



The Principal

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG BEACH CHAPTER
OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

Volume 72, Number 4

January, 2018

The Dean's Corner

Vernon Mouw, Chapter Dean

May each of you have a truly Blessed and happy New Year.

The December program (12/5) at Covenant Presbyterian in Long Beach was a truly delightful event. It followed a good dinner served by the youth of the church under the direction of Pastor Adele Langworthy. Margaret Armstrong performed carols by Mark Hayes, Thomas Kuras (delightful unfamiliar pieces) and a jazz arrangement of "Go Tell it on the Mountain. Sean O'Neal followed at the console

with the "Ukrainian Bell Carol" by Gerald Near, the lovely "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" arranged by Wilbur Held, and finished with a splendid reading of Sigfrid Karg-Elert's Chorale Improvisation, "In dulci jubilo". Peter Bates took over the console and shared "Weihnachten - 1914" by Max Reger and "God Rest You Merry Gentlemen" by W.S. Lloyd-Webber. Robert York joined Peter on the bench for a most enjoyable duet playing Robert Powell's arrangement of "Angels Among Us" (incorporating three familiar carols.) Margaret Armstrong co-arranged a playful arrangement of Fum, Fum, Fum (On December Five and Twenty) featuring the organ, piano and the Orgel Kids organ. Peter Bates, Sean O'Neal, Robert York, and Margaret, along with her husband Jerry Drenckhahn, pumping the Orgel Kids, rotated between the organ and piano. What fun, very well done. The program concluded with the audience singing several Christmas Carols accompanied by Peter. Organists can really sing when given a chance. On January 9, Lukas Hasler is presenting a concert, again at Covenant, at 8:00 p.m.. Lukas is a new Rising Star, from Austria. Please take advantage of this opportunity to support the Guild, Mr Hasler, and enjoy yourself. Dinner is preceding the concert at 6:30.

Vern Mouw, Dean

This Month's Meeting



Lukas Hasler, young Austrian Organist, will perform a recital for us Tuesday, January 9th at 8 pm at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 607 E Third Street, Long Beach. His program will include works by Franck,

Mendelssohn, and Bovet.

The recital will be preceded by a dinner at 6:30 pm. To make a reservation please contact Elaine Elliott by Friday, January 5th

Lukas Hasler (born in 1996) is currently studying organ at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Graz, Austria and cultural management at the University of Hamburg, Germany. In addition to his participation in the opening ceremony of the Salzburg Festival, he has already performed at the Tyrolean Festival Erl as well as at the International Organ Festival in Düsseldorf. Lukas has won the "Prima la musica" competition for organ twice. The second time, he also won the "Bärenreiter-Special" prize for his interpretation of a work by J. S. Bach. A year later, "Jugend komponiert", a competition for young composers, named Lukas as a finalist for his piano and violin suites. The 21-year-old organist, composer and choral conductor has attended master classes with Jean Guillou, Ton Koopman, Ludger Lohmann and Skip Sempé. Lukas is gaining recognition for his colourful and passionate musicality. He has performed many organ recitals in Austria, as well as internationally in Germany, France, Israel, the United Kingdom and the United States. For 2018, his plans include performances in Los Angeles, Paris and Moscow.

www.LukasHasler.com

Question of the Month

Here is another question for you to ponder and discuss with your colleagues around the dinner table or at large. It is my hope you will start conversations so you can get to know each other better.

Who is your favorite composer for the organ? Is there a piece you have not learned by that composer that you would consider learning in this new year?

Resources and Repertoire

Music for the New Year

Here are a couple of links to performances of J.S. Bach's two chorale preludes associated with the changing of the year. Das alte Jahr vergangen ist in Arnstadt:

<https://youtu.be/i37aTkUeneQ>

In dir ist Freude in Sweden:

<https://youtu.be/M5-8J9-2qaU>

and in a transcription for piano by Busoni:

<https://youtu.be/-FiAr09NWtE>

and played by Joan Lippincott:

<https://youtu.be/EzNa4DWifHo>

Here is a link to a set of pieces for the New Year by Wilbur Held that includes settings of these two hymns:

<https://tinyurl.com/y8u4w89c>

The Sound of Reeds

Have you ever encountered a reed organ? Perhaps you remember an old pump organ in a family member's parlor or a larger one in a church or chapel. Here are some links to some fine performances on reed organs. The first is the ubiquitous Toccata and Fugue in D minor on a two manual Canadian reed organ:

<https://youtu.be/Bh0zigNPoec>

Another is a bit of film music played on a more typical one manual organ:

<https://youtu.be/blWqgRT-RwA>

Here is a demonstration of an 1882 Smith reed organ:

<https://youtu.be/D0HcPASK6TI>

And several links to Artis Wodehouse demonstration and performance on two Mason & Hamlin reed organ:

<https://youtu.be/X-AnVPsLo8A>

<https://youtu.be/Xi-L-NzcH4w>

<https://youtu.be/VIC9EwIjmks>

If you have an interest in reed organs here's a link to the Reed Organ Society: www.reedsoc.org.

