

MIXTURES



March 2021

Your Editor's Message...

Each month when I send the Mixtures out, I become inspired to write a little message on the email. Several AGO Officers have asked if I would include my message in the Mixtures so that ALL who receive the newsletter will see my messages. Sometimes they are witty; sometimes thoughtful; but always heartfelt and meaningful. Putting it in the newsletter kinda puts me on the spot...but here goes...

This March Edition of Mixtures is late. No excuses, it is just plumb late. My reason for being late? I wasn't motivated.

Perhaps many of you are feeling this too...unmotivated. I fought it for a very long time during this time of Covid. But alas, the past 2 months have been a challenge. I have spoken with many music colleagues and we all seem to be in the same frame of mind...unmotivated.

One day I picked up the horn and noodled a few notes (that sound of which I did not like) and put it right away. In a conversation with one friend, he closed by telling me to remember to play something fun in my practice. Then the lightbulb went on. I was so focused on exercises and etudes to work on this and that...that I forgot about the fun. Fun like putting the Chicago Symphony on the ipad (loudly) and playing along with a Beethoven Symphony or a favorite horn solo.

Something fun...what a novel thought. And it worked its magic. Tho' not playing the horn every day, I am playing the organ nearly every day. And I remember to play something for myself and for fun.

The moral is this: go do something FUN and for YOU on whatever musical instrument that might inspire you. Hoping this will make you motivated!

Go Get 'Em!
Your Editor,
Patti

DEAN'S MESSAGE...

Greetings,

Normally, by this time of year, our chapter would have hosted several events during which we could all get together and enjoy recitals, DVDs on interesting music topics, dinners, picnics, and most important of all, the comfort that the fellowship of our members and friends brings to us all. Sadly, the pandemic has taken all of that from us, but I am hopeful that as this year progresses, we can once again come together face to face. In the meantime, many of you will be preparing for Easter and will be dealing with the unusual circumstances that the pandemic has imposed on us. I hope all goes well for you and that Easter will be a joyous celebration.

I have been involved with the Binghamton chapter for 13 years, and, in looking back, we have sponsored many memorable events, and have participated in programs and recitals both locally and in neighboring chapter areas. Our road trips and organ crawls have been particularly fun because we have gotten to know AGO members from other chapters. One of the programs that we initiated that I am the proudest of is the Young Artist Series. It began in 2013 with the recital by Joseph and Erin Ripka, and has included Dexter (Tripp) Kennedy, Nick Capozzoli, Joey Fala, and Amanda Mole. We deliberately invited these artists at a time in their career when they were still finishing their degrees, and before they signed up with an agent and hence formally began their concert careers. I bring this up because of a recent announcement in Diapason of Amanda's appointment as principal organist and assistant music director at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Columbus, Ohio.

https://www.thediapason.com/news/amanda-mole-st-joseph-catholic-cathedral-columbus-ohio?oly_enc_id=1794G6363467B5V

Amanda is just completing her DMA at Eastman and is signed with Karen McFarlane Artists. Her recital here in Binghamton in 2017 consisted of *Toccata, Adagio, and Fugue*, BWV 564, J.S. Bach; *Adagio* from *Symphonie No. 3, Opus 28*, Louis Vierne; *Toccata, Kanon, and Basso ostinato* from *Neun Stücke für die Orgel, Op. 129*, Max Reger; *The Revd*

Mustard his Installation Prelude, Nico Muhly; *Praeludium in G Minor*, BuxWV 149, Dieterich Buxtehude; *Variations sur un thème de Clément Jannequin*, AWW 99, Jehan Alain; *Allegro vivace* from Symphony no. 5, Op. 42 Charles-Marie Widor. The organ at St. Joseph's is one of the most celebrated instruments in the country. It is a masterpiece by Fritts, and nicknamed "Big Red" for obvious reasons as you can see in the picture.

<https://cathedralmusic.org/organs/frittsopus25/> Amanda has already begun her duties in Columbus, and we wish her the best in her new career. She will still be concertizing, and will now have a wonderful instrument to come home to. I like to think that we found her first and are delighted that she is part of our history and our chapter family.

We will let you know when we will be resuming our chapter events. I hope we will be able to pick up where we left off last spring.

John



Amanda Mole after the 2017 Recital at United Presbyterian Church, Binghamton

Sub-Dean's Message...

Jean Henssler recommends: Check out NYC's AGO pipe organ series, The Pipe Organs of New York City, including recitals, lectures and organ crawls at

<http://www.nycago.org/>

RECENT EVENTS ... RECITALS and CONCERTS GONE VIRTUAL...

Sunday, March 21st, 3:00 pm: Piano-organ Lenten Meditation. First Presbyterian Church of Montrose. Martha Denkenberger (organ) and Jean Starzec (piano)

1. Celebrating the Musical Legacy of Marcel Dupre' A February 21 recital by Christopher Jacobson on the Aeolian organ in Duke University Chapel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9NOyXeU-nw8>

2. Annette Richards sent this link to a recent mid-day recital by Michael Plagerman at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Ithaca on the 2015-16 Juget-Sinclair mechanical organ
<https://stlukeithaca.org/juget-sinclair-organ>

<https://www.historicalkeyboards.org/walcker-willis-and-cavaille-coll-for-the-performance-of-a-melody/>

Update from Johanna Masters...

Several of you have asked "When are you going home?" I have a "final" appt. on March 10. If that goes well and the clinic officially discharges me, we'll be leaving soon after! Needless to say, we can't wait to get home. I imagine Margaret feels the same way! Certainly, our dogs will be happy!

Thanks for those prayers. Now my prayer is to sleep better at night. It sounds simple, but day after day I don't get the sleep I need for healing.

Much love, Johanna

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