taught undergraduate theory. She holds a Master of



Dr. Jennifer Pascual

Music degree in piano performance from the Mannes College of Music where she studied piano with Nina Svetlanova and studied organ privately with McNeil Robinson. She holds Bachelor of Music degrees (magna cum laude) in piano and organ performance from Jacksonville University, where she studied with Mary Lou Wesley Krosnick and William Saunders. From 1994 to 2003 she was on the artistic staff of the Boys Choir of Harlem. She has served as

organist and choirmaster in the diocese of St. Augustine, Rochester, Newark, and New York City. She also conducts the New York Archdiocesan Festival Chorale.

On Sunday, February 22, at 2:30 p.m., Dr. Pascual will perform a recital on the Cathedral Basilica's 118-rank Kilgen/Wicks organ. The concert is in memory of Dorothy Romeri. The program includes works by Dupré, Manari, Barber, Mendelssohn, Fanny Mendelssohn, Hakim, and Widor. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by calling 314-533-7662 or by visiting the Cathedral Concerts Web site, [www.stlcathedralconcerts.org](http://stlcathedralconcerts.org).

—Henry Evans

The Details

Date:	Monday, February 23, 2009
Event:	Organ-Based Repertoire for the Liturgical Year - Dr. Jennifer Pascual
Location:	St. Louis Cathedral Basilica 4431 Lindell Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63108
Time:	Dinner – 6:30 p.m. (Boland Hall cafeteria, behind Cathedral) Program – 7:30 p.m. (Enter sanctuary through west side doors off parking lot between school and Cathedral)
Host:	John Romeri
Cost:	\$10 for dinner
Reservations:	Kathleen Bolduan (314-725-1251 or kathleen.bolduan@gmail.com) (Please confirm your reservations by Wednesday, Feb. 18.)
Directions:	Due to the ongoing reconstruction of I-64/U.S. 40, specific directions are difficult. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For those living south, it would be advisable to take a road leading to Kingshighway north to Lindell. • From west, Forest Park Expressway or Lindell Blvd. might be appropriate. <p>The Cathedral is about five blocks east of Kingshighway on the left. Parking is available in the lot behind the cathedral, on Maryland behind the cathedral, and on Lindell Blvd. Additional parking is available in the Catholic Center to the west of the cathedral and cathedral rectory.</p>

The 'Baptism' of an Organist

"...Remember your Baptism, and be thankful..."

By the time you read this, Lent will be almost upon us. Traditionally the Christian church has linked Lent and Baptism, not only as a time to induct new believers, but also as a time of reflection on how we began and how we got to where we are now. There is value in well-timed assessment. Perhaps regret and repentance are a part of it, but only in order to prepare us for the joy of Easter and a new spark in life which propels us forward with vigor.

The same can be applied to us as organists. What was your "baptism" into the then-new world of organ music? Career and relationship counselors point out the benefit of looking back to that initial "Valentine" phase, where all is wonderment, anticipation, and infatuation. Thinking about our mentors, teachers, and history gives us the energy and commit-

ment to do better (or sometimes just to persevere!).

How do you see your musical life at this point? Delight or drudgery? Magic or mundane? Ordained or ordinary? I'd want to push you toward the first of those dyads if I could.

You create delight in others. Well, maybe it's not merely you doing it, but the music certainly does, and you have a stake in that. You might not even realize the effect you're having on people at the time. Haven't you experienced this: you weren't all that thrilled with your playing, but someone else seemed to be moved by it? Recalling that delight can go a long way to get you through countless rehearsals and practice hours.

There is magic in what you do. The musical world you inhabit is every bit as rarified as Harry Potter's! The down side is that sometimes non-musicians (even fellow church staff members) resent that magic because they cannot seem to marshal it

themselves and would very much like to. And sometimes people start to think that it's no work for us because they do not see the work happen. They just hear the magic of the result, and that causes them to have all sorts of crazy expectations. The fact that we've all had that happen to us proves that the work we do is far from mundane.

