



THE OPUS

January 2011

Volume 27

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Ken Cowan to Discuss 'Liszt and the Organ' at January Meeting

In January, we will have two opportunities to hear and greet one of North America's finest organists: lecturer and recitalist Ken Cowan. Ken will be the featured recitalist in the Sunday, Jan. 23, St. Louis Cathedral Concerts program at 2:30 p.m. Tickets for the concert are \$12 at the door. Then, Cowan will be the featured speaker for the St. Louis AGO Chapter's meeting on Monday, Jan. 24, at 7:30 p.m., also at the Cathedral Basilica. Our host for the program is Scott Kennebeck, interim executive director/director of operations at the Cathedral.

In celebration of Franz Liszt's 200th birth year (1811-1886), the title of Cowan's presentation is "Liszt and the organ: a discussion of his instrumental approach, and comparison with selected piano works." He will discuss the organs available to Liszt, his approach to the organ in his major works, and some comparisons with his corresponding piano compositions.

Ken Cowan is one of North America's finest concert organists. Praised for his

dazzling artistry, impeccable technique and imaginative programming by audiences and critics alike, he maintains a rigorous performing schedule which takes him to major concert venues across America, Canada and Europe.

A native of Thorold, Ontario, Canada, Cowan received the Master's degree and Artist Diploma from the Yale Institute of Sacred Music, studying organ with Thomas Murray. Prior to attending Yale, he grad-

uated with a Bachelor of Music degree from the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia where he studied with John Weaver.

Cowan is assistant professor of organ at Westminster Choir College of Rider University, Princeton, N.J., where he was awarded the 2008 Rider University Distinguished Teaching Award. Previous positions have included associate organist and artist in residence at St. Bartholomew's

Church, New York City, assistant organist posts at St. James Episcopal Church, the Church of St. Mary the Virgin in New York City, and St. Clement's Church in Philadelphia. He has also been on the roster of associate organists for the Wanamaker Grand Court organ in Philadelphia.

The January 24 program will be preceded by a catered dinner (\$10) in Boland Hall cafeteria behind the cathedral (Newstead and Maryland) at 6:30 p.m. It is very important that you contact Kathleen Bolduan to make a dinner reservation. I look forward to seeing you on Jan. 24.

—Dr. Bill Wade, CAGO

The Details

Date: Monday, January 24, 2011
Event: Organist Ken Cowan – Presentation
Location: St. Louis Cathedral Basilica
4431 Lindell Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63108
Time: 6:30 p.m. Dinner
(Boland Hall cafeteria behind cathedral, Newstead and Maryland)
7:30 p.m. Program
(Enter sanctuary through west doors off parking lot between school and cathedral.)
Host: Scott Kennebeck
Cost: \$10 for dinner
Reservations: Kathleen Bolduan (314-725-1251 or kathleen.bolduan@gmail.com)
(Please confirm reservation by Wednesday, Jan. 19)
Directions:
• From I-64/U.S. Route 40 East/Westbound –
• From I-44 East/Westbound –
Exit at Kingshighway North. Go north on Kingshighway to Lindell Blvd. Turn right (east) onto Lindell. The Cathedral is several blocks east on the left. Parking is available in the lot behind the cathedral, on Maryland behind the cathedral, and on Lindell Blvd.

— From the St. Louis Chapter Dean...

CELEBRATE: The Prelude and the Fugue

Welcome back! A new year is upon us, and I'm ready to continue the celebration. Last fall, the first [prelude] portion of our AGO prelude and fugue, was off to a festive start. We met for three thrilling events. Each was a monumental success, as evidenced by excellent atten-

dance, first-class programming and exuberant fellowship.

But what does 2011 have in store? Our fugue, if you will, includes three of the world's top recitalists, two workshops, a festive hymn sing and our time-honored annual banquet. You won't want to miss

any of these events. Each has been carefully planned and scheduled with all our membership in mind. If you've missed the prelude, please make an effort to attend the fugue [remaining meetings]. Bill Wade's column, always on the front page of our newsletter, provides the details.

A word of thanks...

Many thanks to those who participated and volunteered over the past three months. So many people did so much, and their enthusiasm was at the highest pitch at all times. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. A special word of thanks to our members who played in the November recital. Everyone played beautifully. And a special word of thanks to Bill and Mike for hosting the annual Epiphany party.

