



THE OPUS

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2005

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Number Six

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THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS St. Louis Chapter

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APRIL PROGRAM

[Please note the unusual times.]

Date: Monday, April 25, 2005
Event: Teaching Beginning Organ to Children and Adults
Presenter: Wayne Leupold, *Leupold Editions, Inc.*
Where: First Congregational Church,
Webster Groves, 10 West Lockwood Ave.
Time: Dinner: 6:30 PM
Chapter business meeting: 7:00 PM
Program: 7:15 PM
Cost: \$8.00 for dinner
Host: Ray Landis
Reservations: Kathleen Bolduan, 314/935-5517
kbolduan@artsci.wustl.edu

Vegetarians accommodated upon request: please confirm your reservation by Friday, April 22.

Traditionally, teaching students to play the organ has presupposed that the person has already acquired keyboard skills by studying piano for several years. That prerequisite requirement can dampen the enthusiasm of the young person or adult who has developed an interest in learning to play the organ and wants to start lessons "right now." The April meeting will be a lecture by Wayne Leupold introducing his methods for teaching beginning organ to children and adults.

Mr. Leupold's materials, a series called *Discover the Organ*, can be used with adults and with children as young as third grade. The first year books, entitled *Discover the Basics: A Beginning Series for Any Keyboard Instrument*, focus primarily on developing comprehensive manual skills, with the introduction of elementary pedal concepts. The program is designed for use directly on the organ and can be used for students with or without prior musical training. He will explain the pedagogical philosophy underlying his method books, and will give a survey of current teaching materials.

Wayne Leupold holds a B.M. and a B.A. "with distinction" from Valparaiso University, and an M.M. in organ performance from Syracuse University. He is active as a lecturer and workshop presenter for the AGO and the Organ Historical Society. He has edited over 200 volumes of organ music, including the following series published by Belwin (Warner Bros. Publications): *The Romantic Organ Literature Series*, *the Romantic Sacred Choral Literature Series*, *The Church Organist's Library*, and *The Organist's Companion*, a bimonthly journal of organ music. In 1989 he formed the music publishing company, Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc., with the purpose of publishing organ teaching materials and nineteenth- and twentieth-century organ and choral music. His most recent article, "The Performance Practices Relative to the Organ in the Romantic Era" appears in the new two-volume *Groves Handbook of Performance Practices*.

APRIL PROGRAM-continued on page 3

FROM THE EDITOR

Due to the early March meeting, which was announced in the February Opus, and the mid-March occurrence of Holy Week, the customary March issue of Opus has been combined with that of April.

FROM THE DEAN

Some thoughts on being chapter Dean

Permit me to speak on a personal level. Since becoming your dean, I have occasionally heard someone address me good-naturedly as “the head honcho” or “the main guy” of the chapter—usually they stop short of calling me “Your Grace.” Well, as any of you can attest who have served in this office in the past, the dean is more like a construction foreman than a company CEO. It’s not exactly a glamour job. There is a host of responsibilities great and small to which the dean must attend, just to keep the chapter in good running order. To quote Harry Truman, “the buck stops here.”

But there is another side to this. One rewarding aspect for me is a greater personal interest in the individuals who make up our chapter. Before becoming dean, I probably knew personally only a fraction of our membership. As I attend more meetings, I have enjoyed getting to know more of you on both a professional and a personal level. Although it is not my strong suit, I try hard to remember names. It isn’t always easy to reach out to new people, but I am generally of the opinion that one can never have enough friends. On the whole, I believe that a network of friends, or at least friendly colleagues, makes an energized professional community.

However, networking without some kind of genuine corporate purpose falls shy of its real potential. This leads me to why I agreed to become dean. If ever there were an institution that needed renewed focus and empowerment, it’s today’s AGO. In this age of tremendous, chaotic flux, there are myriad trends and currents, constructive and destructive. Those of us for whom music-making is the effect of a craft (as opposed to the crafting of effects) must take our rightful place among those constructive currents that shape our world. The AGO, as a collective of worship leaders, artists, and educators, has the potential to make a difference. Don’t we all want to sense that our work and contribution indeed make a difference, in a cultural climate that tries to tell us otherwise?