We are "ordained" to do this work. Not in the clerical sense, of course. But have you ever tried to actually give up the work and become a "pew potato?" Your intent is to just sit out in the congregation and experience worship without having any musical responsibilities. There you are trying to fit in with the rank and file, but you're squirming a little in your seat (perhaps your mind is distracted by tempo or registration!) and some unseen angel taps you on the shoulder and whispers "You don't belong out here, you were built to be making the music, not listening to it." Ever had that happen? Not an ordinary thing.

At best, organists are the true embodiment of the phrase "Blessed to be a blessing." Be thankful! May Lenten reflection and reassessment bring you to a joyful Resurrection in your musical life.

— Chuck Peery

Executive Committee Meeting Summary

January 12, 2009

The Executive Committee of the Saint Louis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists met at Trinity Presbyterian Church on January 12, 2009.

- Some individuals received notifications that their dues had not been paid. This was due to an error at national headquarters and has been resolved.

- The treasurer reported that there is a positive balance of \$6,155.69 in the Chapter account.

- The nomination procedure for chapter offices was included in the January *OPUS* issue. The Nominating Committee will select candidates for the three Class of 2012 Executive Committee positions. If any additional candidates are desired, members should follow the published procedure for submitting those candidates to the Nominating Committee, to be chaired by Martha Shaffer.

- The Post Office now requires that the mailing list used for *OPUS* mailings be regularly cross-matched with its database to help reduce the costly inconvenience of wrong addresses. This is being accomplished for every issue by the chapter's printing/ mailing vendor.

THE OPUS

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of the American Guild of Organists.

February 2009
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Wayne King, Editor

You are invited to submit material to the editor for publication consideration. Material and calendar items should be e-mailed to opusstlago@aol.com.

Next issue deadline: February 28, 2009

AGO Receives Commissioning, Performance Grant from NEA

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) has been awarded an Access to Artistic Excellence grant by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to support the commissioning and premier performances of new music at the biennial AGO National Convention in Washington, D.C., July 4–8, 2010. The \$15,000 grant carries a mandate that it be matched dollar for dollar from other funding sources.

The 2009–2010 funding cycle will mark the fourth and fifth consecutive years the AGO has received funding through the NEA's Access to Artistic Excellence grant program.

For its 50th biennial national convention in Washington, D.C., the AGO has commissioned new compositions from Mary Beth Bennett, Rihards Dubra, David Hurd, Rachel Laurin, Shirley Murray, Leo Nestor, Bruce Neswick, Dorothy Papadacos, Craig Phillips, and Gwyneth Walker. Premier performances of the commissioned works will be given by world-class soloists, ensembles, and conductors dedicated to artistic excellence.

The new music commissions include works for: organ solo; organ and orchestral instruments; organ and jazz ensemble; organ and chorus; two organs and chorus; organ, brass, and chorus; and a hymn.

Andy Peters CD Is Released

Andy Peters, pastoral musician at Second Presbyterian Church and St. Louis AGO chapter member, is pleased to announce the release of his CD, "Spirited Sounds in a Small, Sacred Space." The recording includes works of Dietrich Buxtehude, Andre Fleury, Pamela Decker, John Ferguson, and many others. The recording took place on the 2-manual, 14-rank Schoenstein Organ at Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church in Franklin, Tenn. The recordings are available for \$15 each plus \$2 shipping and handling. For more information, e-mail music@secondchurch.net or call 314-367-0367.

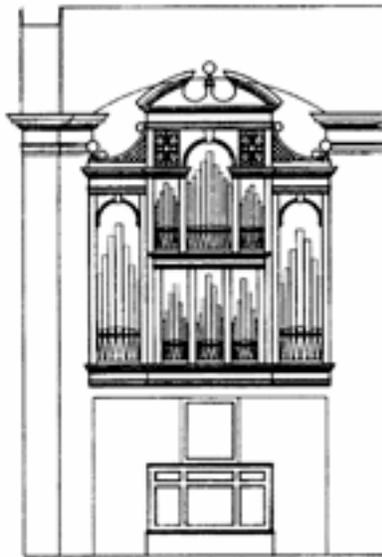


Wanted

AGO 90th Anniversary Anthology of American Organ Music - edited by Philip Brunelle, published by Oxford University Press, 1988. ISBN: 019385788X. If you have this, please e-mail Bill Wade at drwewade@gmail.com or call 314-258-2520

Off Track...

