DEAN'S MESSAGE...

Congratulations to Tim Smith and the Trinity Choir for providing us with a rousing hymn festival based on Welsh hymn tunes. They were joined by a brass choir and tympani; with Gregory Keeler providing a narrative of each of the hymns performed. The newly rebuilt organ really got to show off its stuff, particularly the new nave division. Also, congratulations to Richard Hedgebeth, who last year completed a large Hauptwerk conversion of an older three manual Allen organ at Tierrasanta 7th Day Adventist Church in San Diego, and who has now signed a contract for a new four manual Hauptwerk installation in the Music Center at Indian Hill under construction in Groton, MA.

We have some wonderful programs coming up in March. On March 1, Bill Lawson will lead an Evensong at Christ Church in Binghamton at 5:30 pm. Featured music will be a setting of the Te Deum by Carson Cooman, and settings of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis by Thomas Attwood Walmisley, with responses by Craig Phillips. On Friday, March 8th, at 7:00pm at Main Street Baptist Church, Jean Henssler will give a lecture/demonstration on the music she will be playing on the March 24 recital at Trinity Church. Her program will include pieces by Bach, Tournemire, Reger, and Craig Phillips.

The next morning March 9th, also at Main Street Baptist Church (9:30am, coffee and goodies, 10:00 program), we will present the first of three programs based on the superb DVD set produced by Fugue State Films on the life and works of world famous organ builder, Aristide Cavaillé-Coll. We ran this series five years ago when the DVD set was first issued. The award winning DVD set includes three one-hour biographical films on the life of Cavaillé-Coll. We will show the first of those three, preceded by the first of my two-part talk entitled “One Hundred Years in Paris: 1840-1940”. The talk will provide an historical context to Cavaillé-Coll’s career, and will describe the incredible rebuilding of the city of Paris that occurred during this time. On April 6th, I will give the second part of my talk regarding the music of this period, and we will show the second of the three documentaries. On May 11th, we will show the third documentary film, preceded by a detailed lecture on the Cavaillé-Coll organ.
at St Sulpice in Paris, presented by Richard Hedgebeth. It is advised that you plan on attending all three sessions, as it is a sequential series.

Trinity Church will present its Lenten concert series which includes an organ recital on March 10th at 6:00 pm by David von Behren: on March 17 at 6:00 pm, Tim Smith accompanies Christina Taylor in a concert of arias and duets; and on March 24th, Jean will play her recital at 6:00pm. The church will serve “simple dinners” following each concert.

French organist Christophe Mantoux will conduct a master class at St. Luke’s in Ithaca on March 8th, and a concert on March 9th, both in direct conflict with our events here in Binghamton. Check below for more information about Mantoux’s events.

Heads up for those of you that want to perform in our June 9th members’ recital on the newly rebuilt organ at Trinity: practice, practice, practice. I hope you will be able to attend these excellent events. As our events are open to all…please bring friends or family members with you.

John

Feb 2nd Video Improvisation workshop
Participants

Choir, Musicians and
Director Tim Smith
at the Welsh Hymn Festival
**CURRENT EVENTS...**


*Friday, March 8, 7:00pm:* AGO Lecture/Demonstration by Jean Henssler of her March 24 recital program including music of Bach, Tournemire, Dupré, Reger, Phillips and Reger. Main Street Baptist Church (Sanctuary). Lecture to be repeated in a shorter version on Monday, March 18, noon, SPOT Restaurant for the Trinity Lunchers (Dutch treat). Guests welcome.

*Saturday March 9, 10:00am:* AGO Video Workshop on Cavaillé-Coll Organs, Session #1, Main Street Baptist Church (Chapel) Coffee and refreshments at 9:30am.

*Sunday, March 10, 6:00pm:* David von Behren Organ Recital (Duruflé), Trinity Episcopal Church in Binghamton.

*Sunday, March 17, 6:00pm:* Arias and Duets, Christine Taylor (soprano) and Timothy Smith (organ), Trinity Episcopal Church. Simple dinner follows.

*Sunday, March 24, 6:00pm:* Jean Henssler Organ Recital (Bach, Tournemire, Phillips, Reger) Trinity Episcopal Church in Binghamton. Simple dinner follows.

**Memorial Concert for Jonathan Biggers**

John Novak wrote:

Good evening John and Jean.

I am trying to put together a concert at the Buffalo convention that will be sponsored in memory of Jonathan Biggers. As you know, I was his student and friend. I had asked him to perform at the 2019 convention before he died and he was looking forward to it.

When he played at the 1997 regional in Buffalo he performed at Westminster Pres (after a lightning strike at First Pres disabled the organ where he was supposed to play). So, I am planning to try to sponsor the afternoon concert at Westminster in his memory on July 2nd, to be performed by Michael Hey.