And so, dear colleagues, I hope you can see in this organization the potential I describe. I enjoy you to take a livelier part in its activities. So many of us wait to be asked personally. By contrast, a few members have individually approached me, and said, ‘I’d really like to get more involved, if somebody would just give me the chance.’ How helpful it is to hear that, because from my side of the net, delegating is not always easy to do. Consider this your invitation: it is your Guild, and I encourage you to step forward and be counted.

In conclusion, I would like to acknowledge those past deans of our chapter who remain among our membership, and who continue to make a valuable contribution to the life of the St. Louis organist community: **Aline Perkins, Frank Perkins, Marie Kremer, Kathleen Thomerson, Earl Naylor, Tom Pearce, Fern Black, David Porkola, Phil Rowland, Bob Hutcheson, Yvonne Sullivan, Barb Raedeke, Mary Hitchcock-Reinhart, Pat Partridge, Hank Glass, Cathy Bolduan, and John Romeri.** When next you speak with any of these good people, thank them for their dedicated chapter service.

Stephen Mager

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Deadline for newsletter submissions:

15th of the month prior to publication

Address Changes or to request Mailing Labels:

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Scmager@aol.com

PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTER PROPOSAL FOR 2006

Speaking of opportunities to get involved, don’t forget that the St. Louis Chapter has applied to present a Pipe Organ Encounter here in 2006. Our application has been submitted to AGO National headquarters and has been officially acknowledged. We have also received an acknowledgment and enthusiastic endorsement from our Regional Councillor Dean W. Billmeyer. Our application is now under consideration. And while we’re on the subject, please consult your April TAO, page 102, for a detailed listing of POE institutes being held in the Summer of 2005. Please consider encouraging a promising student to attend one of these institutes.

IN SYMPATHY

We express our sincere condolences to chapter member Pat Partridge on the loss of his brother, Randolph, who died early last month. We wish Pat and his family God's healing comfort in this time of sorrow.

LAST CALL FOR BLEWETT AND HONORS AWARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations are still being accepted for the **Avis Blewett Award**, the St. Louis Chapter's community music commendation, to be presented at our May meeting. Consideration will also be given to the **Guild Honors Awards**. **The deadline for nominations has been extended until April 15, 2005.** For further information, see the article on page 4 of the February, 2005 issue of *Opus*.

Nominations may be sent in writing to Janet Spencer, 5 Powder Valley Drive, Belleville, IL 62223-1924 or by e-mail to djspencer1961@sbcglobal.net

PRESBYTERIAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSICIANS

Our thanks to Maxine McCormick for submitting this report on the January conference of PAM. Due to an oversight, this article was omitted from the February issue of OPUS, and so it is included in this issue.

The first biennial national gathering of the Presbyterian Association of Musicians was held in Louisville, Kentucky, January 20-23. The title of the conference was "Taking Our Place at the Table: Worship, Justice, and the Employment of Musicians in the PC(USA)." Some of the conference leaders included: Ted Wardlaw, President, Austin Theological Seminary; Sue Mitchell-Wallace, Director of Music, St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, Dunwoody, Georgia; Glauca Wilkey, School of Theology and Ministry, Seattle University; and Martin Jean, Yale University. The conference was attended by over 100 people from across the United States. St. Louis was represented by Maxine McCormick, Director of Music at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING: A FRIENDLY REMINDER

This is an early reminder that the next Executive Board meeting will be on Monday, May 16, at 7:30 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church, 7001 Forsyth at Big Bend in University City. Board members unable to attend should contact Dean Stephen Mager by e-mail (scmager@aol.com) or by telephone (314/453-0987).

