



The Principal

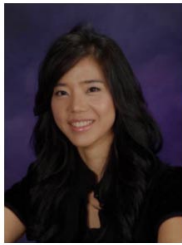
NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG BEACH CHAPTER
OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

Volume 78, Number 4

January, 2024

The Dean's Corner

A very Happy New Year to Everyone! Moving through one of the busiest times of the year, I hope you have found moments to celebrate and take time for yourself to enjoy peace.



Our next event will be the Members' recital with the theme "Repertoire ideas for Pentecost and Trinity Sunday," taking place on

Sunday, January 21, 2024, at 4:00 pm at the Bethany Lutheran Church, 4644 Clark Avenue, Long Beach, CA. I want to extend special thanks to Noah Freeman, who is hosting the event, and also to our performers: Robert Bottoms, Laura Dickey, and Jay Rogers.

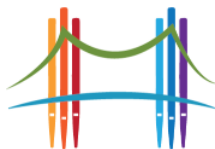
Looking ahead, I encourage you to consider attending the 2024 National Convention from June 30 to July 4, 2024, in San Francisco, CA. Registration is open, and please note that the "Super Saver" registration deadline is January 31, 2024 (Save \$100!). For more information, visit:

<https://www.sfago2024.org>

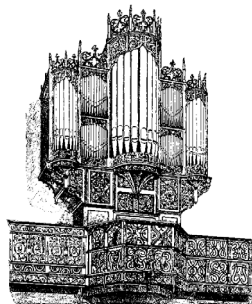
It promises to be an exciting convention filled with performances, workshops, and other events.

Blessings for a joyful and healthy 2024, and see you all very soon!

Dr. Hyunju Hwang
Dean, Long Beach Chapter AGO



AGO 2024
SAN FRANCISCO



Repertoire Ideas for Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

Why Pentecost? And why bring it up in January, when it's still over four months away? Certainly Christmas and Easter get all the secular attention, along with the feast days of two relatively minor saints. And certainly St. Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, and Easter all come before it in the calendar?

The lack of attention is itself a reason to get a head start on Pentecost celebrations. And while Pentecost began with a group of frightened, persecuted Apostles, gathering for Shavuot (and wondering if they'd live to see another one), it quickly turned into what we now celebrate as the Birth of the Church.

Come to the Members' Recital on the 21st, and let Robert, Laura, and Jay share their take on how to make Pentecost meaningful.



LBAGO Program 2023-2024

Sunday, January 21, 2024 - 4:00pm

Repertoire Ideas for Pentecost and Trinity Sunday- Member's Recital

Bethany Lutheran Church
4644 Clark Avenue, Long Beach

Monday, February 19, 2024

President's Day Organ Festival
Los Angeles

Saturday, March 9, 2024 - 10:00am

Workshop With Hanan Yacub And Fran Johnston: "Can't We All Just Get Along?"

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
24027 Pennsylvania Ave., Lomita

Sunday, May 19, 2024 - 4:00pm

Guild Service And Installation Of Officers: Evensong

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church
6201 E Willow St, Long Beach

Looking Back to October

October was one last-minute change after another, with Lukas Hasler performing on very short notice to avoid an outright cancellation.



Transcriptions

James H. H. Lampert

There was a time, not all that long ago, when organists and organ enthusiasts (at least those of a Classical orientation) looked down their noses at transcriptions, and treated them as not being “real” organ music. This in spite of the fact that transcriptions go at least all the way back to Bach, who wrote quite a few transcriptions, and not just for the organ.

The November recital began with Emma Yim, who presented three short works, no two of them of the same character. First came Barbara Harbach’s transcription of Clara Schumann’s Prelude in B-flat Major. This was then followed by Ms. Yim’s own transcription of “The

Cantina Band,” by John Williams, from his very first *Star Wars* score. Hearing it reminded me of some of Chelsea Chen’s transcriptions, especially her “Super Mario Brothers” suite. Ms. Yim concluded her set by going back to the Schumann household, with the first of Robert Schumann’s Six Canonic Études for pedal piano (i.e., piano with pedaller), effectively transcribing the work on the fly, in real time.

Robert Gaylord then took us back to Johann Sebastian Bach, transcribing Antonio Vivaldi (whose music seems to have been one of his favorite transcription subjects), with the familiar Concerto in a minor, Op. 3, No. 8, RV 522, BWV 593 (and as I type this, I’m listening to another artist’s performance on one of the CDs in this year’s Christmas auditions). Gaylord’s performance made extensive use of the Bay Shore organ’s antiphonal resources (resources I can’t recall ever even noticing before).

Finally, Russ Litchfield concluded the program with Henry Ley’s transcription of the slow movement of Symphony No. 1 (“A Sea Symphony”), by Ralph Vaughan Williams. I personally haven’t heard a whole lot of RVW, other than a few rather short orchestral works; I wasn’t even aware that he’d written symphonies. But write them he did, and this one, in its full form, has a choral part, on a text that Mr. Litchfield read to the audience before he sat down to play. And I came away knowing more about Ralph Vaughan Williams than I’d known when I arrived, and wanting to know more still.

All three of the evening’s performers performed well, giving the audience a taste of the diversity of transcriptions.



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Job Posting

St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Long Beach, California, is seeking an organist/choir director to provide music for Sunday Traditional worship services, seasonal services, and other church functions and special events.

S/he must have knowledge of the Lutheran church liturgical year. They must understand the importance of selecting appropriate music to support the scriptural themes of the season and the experience level(s) of the musicians participating.