Looking Ahead

Dr. Randall Harlow will perform his organ transcription of Liszt's Transcendental Etudes Sunday, February 18th at 4 pm at First Congregational Church of Long Beach, 241 Cedar Ave., Long Beach. The event is co-sponsored by the Orange County and Long Beach Chapters and Dr. Marc Dickey is the host.

Concert organist and research scholar Randall Harlow has long dodged conventional expectations. As a performer, he eschewed the competition circuit, choosing instead to explore the outer reaches of the organ repertoire, from avant-garde contemporary and electro-acoustic compositions and forgotten works of the past to chamber music, concertos, and transcriptions. Performances have taken him across the US, to Russia, Germany, Greenland, and cathedrals in England. His research focuses on empirical and theoretical performance studies, from the embodied ecology of the performer and the construction of performance practices, to new technologies shaping the future of acoustic music. Here is a link to his web site:

<http://www.randallharlow.net/index/#home1>

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, January 9, 2018 – 8:00 PM

Lukas Hasler, young Austrian organist, a new rising star

Covenant Presbyterian Church

607 East 3rd St., Long Beach

Catered dinner at 6:30 PM

Sunday, January 21, 2018 – 7:30 PM

Dr. Randall Harlow performs a transcription of Liszt's Transcendental Etudes

First Congregational Church of Long Beach

241 Cedar Ave., Long Beach

Tuesday, March 13, 2018 – 8:00 PM

James Walker, WORKSHOP ON SERVICE PLAYING

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

370 Junipero Ave., Long Beach

Catered dinner at 6:30 PM

Tuesday, April 10, 2018 – 8:00 PM

Pieces that Sound Difficult, but Aren't!

Trinity Lutheran Church

759 Linden Ave., Long Beach

Catered dinner at 6:30 PM

Sunday, May 6, 2018 – 4:00 PM

Guild Service and Installation of Officers

Torrance First United Methodist Church

1551 El Prado, Torrance

Events with Catered Dinners:

Cost for Dinner will be \$15. Please contact Elaine Elliot, bobelaine@bobelaine.com, for reservations.

Other concerts of interest

Sunday, February 18, 2018 – 4:00 PM

Katelyn Emerson at Disney Hall

Sunday, May 20, 2018 – 7:30 PM

Hector Olivera at Disney Hall

The Organs We Play

Russ Litchfield - First Friends Church, A Quaker Meeting - Whittier



The organ at First Friends Church in Whittier was built by Harris Organs in Whittier and was dedicated in 1976. David Harris designed an eclectic organ following the concepts of Robert Noehren. It has four manuals and 54 ranks of pipes. The action is all electric. There is one part of the organ under expression (Swell/Solo - really a brustwerk). The wind pressures vary between 2.5 and 4 inches. The facade pipes are burnished copper and stretch nearly across the whole width of the meeting house. There is some clever unification in a few places to provide more color possibilities. The original combination action used a card reader to set the pistons but was later replaced with a solid-state system that works conventionally.

The organ is somewhat based on Classical French designs with cornets on three manuals and French style reeds - there is a German style Trumpet also. The principals are of a Dutch/North German character and there are a few stops that have a Nineteenth Century flavor. The organ abundantly fills the meeting house with sound and has many interesting colors. It is a

challenge sometimes to not overpower the singing in worship or tire the ears of those listening. The organ is close to its original sound but this past year we made a change of pitch to the Swell Mixture so it would be more useful for accompanying the choir. Much of the organ repertoire can be played effectively on this instrument. Here is a link to more information about the organ and a stop list.

www.firstfriendswhittier.org/music.html

I hope we can schedule a LBAGO meeting here sometime so you can experience the organ in person.


From the Press Room

James Lampert, Typesetter and Printer

Do you have an event coming up? The earlier we know about it, and the more we know, the better we can serve you!