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The chapter nominating committee is now deliberating on nominees for the three "at-large" executive members of the Class of 2008. Members of the chapter, on private initiative, may submit nominations for inclusion on the ballot. Such nominations require five or more signatures of members in good standing. The election will take place, as stipulated in the chapter by-laws, in combined balloting by either U.S. Mail or in person at the April 25 chapter meeting. Nominations should be sent by U.S. Mail to Stephen Mager, dean. **The deadline for nominations is April 18.**

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APRIL PROGRAM-continued from page 1

Mr. Leupold will provide a display of his materials at the lecture. Please come and learn about this new teaching method. This meeting is open to keyboard teachers and pedagogy students - help to extend the chapter outreach to new organists!

Martha Shaffer

Directions to First Congregational Church of Webster Groves, 10 West Lockwood Avenue. The church and its parking lot are on the south-west corner of Elm and Lockwood in downtown Webster Groves.

From I-44 take the Elm St. exit and travel 4 blocks north. From I-40 take the Brentwood Boulevard exit south, travel across Manchester Road. (Brentwood becomes Kirkham Road.) Turn left onto Elm and go 3 blocks south to the church.

REVIEW OF THE MARCH EVENT

Thanks to Martha Shaffer for the following report on the March 4 lecture by children's choir clinician Sue Ellen Page at Green Trails United Methodist Church.

Ms. Page began by reminiscing about a children's choir festival she attended as a child. She still retains a vivid memory of the director, Ruth Krehbiel Jacobs, the founder of Choristers Guild. Each section of the lecture was prefaced by a quote from Ms. Jacobs book "The Successful Children's Choir."

On tone production: "Good tone cannot be achieved if we do not know what we mean by good tone. Good group tone is never an accident. It is the result of careful cultivation." To establish a concept of the desired tone for choral singing in church music, children need to have a visual and aural antidote to what they see and hear in popular culture. Children will pick up clues for behavior and posture from watching the director. They will absorb and imitate the choral sound from listening to older members of the group as well as the director. The director teaches by being a role model, demonstrating posture, breathing, and tone by his/her actions during rehearsal.

On repertoire: "The building of a fine library of music is a continuous process. It is a process not only of acquiring but also of discarding, for choirs, like people, often outgrow earlier tastes." Ms. Page suggests that children be exposed to good music from all time periods, not just "contemporary" works. She is most adamant in her belief that the theological content of the text is as important as the suitability of the voice parts in selecting children's anthems. She touched briefly on appropriate vocal range for younger children, suggesting that anthems for pre-K fall in F to D above middle C, early elementary the octave D to D, upper elementary middle C to E/F, etc. As there are no true alto voices in children's choirs, Ms. Page suggests that all the children get a chance to sing both melody and harmony, so that the children with better reading skills don't get locked into singing the lower parts.

On conducting: "If we at all expect [the choir] to follow our conducting, we should in all courtesy make our conducting correspond somewhat to the vocal practices we are trying to instill." Each choral gesture should keep track of the beat, show phrasing, suggest vocal production and style, and start or stop a sound. Ms. Page listed the three "st's" of singing in a choir: start together, stay together, stop together!

After 30+ years of teaching (elementary school, graded church choir programs and college teacher education courses), Sue Ellen Page still communicates an infectious enthusiasm for the field of children's choral music. Ms. Page has summarized her years of teaching experience in the book *Hearts and Hands and Voices: Growing in Faith Through Choral Music* (HT FitzSimons, 1995).

UPCOMING SUMMER SUZUKI INSTITUTE

Dear AGO membership,

I am contacting you to let you know that the Suzuki Organ method, successfully offered in Europe for some time now under the European Suzuki Association (ESA) is being offered this summer at the Chicago Suzuki Institute with the first book in the teacher training series, Organ Book 1 by ESA teacher trainer Gunilla Ronnberg.

This course was debuted in North America by the SAA last summer at this institute with great enthusiasm and great reviews for Gunilla as a fabulous teacher trainer. This is an opportunity to learn a wonderful method of organ pedagogy for children and to get in on the ground floor of Suzuki Organ method in North America as a teacher. You can find out more on our website noted below (posting today), or by contacting the institute director, Gilda Barston (cc'd on this email) by email or phone (847) 446-3822 x311.