January

This month, please join us for Ken Cowan's recital and lecture. Ken is known for his virtuosity and superb musicality. We are most fortunate to have him provide our program. Both events take place at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis. Why not join us at dinner before the Chapter meeting?

Celebrate!

— Henry Evans



November Recitalists

Member recitalists at the November chapter meeting, held at Trinity Lutheran Church, were, clockwise from the lower left corner, Heather Martin-Cooper, Emily Pearce, Mary Hitchcock-Reinhart, Dr. William Sullivan, Wesley Kassulke, Bill Stein, David Erwin, Henry Evans and Dawn Riske.

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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 jason418@aol.com.

February issue deadline - Jan. 28



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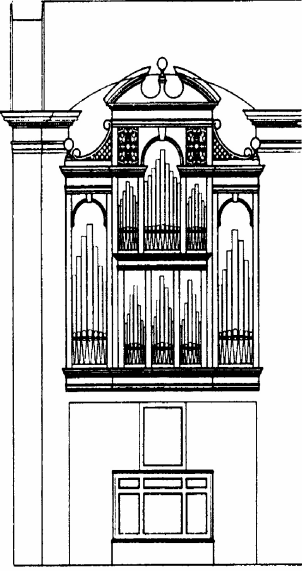



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Sunday, February 13 (note date change) – Recital & Choral Evensong*
5:00 p.m. – Stephen Mager – Bethel Lutheran Church
5:30 p.m. – Evensong – Music of John Blow and William Byrd

Sunday, March 6 – Recital & Choral Evensong
5:00 p.m. – Mark Scholtz, Asst., Church of St. Michael & St. George
5:30 p.m. – Evensong – Music of C. V. Stanford and Charles Wood

Sunday, March 13 – 5:00 P.M. – Concert
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***Bach at the Sem* 2010-2011 Season Concert Dates**

Sunday, October 10, 3:00 p.m.

The American Kantorei performs the Kyrie and Gloria in Excelsis from the *Mass in B Minor* of Johann Sebastian Bach.

Sunday, December 5, 3:00 p.m.

The American Kantorei performs the Credo, Sanctus, Benedictus, and Agnus Dei from the *Mass in B Minor*.

Sunday, February 13, 3:00 p.m.

Organist Dennis Bergin performs Bach's transcriptions of Four Concerti by Antonio Vivaldi and Johann Ernst. The American Kantorei performs a cantata by J. S. Bach.

Sunday, April 17, 3:00 p.m.

The *Magnificat* and Cantata 4, *Christ lag im Todesbanden*. Dr. Jeffrey Wilson conducts the Greenville Illinois College Choir, performing Renaissance, Baroque and Modern motets.

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Robert Bergt, Music Director and Conductor
Dennis Bergin, Bach at the Sem Organist**



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Position Available

Choir Director/Organist

Ivy Chapel United Church of Christ, 620 North Woods Mill Road, Chesterfield, Mo., seeks a part-time choir director/organist to begin in February. Primary duties are to select music for, accompany and direct the chancel choir. A complete description of the position is available by e-mailing Sally Dodge at s.dodge@hotmail.com. Resumes may also be sent to this address.

Organist and Singers

The Oratory of Ss Gregory & Augustine, 530 South Mason Road, Creve Coeur, Mo., (located on the St. Louis Abbey grounds) seeks a part-time organist familiar with musical needs of the Mass in the extra-ordinary form and who is also interested in developing a small schola to sing propers and simple motets. Duties and responsibilities: one weekly schola practice and playing for the 11a.m. Sunday Mass each week. Qualified applicants may contact the rector (314-439-0151). Anyone interested in joining this schola of singers, please contact the rector.

Handbell Director

Dardenne Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), 7400 Hwy. N, Dardenne Prairie, MO 63368, seeks a part-time handbell director to direct our current adult bell choir and set up graded bell choirs for children and teens. Qualified and interested parties should send resumes to Minister of Music Doug Gilliland, doug.gilliland@dpc4u.org.

