



The Principal

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

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November, 2021

The Dean's Corner

Dr. Hyunju Hwang, Chapter Dean

Greeting to All!

Our October "Building Repertoire Series I" event was a huge success with over 40 attendees! The theme was "Advent, Christmas and Epiphany." Five wonderful performers played 22 pieces beautifully, bringing a variety of styles and perspectives. Kudos to William Henderson, Gerald Dahlin, Kyle Black, Patricia Hannifan, and Rebecca Ogle. I also want to give a special thanks to David York and Peter Bates who arranged the event, and to Bill Henderson who hosted the event!



Our next event is an "Alexander Technique Workshop" for organists taught by Sarah Silva Peace. You don't want to miss it! As organists, we use the whole of our bodies to play, from the tops of our heads to the tips of our toes. As such, it is important for us to find postures that are comfortable and sustainable and that allows us to fully realize our playing technique. The Alexander Technique can help us to do this. It teaches us how to sit at the organ bench correctly while allowing easy access to the manual and the pedals. During the workshop, you will explore some principles of the Alexander Technique, with an eye towards enhancing the coordination and posture required to support you as you play and addressing stress and pain management issues. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at 6:30 p.m., at Our Saviour's Church in Long Beach. A big thanks to Patricia Hannifan for hosting us.

Hope to see you all on November 16th!

Dr. Hyunju Hwang
Dean, Long Beach Chapter AGO

The November Workshop

So what exactly *is* the Alexander Technique? According to Wikipedia, it is "a popular type of alternative therapy based on the idea that poor posture gives rise to a range of health problems," and "a frequent component in acting training." Frederick Matthias Alexander (1869-1955) was a Shakespearean orator from Tasmania, who began developing the technique in response to voice problems for which doctors could find no medical cause. With experimentation, he learned to avoid the strain that was causing him to lose his voice.



Sarah Silva Peace is an AmSAT certified teacher of the Alexander Technique. In addition to that certification, she holds a Master's Degree in Music, emphasis in Vocal Performance. She was first introduced to the Alexander Technique during her education at Chapman University. After completing her Master's Degree, she went on to complete three years of training as an Alexander Technique teacher, at the Alexander Training Institute of Los Angeles.

People study the Alexander Technique for a variety of reasons, the most common being to relieve pain and improve performance. Musicians, athletes, and dancers use the Technique to improve breathing, sound production, and speed and accuracy of movement.

POE Update

Our new Pipe Organ Encounter date has been approved by the AGO National Council. The date is June 26 - July 1, 2022 (Sunday - Friday). It will of course be necessary to revise our plans and printed materials accordingly; those interested in assisting with the project should contact Dr. Hwang, who (as most of you should recall) chaired our original POE committee.

Sub-Dean's Greetings

Ciao a tutti!

I hope you are well and safe during this turbulent time. I wish to start by thanking Dr. Hyunju for inviting and introducing me to the AGO for Long Beach Chapter. I feel so lucky to work along with her and honored to be part of such a dynamic community that promotes organ music.

As you probably know, due to the pandemic I couldn't attend the Kick-Off Party & Installation of Officers. I'm still in Italy and I'm taking advantage of this period to prepare for the lecture/concert I'm going to play in January, 2022.

Here in my native country, I have the chance to play on a historic Italian Baroque organ, and I'm recording some performances that I'm going to share with you during my lecture. I look forward to that! I hope all of you will be able to come, so we will finally meet in person.

Hope to see you all soon!

Best Regards,

Mr. Giuseppe D'Eliseo

Sub-Dean, AGO Long Beach Chapter

Our October Members' Recital

As we go to press, our October Members' Recital, *Music for Advent/Christmas/Epiphany*, the debut of our new *Repertoire Building Series*, has concluded.

Bill Henderson played Richard Billingham's setting of "My Lord, What a Morning," Philip Lane's setting of "Veni Emmanuel," Christopher Uehlein's setting of "Bring A Torch, Heannette, Isabella," David Cherwien's setting of "Once In Royal David's City," and Nils W. Gade's setting of "How Lovely Shines the Morning Star.

Gerald Dahlin played Wilbur Held's *A Nativity Suite*, and five selections from Paul Bouman's *Partita on "Chesterfield."*

Patricia Hannifan played A. D. Miller's setting of "Wachet Auf," Max Drischner's variations on "Es ist ein Ros entsprungen," Alfred V. Fedak's setting of "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen," Paul Manz's setting of "We Three Kings," and (with David York on sleighbells) John A. Behnke's setting of "Deck the Halls."