FYI a prerequisite Suzuki philosophy course called Every Child Can! (ECC) is required prior to this book unit course as well as an entrance audition; both are discussed on our website. There are tentative plans, if the turnout is good for this event this summer, for a Book 2 course somewhere in North America for the following summer so that trainees can continue in the method.

We are planning to advertise this event in the AGO journal soon, but we also need suggestions from you how to spread the word! Any suggestions are greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,
Leslie Stevens
Suzuki Association of the Americas Staff
Toll Free 888-378-9854 x 101
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CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY MUSICAL EVENTS

PLEASE NOTE NEW calendar address:
annabrandt@villagelutheranchurch.org

N.B. To place an entry in the Community events calendar, please submit information to annabrandt@villagelutheranchurch.org according to the following format: Day / Date / Time / Venue / Address / Program / Admission and/or contact information (if desired). Announcements with incomplete information cannot be published. We regret that we are unable to accommodate lengthy press releases. Thank you for your cooperation!

Tuesday, April 5, 8:00 p.m. Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis 4431 Lindell Blvd. I Musici Chamber Orchestra from Rome in concert. Tickets \$35, \$25, \$15. Information: 314-533-7662.

Friday, April 8, 2005 8:00 p.m. Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis 4431 Lindell Blvd. Christ Church Choir, Oxford, Stephen Darlington, Director, with Clive Driskill-Smith and Elizabeth Burgess, organists. Tickets \$35, \$25, \$15. Information: 314-533-7662.

Friday, April 8, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. Christ Episcopal Church, Springfield, IL, organ recital by Richard Webster. This recital will be the first major program presented since the total renovation of the Kilgen organ at Christ Church. Renovation was recently completed by the St. Louis Pipe Organ Company. For information call Larry Moose, Dean, Springfield Chapter of AGO Director of Music/Organist at Christ Episcopal Church at 217-787-1981.

Sunday, April 10, 2005, 2:30 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 12th and Locust, St. Louis. A Concert of Original Compositions by Ken Palmer. The program includes songs, chamber music and piano pieces. Ken Palmer, Piano and Keyboards; Alla Voskoboynikova, Piano; Mark Madsen, Tenor; Matt Henry, Percussion; Amanda Boyer, Flute; Keith Miller- Double Bass. Free Admission. Information: (314) 231- 3454.

Sunday, April 10, 3:00 p.m. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1300 Beltline Road, Collinsville, IL 62234. Organ Recital by Anita Eggert Werling, DMA, Professor of Organ, Western Illinois University. Information: (618) 344-3151.

Sunday, April 24, at 3:00 p.m. Village Lutheran Church, 9237 Clayton Rd., Ladue, MO. "An Easter Hymn-sing," Dr. John A. Behnke, organist, composer, professor of music, Concordia University, Wisconsin. (Part of Cassavant Organ dedication series) Information: contact Anna Brandt, DOM, (314) 993-1834.

Sunday, April 24, at 3:00 p.m. Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus, Concordia Seminary, Clayton. Bach at the Sem series: American Kantorei, Robert Bergt, conductor. J.S. Bach: *Ascension Cantata*, Credo from the *B Minor Mass*. Free. (314) 505-7370. SEE related ad in the February issue of Opus.

Sunday, April 24, 8:00 p.m. Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis 4431 Lindell Blvd. The Bach Society of Saint Louis, A. Dennis Sparger, conductor. World premiere of Stephen Mager's *The Lamb's High Feast*, Meditations on the Resurrection, after Dürer. For tickets, call Metro-Tix. Information: 314-658-2224.

Sunday, May 1, 4:00 p.m. Dardenne Presbyterian Church, 7400 Hwy. N, Dardenne Prairie, MO. Dr. Jay Peterson (MacMurray College), organist in recital. Information: 636/561-4347.