The position is part-time, approximately 15-20 hours/month. Flexibility in hours is a necessity. Traditional Sunday service is 11 a.m., changing at times due to special events and needs. Regular choir rehearsals are once a week, an evening agreed upon by majority of participants.

Organist/Choir Director will work under the supervision of the Pastor and the Worship & Music Ministry Chairperson. Regular attendance/participation on the Worship & Music Ministry Team is required.

Salary is \$250/week. Opportunities to increase income may be had by providing music for weddings and funerals held at the church. The employment relationship will be guided by the current SLELC Personnel Policy handbook pertaining to part-time employees.

Interested applicants should submit resume and two references by email to sllc90808@gmail.com, Subject: Organist/Choir Director. The position will remain open until filled.

From the Press Room

James Lampert, Production and Distribution

(Any opinions expressed here are solely those of the author.)

Back in November, when I was still expecting there to be a December issue, I wrote that I had just doubled the memory of my black-and-white laser printer. As it turns out, the lack of a December issue, and the lack of December events either with LBAGO or at Disney Hall, worked out rather well for me, as it gave me time to complete this year's addition to my outdoor Christmas decorations, one that had proven to be somewhat more time-consuming than expected.

And then, the very evening I was to begin putting this issue together, my routine weekly COVID swab (as a docent at the International Printing Museum, I have no desire to ever become a COVID vector!) came up positive, sending me to Urgent Care, and leading me to discover an annoying side-effect of Paxlovid: it gives one's own saliva the most beastly taste.

And it is because of my COVID swab that this issue is going out as a PDF to everybody who can receive it in that form, and why I'm having somebody else (thanks, Dolly) print and mail the one or two hardcopy issues: I'm not mailing anything out myself until I know I'm clear.

Oh, and one other thing: Although none of this is mentioned in the brochure excerpt to the left (which required a shoehorn, a large mallet, and copious amounts of axle grease to squeeze into this issue), when I was double-checking that excerpt against the Convention web site, I happened to notice that the venue list includes two places (St. Mark's Lutheran, San Francisco, and All Saints' Episcopal, Palo Alto) that I never miss when I'm in the bay area, and that the list of performers includes at least three who (even though they're neither in the brochure nor even at the top of the "Performers" page) are also not to be missed, namely Diane Belcher, Peter Sykes, and Monica Czausz Berney.

James H. H. Lampert
Your Humble Typesetter



Selected Concert Previews

Faythe Freese
recital with multimedia and dance, Grace Cathedral, San Francisco (Aeolian-Skinner)

Nicole Keller, First Presbyterian Church, Oakland (Rosales)

Shin-Young Lee and Olivier Latry, organ and orchestra, featuring music of Diemer, Barber, Gandolfi, and Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* art. Latry for organ duet, St. Ignatius Church, San Francisco (new organ by Hupalo & Repasky)

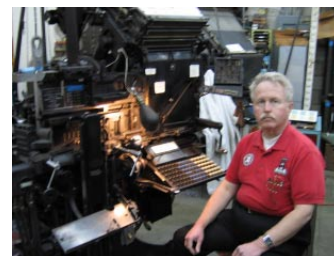
Ken Cowan, Trinity/St. Peter's, San Francisco (E.M. Skinner)

Dong-Il Shin, Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland (Létourneau)

Chanticleer male vocal ensemble, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Oakland

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AGO 2024
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Long Beach Alumnae Chapter

of

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Proudly Presents

Two Benefit Concerts

For the SAI Long Beach Music Scholarship Fund
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Performances: **Saturday February 3, 2024 at 3:00 PM**

Grace First Presbyterian Church

3955 N. Studebaker Road, Long Beach, CA

&

Sunday February 4, 2024 at 3:00 PM

First United Methodist Church of Redondo Beach

243 S. Broadway, Redondo Beach, CA



Featured Performers include:

Guest Artist, Ishani Bhoola, violinist

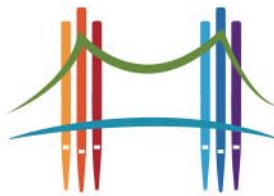
Jillian Lopez, Harpist; Angelica Brooks, Soprano; Paula Savastano, Flutist;

Agnieszka Borzuchowski, Violinist; Heather Leppard, Soprano, Mary Ann Stickler, Pianist

A Free Will Donation of \$20 per person
will be collected at the Door

For information please contact: saialumnae.lb@gmail.com





AGO 2024 SAN FRANCISCO

**JUNE 30
TO
JULY 4**



San Francisco is the place to be next summer.

Join us at the 2024 AGO National Convention, the world's largest gathering of organists and those who love the organ and its music. Our headquarters, the San Francisco Marriott Marquis Hotel, is the perfect location for exploring the city and meeting up with old and new friends who share a passion for the organ.

Attendees will experience a wide variety of performances, concert venues, and organs throughout the Bay Area. Programs will take place in San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley, Palo Alto, Menlo Park, and at Stanford University. Registration includes bus transportation to convention venues.

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*American Guild of
ORGANISTS*

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS, LONG BEACH CHAPTER

MEMBERS' RECITAL

On Repertoire Ideas for Pentecost and Trinity Sunday



Robert Bottoms



Laura Dickey



Jay Rogers

Sunday, January 21 at 4:00 PM

Bethany Lutheran Church

4644 Clark Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90808

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*

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