Kyle Black played Pamela Decker's setting of "Veni, veni Emanuel," The Magnificat from Calvin Hampton's Christmas Oratorio (with soprano Rebecca Tomlinson), and David Conte's setting of "Silent Night."

Finally, Rebecca Ogle played Joseph W. Clokey's Pastoral from *Le Prologue de Jesus*, Max Drischner's setting of "Wie Schön Leuchtet der Morgenstern," and Denis Bédard's *Variations sur "In dulci jubilo"*

Introducing Kyle Black, and a Word on Upcoming Competitions



It has been an immense pleasure to be welcomed back so warmly to the greater Los Angeles area and especially the Long Beach chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Fresh off a term on the board of the Twin Cities, Minnesota chapter, I am excited to begin serving as the new Scholarship Chair for LBAGO and reconnecting with organist friends new and old here in the South Bay.

Members should be aware of dates for several upcoming local and national opportunities:

The deadline for entries into the Ruth and Clarence Mader 2021 Composition Competition is December 17th. Compositions must be approximately 8-12 minutes and based upon the name RC MADER (D C E A D E-flat D-flat). Distinguished judges to include Craig Phillips and Cherry Rhodes. (Note: an important collection of music by Clarence Mader for organ is available through Western International Music, Inc. (catalog #WIM102); I would encourage those with an interest in our local organ culture to purchase a copy!)

Finally, there is the Elizabeth B. Stephens International Organ Competition, open to anyone who will be 32 years old and younger on June 15th, 2022. Submissions of the preliminary recorded round will be accepted until February 25th, 2022 and must include a final movement from any one of the Bach Trio Sonatas (BWV 525-530), Cantabile by César Franck, a "virtuosic work" from the 21st century, and one free choice work. Submissions should not exceed 30 minutes.

Kyle Black holds degrees in organ performance from the University of California, Los Angeles and the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University, Bloomington. Mentors in organ and sacred music have included Bruce Neswick, Christoph Bull, and Carol McDaniel with studies in choral conducting under Donald Neuen of the former Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove. He has served as a member at large for the Long Beach chapter of the American Guild of Organists and as a board member for the Twin Cities Minnesota chapter. Previous honors have included prizes from the Regional Competition for Young Organists in Los Angeles and selection as a finalist in the Schoenstein competition in organ accompaniment at Indiana University.

Organ Study Scholarship Program
Application
Long Beach Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

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:

- 1) 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 an introduction and two stanzas in an appropriate style.
- 2) Perform a piece suitable for a prelude or postlude.
- 3) Perform a piece of a different style suitable for offertory.

Submit a video recording of the performance. Total performance time not to exceed 25 minutes. The recording must be done in one take, without edits or stopping the recording between pieces.

Email application and video to:
Kyle Black, Scholarship Chair
kywblack@gmail.com

Scholarship applications must be received by February 1, 2022.

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:

1. Applicants must be 25 years old or younger.
2. Scholarships will be in the amount of \$250 and will be paid directly to an approved teacher. Those selected to receive a scholarship will be given a list of approved organ teachers from which to choose.
3. Three judges will decide the winners and also provide feedback to applicants.
4. The enclosed application form sets forth the performance requirements.
5. Previous scholarship winners who have claimed their awards are not eligible.

Approved List of Hymns (Hymn Tune)

- 1) Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty (Nicea)
- 2) Holy God, We Praise Thy Name (Grosser Gott, Wir Loben Dich)
- 3) Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (Lauda Anima)
- 4) God is here! (Abbot's Leigh)
- 5) I Know That My Redeemer Lives! (Duke Street)
- 6) Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (Hymn to Joy)
- 7) A Mighty Fortress is Our God (Ein' Feste Burg)
- 8) Be Thou My Vision (Slane)
- 9) Come Thou Almighty King (Italian Hymn)
- 10) Crown Him with Many Crowns (Diademata)



The Long Beach Chapter of
the American Guild of Organists

presents

Alexander Technique Workshop

by Sarah Silva Peace



Tuesday, November 16, 6:30 pm

**Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
370 Junipero Ave, Long Beach, CA 90814**

Please wear a mask at all times.



