



THE OPUS

March 2007

Volume 23

Number 6

The official publication of the St. Louis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

www.agostlouis.org

Chapter Members to Play in March 26 Master Class

Master classes provide a great opportunity to sharpen your skills as a musician, and this month we are pleased to provide an opportunity for Guild members to receive helpful feedback and critique from a respected performer and teacher.

On Monday, March 26, we will be joined by Dr. Christopher Young, professor of organ at Indiana University, who will work with seven organists. Each player will present a piece or an excerpt that they are working on, and Dr. Young will offer suggestions about style, registration, and technique. Those who attend get the privilege of hearing their colleagues play and gain some great

insights into the music at the same time.

Some of the pieces slated to be performed are: *Mozart Changes* (Gardonyi), *Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 531*, *Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor, BWV 565*, *Ich ruf zu dir* (Bach), *Preludium* (Bruhns), *Carillon de Westminster* (Vierne). A complete list will be sent by e-mail the week prior to the

class so you can bring scores if you wish.

The program will be held at Trinity Presbyterian Church, NOT at Parkway UCC

Dr. Young, a native of New England, was the winner of the 1988 National Young Artists Competition of the American

Guild of Organists as well as of the 1988 Arthur Poister Competition (Syracuse University). He was also recognized by Musical America as one of their outstanding Young Artists of 1989. His concert career was begun under the auspices of a special young artist program provided by Karen McFarlane Artists, and continued under the Young Organists Cooperative, of which he was a co-director until 1993. In addition to playing recitals across the United States, Dr. Young has been heard on Minnesota Public Radio's Pipedreams.

Christopher Young has also appeared in concert with the Rochester (Minn.) Chamber Chorale, the Minneapolis Chamber Symphony and with his wife, violinist Brenda Brenner. His recent compact disc recording, *To Thee All Angels Cry Aloud*, released on the Pro Organo label, presents

(See March Master Class on back cover)

The Details

Date: Monday, March 26
Event: Organ Master Class with Christopher Young
Location: Trinity Presbyterian Church
6800 Washington Ave.
University City, MO 63130
Time: 6:30 p.m. – Dinner in the dining room
7:30 p.m. – Program in the sanctuary
Host: Paul Vasile
Cost: \$10 for dinner
Reservations: Kathleen Bolduan (314-935-5517;
or kbolduan@artsci.wustl.edu)

(Please confirm your reservations by Friday, March 23)

Directions: From I-170—Take Delmar exit and turn east on Delmar (about 3 miles) until you pass Big Bend intersection. Pass Lion statues and turn right at next stoplight (Kingsland). Turn right at the next cross street (Washington). Go a half block and turn left to enter Trinity parking lot.

From I-64/U.S. 40 eastbound—Take Hanley North exit. Proceed to Delmar intersection and turn right. Follow directions after passing Big Bend as above.

From I-64/U.S. 40 westbound—Take Big Bend North exit. Continue until Big Bend ends at Delmar. Turn right onto Delmar and continue past Lion statues as above.

From St. Louis city—Take Forest Park Parkway west to Big Bend. Turn right onto Big Bend. Proceed on Big Bend until it ends at Delmar. Turn right on Delmar and continue past Lion statues as above.

as previously announced. Trinity has a three-manual, 40-rank Casavant Freres instrument that recently underwent significant repair and restoration. The choir loft has generous seating and the console is movable, providing everyone an opportunity to see the performers and to hear Dr. Young's comments.

Share Your Enthusiasm Every Week

Those of you who attended the Paul Jacobs concert at the Cathedral Basilica will recall that when he spoke before playing the final number, he put his glasses on, looked around the audience and said "I don't see many children here." He went on to speak about the ubiquitous place of music in our culture. The music that constantly surrounds us becomes the aural wallpaper of our days, and we listen without really hearing. He thanked the audience for being present, and asked everyone to share their pleasure in attending concerts. He talked about supporting the arts, and encouraging children to

experience live performances.

On Monday evening at the Guild meeting, Dr. Jacobs used *L'Ascension* to illustrate Messiaen's use of color in his compositions, both in terms of tonal brilliance in registration and in his own strong association of colors with specific sounds. This led again to the topic of live performance - all those very personal feelings that Messiaen wrote into *L'Ascension* being released from notes on the page to live sound, the interplay between performer and listener, the effect of the performance venue and acoustics on the listener's personal response to the

music. And Dr. Jacobs spoke of his personal joy in being able to share organ repertoire with a wide audience.