I am hoping to raise $5000.00 to sponsor this program and $2,019 has already been given towards that goal. Is this something the Binghamton Chapter or individual chapter members might be interested in giving to? I plan to list donor names in the program or the chapter itself - if it was interested in sponsoring the event.

The convention address for donations is:

AGO Buffalo Niagara 2019  
Attn: David Werth, treasurer  
8321 Main Street  
Williamsville, NY 14221

Please mark “in memory of Jonathan Biggers.” Due by May 1st to be included in the program.
FROM our NEIGHBORS...

ITHACA:
Saturday, March 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 4:00pm: Faculty Collaborative Recital: The German Baroque Before Bach. To be performed at Ford Hall, Ithaca College. Jean and Mark Radice, Organ, with Voice, Flute, Cello and Bassoon Faculty. Music of Schütz, Buxtehude and Gabrielli.

Saturday, March 16\textsuperscript{th}: IAGO sponsored Hauptwerk Virtual Pipe Organ Open Houses: will be held at the homes of Erik Kibblesbeck and Gerald Wolfe. More info is available on our AGO website at \url{http://binghamtonago.org/pdf/IthacaHW3-19.pdf}. Richard Hedgebeth plans to attend if anyone else wishes to, you can call him at 237-0125.

Music at St. Luke Lutheran Church
109 Oak Avenue Ithaca, NY
2018-19 Season

Saturday, March 9th, 2019 at 10 a.m.
Organ masterclass with Christophe Mantoux
Presented by the Cornell University Department of Music

Sunday, March 10, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.
Christophe Mantoux, organ
Presented by the Cornell University Department of Music

Friday, May 10 at 7:00 p.m.
The Ithaca American Guild of Organists Chapter Recital

Sunday, July 14, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.
Third Annual Bastille Day Recital featuring local organists

All events are free; no tickets required
At concerts, free will offering to benefit Music at St. Luke

CHEMUNG:
Local member events
Friday, March 8, 7:00pm: AGO Lecture/Demonstration by Jean Henssler of her March 24 recital program including music of Bach, Tournemire, Dupré, Reger, Phillips and Reger. Main Street Baptist Church (Sanctuary).

The lecture to be repeated in a shorter version on Monday, March 18, 12:00noon, SPOT Restaurant for the Trinity Lunchers (Dutch treat). Guests welcome.

Saturday March 9, 10:00am: AGO Video Workshop on Cavaillé-Coll Organs, Session #1, Main Street Baptist Church (Chapel) Coffee and refreshments at 9:30

Sunday, March 10, 6:00pm: David von Behren Organ Recital (Duruflé), Trinity Episcopal Church in Binghamton

Sunday, March 17, 6:00pm: Arias and Duets, Christine Taylor (soprano) and Timothy Smith (organ), Trinity Episcopal Church. Simple dinner follows

Sunday, March 24, 6:00pm: Jean Henssler Organ Recital (Bach, Tournemire, Phillips, Reger) Trinity Episcopal Church in Binghamton. Simple dinner follows

Saturday, April 6, 10:00am: AGO Video Workshop on Cavaillé-Coll Organs #2, Main Street Baptist Church (Chapel). Coffee and refreshments at 9:30

Saturday, April 6, 7:00pm: A Sacred Concert by Brio in honor of Holy Week: “God So Loved the World” St. Andrews Church, Endicott.

Sunday, April 7, 2:00pm: The Binghamton Theater Organ Society presents Alex Jones, ATOS Best Young Artist award 2017. The Forum, Binghamton

Wednesday, April 10 at noon: Lenten Organ Meditation. Richard and Evelyn Van Auken, First Presbyterian Church of Montrose. Soup luncheon to follow

Saturday, April 13, 7:00pm: Trinity Episcopal Church - Madrigal Choir of Binghamton and Trinity Episcopal Choir - Bach's St. John Passion with orchestra and soloists

Wednesday, April 17 at noon: Lenten Organ Meditation. Jean Henssler, First Presbyterian Church of Montrose. Soup luncheon to follow.

Saturday, May 11, 10:00 noon: AGO Video Workshop on Cavaillé-Coll Organs #3, Main Street Baptist Church (Chapel)

Saturday, May 18, 7:00pm: A Moses Hogan Celebration, Madrigal Choir, Binghamton HS Choir and internationally known countertenor, Derek Lee Ragin, Trinity Memorial Episcopal, Binghamton

Sunday, June 9, 4:00pm: AGO Members’ Recital at Trinity Episcopal Church in Binghamton. Our Chapter dinner and annual meeting follows. (Restaurant TBA)
CONFERENCES and CONVENTIONS...