Long Beach Chapter Program

2021 - 2022

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 - 6:30 pm

Alexander Technique Workshop

Bayshore Congregational Church

5100 E The Toledo, Long Beach, CA 90803

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 - 6:30 pm

Organ Music in Italian Baroque

Lecturer: Giuseppe D'Eliseo

Venue - TBA

Sunday, February 13, 2022 - 4:00 pm

Bruce Neswick, Organ Concert

Monday, February 14, 2020 - 6:30 pm

Bruce Neswick, Workshop and Masterclass

*"Filling the Dead Spaces and Creative Hymn
Leadership"*

Covenant Presbyterian Church

607 E 3rd St, Long Beach, CA 90802

Sunday, March 20, 2022 - 4:00 pm

*Celebration of César Franck's 200th
Anniversary*

Members' Recital

Covenant Presbyterian Church

607 E 3rd St, Long Beach, CA 90802

Sunday, May 1, 2022 - 4:00 pm

Guild Service & Installation of Officers

Host: Sean O'Neal

St. Cross Episcopal Church

1818 Monterey Blvd, Hermosa Beach, CA
90254

Program Committee:

Dr. Hyunju Hwang, Chair

Peter Bates

Kyle Black

Giuseppe D'Eliseo

Robert Luke Martin

David York

It's Been a Busy Month, Musically Speaking

In addition to our Members' Recital, there have been other events of note. Mark Husey presented a concert of piano, violin, organ, and vocal music at St. Ambrose, in West Hollywood (I wasn't there, but I just received word that it went very well), the Los Angeles Philharmonic presented their first week of subscription concerts in Disney Hall since the 2019-2020 season was cut short, capped with an All-Bach recital by Cameron Carpenter, and Robert York is accompanying not one, but two silent movies (performances which, as of press time, still haven't happened yet).

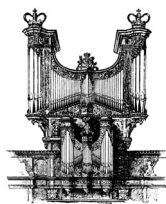
I attended Mr. Carpenter's recital, as did (at the very least) fellow chapter members Susan Mackensen, Jay Rogers, Peter Bates, and perhaps others. With the Philharmonic requiring proof of vaccination, they had screening stations strategically placed in the lobby, to prevent bottlenecks.

The first half of the program began with the Fantasia and Fugue in c minor, BWV 537 and ended with the "St. Anne" Prelude and Fugue, BWV 552, and included two selections from the Well-Tempered Clavier, Book II, and two chorale preludes, while the second was given over entirely to the Goldberg Variations.

Susan writes that she "thoroughly enjoyed and was in awe of his performance," and that "he included the full range of the organ."

Jay wrote that he was particularly impressed with the Goldberg Variations: "He adapted them well for the organ, and although some tempos were rather fast, he has the skills to bring it off."

The evening struck me (and a few others I spoke with afterwards) as if I'd attended two separate recitals, separated by an intermission: the first flamboyant and unconventional, the second more restrained and serious. The combined effect worked rather well.



Rodgers C-445 Electronic Organ for Sale

Mark Husey has a Rodgers C-445 electronic organ for sale. Please contact him for details (pictures and YouTube video demos are available) at HuseyM@gmail.com or (213) 500-4925

Job Openings in Anaheim and at Bay Shore

These were first brought to our attention nearly a month ago, but are apparently still open:

Anaheim United Methodist Church (1000 South State College Blvd., Anaheim) is seeking an organist/pianist to play for one service on Sunday mornings, with a brief choir rehearsal before the service; working hours would be 9AM-11AM. Starting pay is \$17-18k, not including weddings and funerals. The organ is listed in the OHS Database as 2M/P, 31R, EP action. If interested, contact John Elg, Choir Director, (310) 351-6891.

Bay Shore Community Congregational Church is seeking a part-time, salaried organist. One Sunday service with Sunday morning and Thursday evening Chancel Choir rehearsals, extra services in Lent, Easter, Christmas Eve. Strong sacred music experience preferred. Play organ solos and accompany adult and children's choirs, soloists, and handbell choir on organ and piano. Organ is 3M/P, 39R (+ 8 digital) Wicks; piano is Steinway. Salary commensurate with education and experience. Additional pay for weddings and memorial services. If interested, contact Julie Ramsey, Director of Music, jrramsey@me.com with resumé and references.

From the Press Room

James Lampert, Production and Distribution

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

In addition to the concerts I attended, and those I'd like to have attended, this has been a busy month for me in other ways: I've been auditioning CDs for my annual Christmas bulk purchase.

At the Museum, we are preparing, after a year in which we had to move it online, for our annual Los Angeles Printers' Fair, the first weekend of November. If you've never visited the International Printing Museum, this would be an excellent time.

Finally, I will not be attending the November event. Not because the Alexander Technique wouldn't also be applicable to sitting at a computer terminal all day, or running a Heidelberg "Windmill" press without giving myself tennis elbow (it probably would in both cases), but because I'm going to be spending that week in Northern California, on the first vacation I've had in roughly two years.



James H. H. Lampert
Your Humble Typesetter

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2023

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Special thanks to the International Printing Museum.

Please submit items for publication to:

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