What did the organ teacher say to the organ student who was trying to play Dieu Parmi Nous instead of his lesson plans?
Stop Messiaen around!



ORGAN RECITAL & CHORAL EVENSONG

FIRST SUNDAYS from OCTOBER through MAY

The St. Peter's Singers - S. William Aitken, Director

Sunday, March 1

Recital & Choral Evensong

5:00 p.m. - **William Partridge**, Christ Church Cathedral

5:30 p.m. - Evensong for Lent – Music of Palestrina and Victoria

Sunday, March 8

5:00 p.m.

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On the Concert Horizon

Sunday, February 22, 3 p.m. Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus, Concordia Lutheran Seminary, 801 Seminary Place, Clayton, Mo. "The Transfiguration of Our Lord" — Music of Bach, Schutz, Mendelssohn, Distler and Bender under the direction of Robert Bergt; Dennis Bergin, organist.

Sunday, March 8, 4 p.m. Second Presbyterian Church, 4501 Westminster Place, St. Louis, Mo. Greenville College Choir, Greenville, Ill., under the direction of Dr. Jeffrey Wilson in concert. Works by Brahms, Purcell, Rutter, Stanford and others. Free. Information, 314-367-0367.

Wednesday March 11, 7:30 p.m. Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church, 9450 Clayton Road, Ladue, MO 63124. The Wooster Chorus of the College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio. under the direction of Gregory Brown in concert featuring the Durufle Requiem, Estonian Psalm settings by Cyrillus Kreek, works by Wooster composers, and an anthem by William Mathias. Organist Kirk Rich will accompany the choir. Free. Information, David Erwin at 314-993-4771.

Sunday, March 15, 3 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 801 First Capitol Drive, St. Charles, Mo. Organist Paul Jacobs in concert (Crescendo Concert Series). Preceded by pre-concert talk at 2:30 p.m. presented by musicologist Nancy Rubenstein. Tickets - Adult \$15; in advance \$12; Student \$5 with I.D. Information, 636-724-2507.

Saturday, March 21, 7:30 p.m. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 327 Woods Mill Road, Manchester, Mo. Luther College Nordic Choir, conducted by Dr. Craig Arnold. Works by Scarlatti, Barber,

Which is More Fateful?

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex standing in the church foyer staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names with small American flags mounted on either side. The pastor walked up, stood beside the little boy, and said quietly, "Good morning Alex." "Good morning, Pastor," he replied, still focused on the plaque. "Pastor, what is this?" he asked. The pastor said, "Well, son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service." Soberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque. Finally, little Alex's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear, asked, "Which service, the 8:30 or the 10:45?"

Poulenc, Willan, Paulus along with folksongs and spirituals. Admission \$15 adults; \$8 children.

Sunday, March 22, 2:30 p.m. St. Louis Cathedral Basilica, 4431 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. Organist Stephen Tharp in concert. Works by Wills, Simonds, Liszt, Mendelssohn, Demessieux and Hakim. Tickets \$10. Purchase online at www.stlcathedralconcerts.org or phone 314-533-7662.

Friday, April 10, 7:30 p.m. Second Baptist Church of Greater St. Louis, 9030 Clayton Road (at McKnight), Richmond Heights, Mo. Gabriel Faure's Requiem (1893 version ed. by John Rutter). Emily Heslop, soprano; Leon Burke, bass. Free-will offering. Information, 314-991-3424 or www.2ndbc.org.

Sunday, April 19, 4 p.m. Second Presbyterian Church, 4501 Westminster Place, St. Louis, Mo. Church's chorale and orchestra will present an all-Haydn concert under the direction of Andrew Peters. Program includes Lord Nelson Mass and Symphony 92. Free. Information, 314-367-0367.