If it's not listed in the schedule, we probably don't know about it. If there's a schedule entry, but no article or flyer, then please tell us more about your event. If you'd like to send out a flyer on your event, but don't know where to begin, then I'm personally prepared to offer you my skills in preparing one, completely free of charge. Here is a quick (and entirely fictitious) example:

The Pan-Denominational Church of
Saint Agnostopoulous
presents the Dedicatory Recital of our new
Nightingale Organ



with guest artist
Dr. Jennifer Schweitzer
performing works of Bach, Sweelinck,
Noel Rawsthorne, Pamela Decker,
and Barbara Dennerlein

7:30 PM, Sunday, Frobruary 32, 2019
St. Agnostopoulos, 3.14 Park Blvd, Springfield
Suggested donation 15 Zorkmids

That took me less than 15 minutes to put together. A full-size flyer for a real concert would be even easier.



The Principal
c/o James H. H. Lampert
9120 Mallard Ave
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

*A Publication of the Long Beach Chapter of
The American Guild of Organists*

Long Beach Chapter Officers

Dean Vernon Mouw
Sub-Dean Robert York

Secretary Phyllis Goodwin
Treasurer Jana Shields
Registrar Dolly Ickler
Auditors Gerald Dahlin
. Bonnie Hildebrandt
Past Dean Evelyn Oglesbee

Members at Large

2018

Mark Milliren, J. Keith Shackleton

2019

Bill Henderson, Emily Lacina

2020

Russell Litchfield, Kent Eggert

Committees

Dinner Reservations Elaine Elliott
Historian Phyllis Goodwin
Nominating Staff
Placement and Substitutes Dolly Ickler
Professional Development Lee Lassetter
TAO Reporter J. Keith Shackleton
Scholarships Jana Shields
Decorations Phyllis Goodwin
. Mary Pabst
Catering Staff
Webs Site Coordinator Vacant
The Principal Russ Litchfield, Editor
. James H.H. Lampert,
Typesetting, Printing,
and Circulation

Special thanks to the International Printing Museum.

Please submit items for publication to:
Russ Litchfield, Russorgan@aol.com
By the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Application
Organ Study Scholarship Program
Long Beach Chapter
American Guild of Organists
Saturday, February 17, 2018
Bayshore Community Congregational Church
5100 The Toledo, Long Beach, CA 90803

Applicant Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

Number of Years: of piano study _____ or organ study _____ with current teacher _____

I will be auditioning on: _____ Piano _____ Organ _____

Signature of Applicant: _____

Name of Current Piano/Organ Teacher _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Signature of Current Teacher _____ Date _____

Requirements for both piano and organ students:

Demonstrate competence in hymn playing by selecting a hymn (from the approved list – see attached) suitable for congregational singing, and by playing the hymn with introduction and two stanzas in an appropriate style.

Perform a piece suitable for a prelude or postlude.

Perform a piece of a different style suitable for offertory.

Total performance time not to exceed 15 minutes.

A \$20 fee must accompany applications from students who are not members of the Long Beach AGO Chapter.

Make checks payable to: LBAGO

Send to: Jana Shields, Scholarship Chairperson
562-773-9727

6444 E Spring #181
Long Beach, CA 90815

Applications must be postmarked no later than February 1, 2018. The first 5 applications received will be eligible for the scholarship competition.

Organ Study Scholarship Program

Guidelines

Long Beach Chapter American Guild of Organists

The Long Beach Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is offering an organ study scholarship competition to promote the development of new and continuing organ students.

The following guidelines apply to this competition:

The scholarship applicant must be currently studying organ or piano with a teacher who is a member of Long Beach AGO.

Applicants must be 24 years old or younger.

For piano/organ students who meet the qualifications, \$250.00 per winner will be awarded. The student will be given a list of approved organ teachers, and the scholarship award will go to the teacher of their choice to pay for lessons.

Three adjudicators will be provided, who will give both written and oral comments to the students. The adjudicators' decision as to which students are qualified for scholarship awards will be final.

A \$20 application fee will be assessed from those students who are not members of the Long Beach AGO chapter.

The enclosed application form gives the performance requirements.

Previous scholarship winners who have claimed their award are not eligible.

Approved List of Hymns

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

How Great Thou Art

It is Well With My Soul

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Trust and Obey

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Be Thou My Vision

Come Thou Almighty King

Crown Him with Many Crowns