In the real world of our Sunday morning live performances, there are many things competing for our attention in the last minutes before it's time to start the prelude. Being active advocates for our art is not part of the usual Sunday morning mindset! Think about what Paul Jacobs said. Use the time you spend playing the prelude and postlude as a time to share your enthusiasm for playing the organ, to share your personal joy in performing the music you have selected. — *Martha Shaffer*

Young Organist Committee Plans Programs

The Young Organist Committee has reconvened under the direction of Marie Kremer. Members have designed a series of three inter-related programs to both keep in contact with the 2006 POE students and reach out to introduce the organ to potential new students. Plans include:

1. A two-day POE reunion in mid-July. The reunion will begin with the Felix Hell recital at the Cathedral Basilica on July 18. The following day, students will go on an organ crawl and attend a master class. Proposed venues for the crawl are Christ Church Cathedral, the Shrine of St. Joseph, and the Cathedral Basilica. John Romeri will direct the event.

2. Pipes, Pedals and Pizza, Oct. 20, at

Grace United Methodist Church. The morning program for young piano students will be followed by an afternoon recital-competition for older organ students. The best performers will be invited to play in a group recital at Christ Church Cathedral in the spring. Pat Partridge will direct the afternoon event.

3. Shepley Series Concert, Date TBA. Young Organist group recital.

Please watch future *OPUS* issues for volunteer opportunities to help with these events.

The committee is also considering some long-range options, including sponsorship of a Regional Young Artist Competition in 2009 and another POE in 2010.

Program Committee Members Sought

Sub-Dean Paul Vasile would like to hear from YOU! Paul is looking for one or two people to work on the program committee. He's also open to your suggestions and ideas for future programs. AND please let Paul know if you would be willing to host a Monday program event at your church. Contact Paul at Trinity Presbyterian Church: 314-725-3840; e-mail at paul_tpc@swbell.net.

Monthly Meeting Dinner Price Increase

Those of you who attend the dinner before monthly meetings are familiar with the quality and quantity of the food provided by caterer, Joan Bushman. The price the Chapter has been charging for the dinners no longer covers the cost of preparing the meals. The Executive Committee has voted that, effective with the March 2007 meeting, the price of the dinner will be increased to \$10 - still a great bargain, still the same great desserts!

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March 2007
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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.

April issue deadline: April 1, 2007

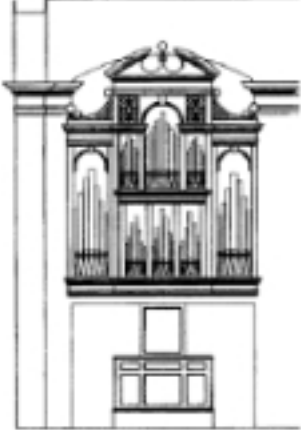
Avis H. Blewett Award Nominations Being Solicited

The annual Chapter meeting and banquet are scheduled for May 21, so it's time once again to consider candidates to receive the Avis Blewett Award. From the by-laws:

"The Avis H. Blewett Award may be given annually to a person who meets the qualifications set forth under the guidelines... The nominee should have made a significant contribution to the field of sacred music in the metropolitan St. Louis area. Nominees may include church/synagogue/temple musicians, teachers, composers or others..."

Nominations will be evaluated by a committee, and the committee recommendation approved by the Executive Committee. If you want to suggest someone to receive the Blewett Award, please send the person's name, current position, and a brief reason why you think they should be considered for the award to Chapter Dean Martha Shaffer via e-mail at agostldean@att.net.

To review a list of previous Blewett Award winners, check the 2006-2007 Chapter Yearbook (membership directory).



ORGAN RECITAL & CHORAL EVENSONG
FIRST SUNDAYS from OCTOBER through MAY
 The St. Peter's Singers - S. William Aitken, Director

Sunday, March 11 – 5 p.m. - Concert: Two Remarkable Requiems
 Requiems of Tomás Luis de Victoria and Gabriel Fauré
 The St. Peter's Choir, Soloists and Chamber Orchestra

Sunday, April 1 – Organ Recital & Evensong
 5:00 p.m. – *Nicholas Bideler – Student, University of Kansas*
 5:30 p.m. – Palm Sunday Evensong – Music of Howells & Bruckner

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On the Concert Horizon...