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Positions Available

Organist/Pianist

Delmar Baptist Church, 1001 Municipal Center Drive, Town & Country, MO 63131 (near Hwy. 40 and 270), seeks an organist/pianist. Duties include playing for one Sunday morning service year round plus Wednesday evening choir rehearsal for 9 months. Extra services during Advent, Ash Wednesday and Holy Week. Music in a broad range of styles, including classical European, American hymnody, and contemporary choruses. Contact Marsha Hussung, minister of music (314-432-1960 or delmarbc@hotmail.com).

Organist/Choir Director

Arlington United Methodist Church, 3770 McKelvey Rd., Bridgeton MO 63044, seeks an organist and choir director. Responsibilities include preparing and providing music for the traditional Sunday worship services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. and the blended service at 9:45. The position also entails conducting chancel choir and praise team rehearsals on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Candidate should be able to embrace a variety of musical styles. Send an e-mail to aumc_sprc@yahoo.com for a complete job description.

Organist

Bonhomme Presbyterian Church, 14820 Conway Rd., Chesterfield, MO 63017, seeks an organist. Primary duties include playing for two traditional services each Sunday (8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.), seasonal services, and serving as accompanist for the chancel choir, which rehearses Wednesday at 7 p.m. 35-rank Reuter pipe organ which was built in 1969 and was updated/restored in 2003. For more information, contact Lynn Packwood (636-532-3486, ext. 715). Resumes may be sent to the church, ATTN: Organist Search.

Director of Music

St. John United Church of Christ, 405 S. Fifth St., St. Charles, MO 63301, seeks a director of music. St. John has a strong music program with a variety of musical groups including adult chancel choir, hand bell choir, youth and children choirs, and special musical groups. Director will minister within a team environment, seeking to inspire people of all ages to develop and use their musical gifts, use music as a vehicle to reach out to the larger community, and use music for fellowship within our the congregation. Must be proficient in both choral and instrumental music. For more information and a detailed job description, visit www.stjohnucc.org or e-mail friends@stjohnucc.org. To apply, e-mail your resume, a short (one page) statement as to how you would fit this position, and your most recent salary history to Amy Nunn at friends@stjohnucc.org.

Section Leaders

Saint Francis de Sales Oratory, 2653 Ohio Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63118, seeks tenor and bass section leaders. The choir rehearses Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. and sings at Sunday 10 a.m. Solemn High Mass (9 a.m. call). For more information or to schedule an audition, contact Nick Botkins, director of sacred music/master of the choirs at nbotkins@institute-christ-king.org (e-mail preferred) or 314-771-3100, ext 17. To learn about the Oratory visit www.institute-christ-king.org/stlouis/.

Minister(s) of Music

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 5300 Delmar Blvd., Saint Louis, MO 63112, seeks one part-time or two quarter-time minister(s) of music. Responsibilities include organist, adult and bell choir director, and administrative duties. Salary commensurate with experience. Experience with diverse communities preferred. Resumes accepted until March 15; westminsterstl@sbcglobal.net or 314-367-0999.

Ensemble Director

St. Monica Parish, 12136 Olive Blvd Creve Coeur, MO 63141, seeks a liturgical musician to lead an instrumental ensemble for the 11:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. Proficiency in keyboard (piano and/or organ) or guitar required. Rehearsal is on Sundays from 10-11 a.m. The job entails 3-4 hours of work weekly; compensation is in line with Archdiocesan guidelines. Steinway grand piano, Martin Ott organ, 3 octaves Schulmerich handbells available. Contact Heather Martin Cooper, director of liturgical music (314-434-4211 or hccooper@stmonicastl.org).

The OPUS

American Guild of Organists

St. Louis Chapter

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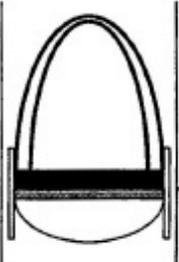
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