Friday, Saturday, March 29-30: Poister/Calvin Hampton Conference, Syracuse University (see: cc.syr.edu/organ for details)

June 9-12 AGO Southeast Regional Convention in Myrtle Beach, SC (see: www.agosc2019.com or February issue of TAO, page 68 for details)

July 1-4 AGO Northeast Buffalo/Niagara Regional Convention See: www.Buffalo2019.org or February issue of TAO, page 68 for details. Contact Jean Henssler if you are planning on attending.

See invitation below from Registrar, Gail Shepherd…

Dear Members,

We are excited to announce that registration is now open for AGO Buffalo Niagara 2019, the Northeast Regional Convention of the American Guild of Organists! Please join us for an amazing week of world-class organs, organists, architecture and natural beauty.

Featured artists include Nathan Laube performing on the Hook & Hastings/Andover Centennial Organ at St. Joseph Cathedral, Chelsea Chen on the 151 Rank Moeller/Parsons Organ at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Katelyn Emerson on the C.B. Fisk Organ at the University at Buffalo and David Higgs on the 81 Rank Aeolian-Skinner Organ at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Additional performances include outstanding artists Michael Hey, Bruce Neswick, Judy Congdon, Abigail Rockwood, Stephen Price, Roland Martin and Joshua Stafford and the choral groups Vocalis and the Harmonia Chamber Singers. Convention-goers will also be able to hear the Wurlitzer Theater Organ at historic Shea's Theater in a performance by world-renowned theater organist, Richard Hills. A commissioned anthem for choir and organ by Carson Cooman will be also premiered at the opening service.

Convention-goers will also be amazed by the architecture in Buffalo, including a tour of the world famous Darwin Martin House by architect Frank Lloyd Wright, not to mention the natural beauty of Niagara Falls and the Chautauqua Institute. Following the evening concert by Chelsea Chen on Wednesday July 3rd there will even be fireworks during an event with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

Please click here to view the entire schedule.
The very affordable early regular registration fee of just $350 includes the transportation package for the entire week and three lunches. The AGOYO (young organists under 30 years of age) registration fee is only $50 to encourage as many of our young organists to attend as possible!

You will not want to miss this convention in Buffalo, a city in the midst of an amazing cultural re-birth. Please come join us!
More information and a link to register is available at www.Buffalo2019.org. We look forward to seeing you in Buffalo from July 1-4, 2019.

Sincerely,
Gail Shepherd
American Guild of Organists Buffalo Chapter registrar@buffalo2019.org
Hauptwerk™ Virtual Organ Software

What is Hauptwerk?

Hauptwerk is highly advanced software designed to provide a platform for the virtual realization of the wide selection of sample sets available of many of the world's greatest pipe organs. It takes advantage of the enormous strides that have been made in improving both the processor speeds and the capacity of random access memory (RAM) of the personal computer. MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) protocols are utilized to provide the communication between the console and the computer.

How does Hauptwerk differ from other virtual organ systems?

The Hauptwerk virtual pipe organ software is designed to take full advantage of current computer capabilities. In typical sample sets each individual pipe is sampled from 7 to 15 seconds at 24 bit 96kHz. These long samples are multiply looped and provided with multiple release samples to provide a more faithful rendering according to the duration of the note being played. Additional realism is provided by accurate sampling of the acoustical response of swell enclosures and the actual effect on the pipes of the tremulants. Some ranks are separately sampled with tremulant.

Playing a Hauptwerk virtual pipe organ

Hearing a Hauptwerk virtual pipe organ is very much like listening to a very good recording of the sampled organ. The difference? You get to play it! You are performing utilizing actual recordings of that organ's pipes. Unless you configure it otherwise, the organ is at the original pitch and temperament, with random tuning errors present at the time of recording the samples, and includes the acoustical ambience of the building. The real thing? No - the quaint village pub across the way and the charming medieval architecture aren't included. What it does provide, though, is the closest possible representation of the organ that present day technology allows.

How can I hear what Hauptwerk can do?

Many of the sample sets available have been produced by Milan Digital Audio, present developers of the Hauptwerk virtual pipe organ system. Other sample sets have been produced by third party providers. Most of those sample sets have MP3 and/or .wav demos available through their providers. In addition, many very fine performances (and some less so) utilizing Hauptwerk sample sets may be found at http://www.contra bombard.com and on YouTube. We encourage you to listen to these to discover the amazing breadth of material available. You'll be astonished at the possibilities!

Recently released!

Grote Kerk, Haarlem
Christiaan Muller 1738
3 manuals 22 stops

One of the many superb organs available to Hauptwerk users

Westminster Organ Works is a provider of premium Hauptwerk solutions, including new instruments, conversion of existing electronic organs and consulting services.

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