Choral Scholars

The Oratory of St. Francis de Sales, St. Louis, Mo., seeks choral scholars (SATB). The choir serves as the principal choral ensemble for all feasts and solemnities of the Oratory. Repertoire encompasses nearly 11 centuries of music, from medieval chant to renaissance polyphony, orchestral masses of the 18th and 19th centuries to new choral compositions that are consonant with the so-called Roman School of Sacred Music. The choir sings at the 10 a.m. Solemn High Mass and rehearses Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. Excellent sight-singing skills and straight-tone required. Inquiries may be directed to Nick Botkins, director of sacred music and master of the choirs, nbotkins@institute-christ-king.org.



ON THE CONCERT HORIZON

Saturday, January 22, 7 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 100 East Adams, Kirkwood, Mo. Millikin University Concert Choir. Free-will offering.

Sunday, January 23, 9 a.m. traditional worship service. Webster Groves Presbyterian Church, 45 West Lockwood, Webster Groves, Mo. The Kingsbury Ensemble, music from the late Medieval Age.

Sunday, January 23, 2:30 p.m. St. Louis Cathedral Basilica, 4431 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. Ken Cowan, organist. Information and tickets at www.cathedralconcerts.org.

Sunday, January 23, 4 p.m. Second Presbyterian Church, 4501 Westminster Place (at Taylor), St. Louis, Mo. The Legend Singers choral ensemble. Founded in 1940, the well-known group preserves African-American music forms. Spirituals, worksongs, jazz and choral music. Dr. Doris Jones Wilson, director. Free.

Sunday, January 23, 5 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 13th and Locust Sts., St. Louis, Mo. Evensong with the Cathedral Choir.

Tuesday, January 25, 7 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 13th and Locust Sts., St. Louis, Mo. Webster Groves High School Choral Department, Scott Kinworthy, director. Four groups perform a wide variety of musical selections.

(Continued on back cover)

The OPUS

American Guild of Organists
St. Louis Chapter
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ON THE CONCERT HORIZON

(Continued from Page 5)

Sunday, January 30, 6 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 13th and Locust Sts., St. Louis, Mo. The Handbell Association of Greater St. Louis presents a celebration concert featuring 60 ringers in five choirs. Free-will offering.

Friday, February 4, 8 p.m. St. Louis Cathedral Basilica, 4431 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. Chanticleer, Grammy Award-winning vocal ensemble, pays a return visit. Information and tickets at www.cathedralconcerts.org.

Sunday, February 6, 9 a.m. and 11:15 worship services. Webster Groves Presbyterian Church, 45 West Lockwood, Webster Groves, Mo. Steve Schenkel and Ashley Mason present sacred music for jazz guitar and voice.

Friday, February 11, 7:30 p.m. St. Paul United Church of Christ, 115 West 'B' Street, Belleville, Ill. The Love Boat musical Valentine concert. Dinner – 6:30 p.m. Reservations required (618-233-3303). Concert – free-will offering.

Sunday, February 13, 4 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 100 East Adams, Kirkwood, Mo. Nora Teipen, soprano: "The Art of Song." Free-will offering.

Sunday, February 20, 2:30 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 13th and Locust Sts., St. Louis, Mo. Young Artists competition winners, sponsored by the St. Louis Area Music Teachers Association.

Professional Certification

Is this the year when you are ready to test for certification with the American Guild of Organists? Perhaps you would like to take the examination for the Service Playing Certificate. This test may be taken any time between October 1, 2010, and April 30, 2011. Maybe the Colleague exam is the right level for you. CAGO tests are scheduled for May 13 and November 18. The Choir Master Examination is set for June 1, and those testing for Associateship and Fellowship will do so on June 2 and 3.

There are several people planning on taking an AGO exam this year. Why not join them? Examinations are open to members and non-members. Contact Dawn Riske with any questions (314-397-2651). For more details and a complete listing of requirements, see the July issue of *The American Organist* or look online at agohq.org.

Sunday, February 20, 4 p.m. Second Presbyterian Church, 4501 Westminster Place (at Taylor), St. Louis, Mo. Collegium Vocale of St. Louis in concert with works of Marc-Antoine Charpentier, a giant of the French Baroque period, especially esteemed for his sacred compositions. Free.

Sunday, February 27, 5 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 13th and Locust Sts., St. Louis, Mo. Evensong with the Gateway Men's Chorus, Dr. Jeffrey Carter, conductor.