Sunday, May 1, 4:00 p.m. Kirkwood United Methodist Church, 201 W. Adams Ave., Kirkwood, MO. John Rutter's "Mass for the Children," performed by the Kirkwood United Methodist Church Chorale and orchestra, KUMC Wesley Bells, and Kirkwood Children's Chorale Concert Choir. Soloists Mary Poshak and David Lewis, under the direction of Norbert Krausz. Freewill offering. For more information, contact Norbert Krausz, 314-966-8167 or norbert@kirkwoodumc.org.

Sunday, May 8, 8:00 & 10:30 a.m., Kirkwood United Methodist Church, 201 West Adams. A TECHNICAL PROMISE, featuring the KUMC Celebration Choir under the direction of Alicia Soller with Marcia Hansen, piano. Public welcome. Contact: 314-966-8167.

September 11-14, 2005 University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana: **AGO National Pedagogy Conference.** Part of a year-long series celebrate the new Fritts Organ, II-35, 2004. The conference will focus on works of Dietrich Buxtehude in anticipation of the Buxtehude year in 2007.

JOB OPENINGS

Organist / Choir Director

Concordia Lutheran Church, Maplewood, MO. Sunday Morning services 8 and 10:30 AM. Seasonal Midweek Services for Advent & Lent. Occasional Weddings and funerals. Adult Choir – practices once per week. Contact Rev. Lew Ensor at 314 647-1215.

Director of Music

All Saints Catholic Church, University City, MO. Part-time position. Duties include playing for Sat 6pm, Sun 8 & 10:45 Masses, Holydays, Funerals and Weddings. Direct adult choir (rehearsals Thurs at 7:30 pm). Wicks organ and Grand piano in church. Contact Debra Wolff at 314-721-6403 (Fax# 314-659-9799).

Organist / Choir Director

Resurrection Lutheran Church, 1211 W. Homer Adams Parkway, Godfrey, IL 62035. Two Sunday services at 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Choir sings twice a month from September to May. Rehearsals are twice a month on Thursdays at 7 pm. Midweek services during Advent and Lent. Contact Pastor Dennis J. Young at 618-466-2788 or email: pastor@ezl.com.

Organist

First United Methodist Church in Washington, MO, is seeking an organist to assist primary worship services and choir rehearsals. Needed 4-5 hours per week, with occasional special worship service support. Compensation: \$4,000/year. Contact church office for application and details. 636-239-4477.

Director of Music/Organist/Liturgist

Queen of All Saints, 6603 Christopher Drive, St. Louis, MO 63129. Contact Rev. Joseph M Simon 314-846-8207 ext 204. Incumbent to coordinate various choirs and musicians. Part-time, but could lead to full time position. Bachelor's degree in music or liturgical music required. Candidate must be a practicing Roman Catholic.

Director of Music/Organist

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 555 Bailey Road, Crystal City, MO 63109. Contact Fr Blake, Pastor, 636-931-5507. Full Time position. Bachelor's degree in music required. The incumbent will be a member of the parish staff with primary duties to provide music for all liturgical celebrations. Duties to include part-time teaching in the parish day school. Salary range, depending on qualifications, between \$35,000-\$45,000.

Organist/Pianist Accompanist

St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Church, Ellisville, Mo. Accompanist needed for Sunday noon Mass. Contact music director Brenda Soboleski at 636-394-7307.

Part-time Accompanist

All Souls Catholic Church, Overland MO needs a regular organist for the 9:00 Mass on Sundays plus Wednesday evening rehearsals during the choral season (Sept.- May). Brand new three manual Rodgers 927 digital organ just installed. Contact Mary Clements at 636-795-4127 or marclements@hotmail.com.

Director of Music/Organist/Liturgist

St. Alban Roe Catholic Church, Wildwood, MO. Contact Jim Blasé, 636/458-2977.

NEW INTER-DENOMINATIONAL HYMNAL IN PROGRESS

April 1, New York, NY. The AGO has unveiled plans to compile and publish a new, national inter-denominational hymnal, it was announced today. The new publication will include materials from diverse hymn traditions, giving them a fresh twist to reflect modern theological and liturgical trends.