Sunday, March 18, 1 p.m. Congregation Shaare Emeth, 11645 Ladue Road. Concert performance of Houston Bright's "The Vision of Isaiah" and Donald McCullough's "Holocaust Cantata: Songs from the Camps" with chancel choir of First United Methodist Church of Webster Groves, speakers, and instrumentalists. Dr. Robert J. Hutcheson conducting. Congregation Shaare Emeth, 11645 Ladue Road. Information: 314-569-0010.

Sunday, March 18, 3 p.m. All Saints Catholic Church, 6403 Clemens (at Westgate), University City. Music of Hildegard of Bingen, featuring soprano Margaret Waddell accompanied by medieval harp, bells, recorders. Donation requested.

Sunday, March 18, 7 p.m. St. Joan of Arc Church, Hampton and Pernod. An Evening of Song and Prayer featuring the St. Joan of Arc choirs and musicians.

Sunday, March 25, 4 p.m. First United Methodist Church of Webster Groves, 600 North Bompert Ave. Concert performance of Houston Bright's "The Vision of Isaiah" and Donald McCullough's "Holocaust Cantata: Songs from the Camps" with chancel choir, speakers, and instrumentalists. Dr. Robert J. Hutcheson conducting. Childcare available. A salad reception follows in Fellowship Hall. Information: 314-961-4133.

Sunday, March 25, 7:30 p.m. St. Louis Cathedral Basilica, 4431 Lindell Blvd. The Tallis Scholars, presented by St. Louis Cathedral Concerts. Program includes works by Monteverdi, Palestrina, Gombert, Lassus and Brown. Tickets \$35, \$25, \$15. Purchase by calling 314-533-7662 or online at www.stlcathedralconcerts.org.

Friday, March 30, 7:30 p.m. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 406 Hillsboro Ave., Edwardsville, Ill. The Instrument of Kings and the King of Instruments: A recital of music for trumpet and organ. Henry Evans, organ, John Korak, trumpet, with members of the SIUE trumpet studio, featuring music of Bach, Handel, Peeters and others. Free. Reception follows.

Sunday, April 1, 3 p.m. Concordia Seminary Chapel, 801 Seminary Terrace, Clayton, Mo. Bach at the Sem Concert Series, The American Kantorei. Bach Cantata BWV 182 for Palm Sunday and other Bach compositions. Robert Bergt, music director, and soloists Joy Boland, Jean Baue, Katharine Lawton Brown, Willard Cobb, Jeral Becker, Arie Perry and David Berger. No admission; free-will offering.

Sunday, April 1, 4 p.m. Webster Groves Presbyterian Church, 45 West Lockwood Ave., Webster Groves. Organist Shawn Portell in concert playing the Lent and Easter chorales of J.S. Bach's Orgelbuchlein to images of religious art prepared by art historian Peggy Carothers. Also part of the program will be Bach's a minor concerto and D Major Toccata and Fugue. Free admission. Information: 314-962-9210, x 3108.

Saturday, April 14, 7:30 p.m. Trinity Presbyterian Church, 6800 Washington Ave., University City. Reverberations Concert: Chamber Music for Five performed by members of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. Free. Reception to follow. For more information call 314-725-3840 or visit www.trinityucity.org.

Sunday, April 15, 3p.m. St. Ambrose Church, 5130 Wilson Ave. "on The Hill." St. Louis Chamber Chorus presents "Italian Salad" with Philip Barnes, artistic director. Tickets: 636-458-4343.

Sunday, April 15, 4 p.m. St. Joan of Arc Church, Hampton and Pernod. Gateway Ringers. Free will offering.

Thursday, April 19, 8 p.m. St. Louis Cathedral Basilica, 4431 Lindell Blvd. Chanticleer, presented by St. Lois Cathedral Concerts. Tickets \$35, \$25, \$25. Purchase by calling 314-533-7662 or online at www.stlcathedralconcerts.org.

Friday, April 20, 7:30 p.m. St. Paul United Church of Christ, 115 West B Street, Belleville, Ill. Tribute To Miles Davis, Webster University jazz faculty and students. Free will offering. Information: 618-233-3303.



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Positions Available

Accompanist/Organist

Bellefontaine United Methodist Church, 10600 Bellefontaine Rd., St. Louis, MO 63137, is seeking an accompanist/organist. Candidates must possess good piano and organ abilities to accompany the volunteer choir and special groups as well as playing for worship services. Requires Wednesday rehearsals, Sunday worship services and additional rehearsals for Christmas and other performances. New, state-of-the-art organ. For more information, contact the church office (314-867-0800) or e-mail to bumc@bellefontaineumc.org.