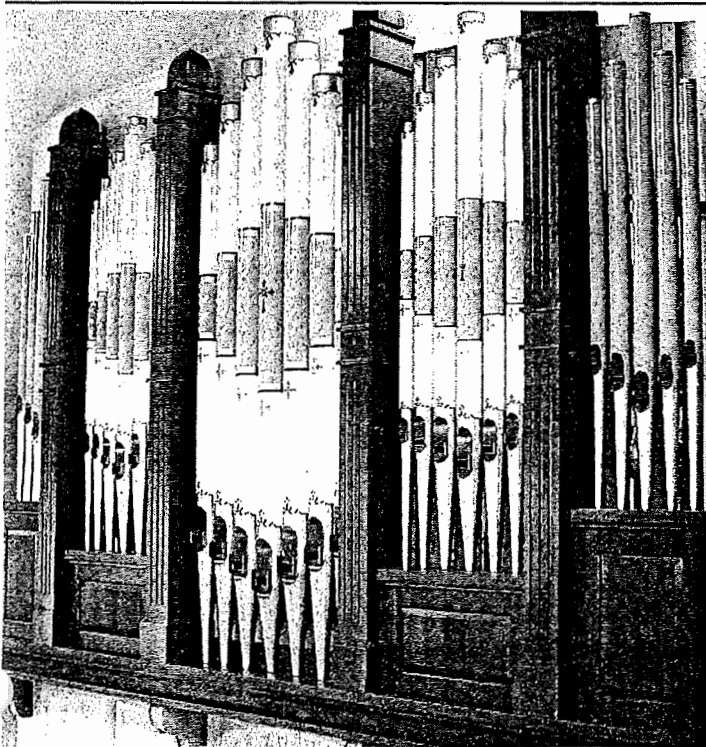
According to sources, some hymns have been updated to reflect growing trends in American consumerism. One such example is this re-write of a popular contemporary Catholic hymn:

“And I will raise you up on chicken wings,
Onion rings and other things,
All on a sesame seed bun,
And place them in the palm of your hand.”

Other traditional hymns have been revised to take on a renewed and timely significance. Examples include *Rock of New Ages*; *Amazing Space*, *How Sweet the Ground*; and *There is a Bomb in Gilead*.

However, a spokesperson for the hymnal editorial board suggested that the committee is particularly interested in including newer hymns whose accompaniments run a minimum of eight pages or more.

A distinctive feature of the new hymnal is that it will be issued in monthly installments, published in tabloid format, and feature advertising space. (Religious institutions will be offered discounted ad rates.) The AGO is currently seeking corporate sponsorship for the hymnal. Several titles for the publication are under consideration, including “The Wall Street Book of Worship,” “The Exxon Hymnal,” and “Walmart Praise.”



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2' Fifteenth	4' Octave	4' Fifteenth
III Mixture	4' Transverse Flute	16' Double Cornopean
8' Cornopean	2 2/3' Twelfth	8' Cornopean
8' Oboe	2' Harmonic Piccolo	4' Oboe
8' Festival Trumpet	1 3/5' Seventeenth	4' Festival Trumpet
Trumpet	16' Double Cornopean	
Festival Trumpet	8' Cornopean	
Melody	8' Oboe	
	4' Clarion	
	Tremolo	
	8' Festival Trumpet	



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THE OPUS



LIFESTYLES OF THE RICH AND FAMOUS

More quotable quotes:

"In Italian, there are three degrees of comparative non-intelligence: *stupido*, *stupidissimo*, and *tenore*." Pietro Mascagni, composer (1863-1945)

"The opera house is an institution differing from other lunatic asylums only in the fact that its inmates have avoided official certification." Ernest Newman, music critic

From an English music journal in 1870, about the prima donna Henrietta Sontag: "We hang on every note Madame Sontag sings—this proves the lady's great power of execution."

"I know only two tunes: one is *Yankee Doodle*, and the other isn't." Ulysses S. Grant, American president

A job ad in a small-town Ohio newspaper in 1947: "Help wanted: base vile player to play with small orchestra."



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