Music Director

Zion Lutheran Church, Ferguson, Mo., is seeking a music director. Duties include playing for two services fall through spring. Lead sanctuary choir and praise band rehearsals on Wednesday evenings and gospel choir after service on Sunday. One service during summer with possible praise band rehearsals. Instruments include pipe organ, key-board and/or piano. Contact Pastor Jeffrey Lindgren, 314-522-0100, e-mail: zionferg@juno.com, fax: 314-522-0155.

Director of Music

Most Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 350 E. 4th St., Eureka, MO 63025, is seeking a full-time director of music. Duties include directing the adult and children's choir, playing for masses (Sat. 5 p.m., Sun. 7, 9 and 11 a.m.) and teaching music in the grade school. New two-manual Casavant organ to be installed in 2007. This is a full time position – 1/2 at the school and 1/2 at the parish. The job can be split, but preference will be given to those interested in a full-time position. Salary will follow guidelines from the Archdiocese depending on qualifications and experience. Contact the church, 636-938-5048, fax: 636-587-2736, for more information.

Director of Liturgy

St. Alban Roe, 2001 Shepard Rd., Wildwood, MO 63038. Duties include selecting liturgical music for the weekend liturgical celebration, schedule cantors, conduct weekly adult choir rehearsal, form children's choir for the 4 p.m. mass on Saturday, play for holy days and Parish School of Religion masses. Contact Fr. Mikeseh at 636-458-2977 or fax resume to 636-405-1276.

Worship Leader

Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, 1485 Craig Road, Creve Coeur, Mo., is seeking a worship leader for a new contemporary service beginning in January. Duties include music selection, play an instrument, attend practices, sing and help the pastor lead the congregation through the service. Contact the church at 314-432-4251 for more information.

Organist/Accompanist

John Knox Presbyterian Church, 13200 New Halls Ferry Road, Florissant, MO 63033, is seeking a part-time organist and accompanist. Duties include playing for the traditional Sunday worship service at 8:45 a.m. and attending Wednesday choir rehearsal from 7:30-9 p.m. Salary is \$75 for each service and choir rehearsal. Contact Kim Kolander, director of music, at 314-412-7021.

Organist

St. Giana Catholic Church, 331 Charity Drive, Lake St. Louis, MO 63367, is seeking an organist. Duties include playing for masses on Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 11 a.m. Contact Mrs. Paula Brown, 636-561-4669 for more information.

Choir Director

College United Methodist Church, 701 E Main St., Warrenton, MO 63383, is seeking an adult choir director. The position is part-time Sept.-May for the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Practice is Wednesday evenings. Resumes and inquiries may be sent to Pastor Christiane Batjer, 636-456-3390.

The OPUS

American Guild of Organists

St. Louis Chapter

8056 Blackberry Avenue

Saint Louis, MO 63130-2732

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March Master Class Program

(Continued from Page 1)

20th-century organ works by Dupré, Demessieux, Tournemire, Schröder, Kropfreiter, Sulyok, and American composer Timothy Tikker, played on two organs by John-Paul Buzard.

Dr. Young began organ lessons under the tutelage of Marion Anderson while a freshman at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. In 1982, he graduated Phi Beta Kappa with High Honors in Music. A graduate of the Eastman School of Music, he earned the DMA degree and the prestigious Performer's Certificate as a student of Russell Saunders, and the MM degree under David Craighead. He previously served as Visiting Instructor of Organ, Piano, and Music Theory served as Visiting Instructor of Organ, Piano, and Music Theory at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, Minn., and organist of the First Presbyterian Church of Rochester, Minn.

— Paul Vasile

Memorial Concert in June To Honor Glenn Freiner

A memorial musical celebration to honor the late organist and Chapter member Glenn Freiner will be held at 6 p.m. Sunday, June 10, at First United Presbyterian Church, 1303 Royal Heights Road, Belleville, Ill. Mr. Freiner died Jan. 12, at the age of 79. He had taught piano, organ and voice in the music department at McKendree College. He was organist at Belleville Presbyterian Church for over 40 years. Professor Freiner once recalled, "I've always told my students, don't play the notes. Play what the music says on the printed page. Look behind the notes and look what's there and you'll find a lot of music. Well, now you're making music."