



THE



TALLAHASSEE ORGANIST

The Official Newsletter of the Tallahassee Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

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DEAN'S MESSAGE

Dear AGO Members and Friends,

As we move forward through the challenges of Holy Week to the joy of Easter Sunday, a “post-holiday letdown” tends to follow. After we have raised our voices in “Alleluia” and played our festive voluntaries, it is wise to remember that Easter is a season rather than a single day—and, in a sense, we are “Easter people” throughout the year. It is my sincere hope that all went well in our churches during Holy Week.

On Sunday, April 19th, at 3:00 p.m., Dr. Iain Quinn, Professor of Organ at FSU, will perform a recital featuring major organ works of J. S. Bach on the Taylor and Boody organ at First Presbyterian Church in downtown Tallahassee. A free-will offering will be taken for the FSU Organ Scholarship Fund. This recital is being co-sponsored by the Tallahassee Bach Parley, and promises to be a wonderful event. I hope that you'll join us for great repertoire performed by an accomplished artist on a truly exceptional instrument!

All best,

Joe Kraus

Dean

Tallahassee Chapter
 American Guild of Organists



"The deadline for newsletter submissions is the 15th of every month!"

Visit your chapter website: <http://www.tallahasseeago.org/>

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The AGO National Council has just announced new dues rates for all dues categories, effective with the 2015-16 membership year. The new rates are: \$100 for Regular members, \$75 for Special members, \$40 for Students, and \$75 for Partners. This is an increase of \$3 in each category, \$2 of which will be retained by the local chapter and \$1 of which will go to National. Renewal notices, which were to go out sometime around April 1st, will reflect this change.

UPCOMING SACRED MUSIC WORKSHOP

The University of Florida Sacred Music Workshop: Inspiring Worship, with guest clinician Dr. Wilma Jensen, will be held on Monday, May 4th, and Tuesday, May 5th, at the First Lutheran Church in Gainesville, Florida. For more information, such as the workshop schedule, workshop leaders, fees and registration, lodging, etc., visit the workshop website at www.ufsmw.weebly.com.

UPCOMING AGO EVENTS

Sunday, April 19th, Dr. Iain Quinn, Assistant Professor of Organ at the FSU College of Music, will present a recital featuring the major organ works of J. S. Bach at 3:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, on the corner of Adams Street and Park Avenue in downtown Tallahassee. This event is being sponsored jointly by the Tallahassee Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and The Tallahassee Bach Parley. A free-will offering (suggested donation \$10) will be taken, and all proceeds will go to the FSU Organ Scholarship Fund. The recital will be followed by a reception in the church fellowship hall; free childcare is available.

Our Annual Spring Potluck will be held on Thursday, April 30th at 6:30 p.m. Save the date--details to follow by e-mail.

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

Every Sunday evening from September 7th through April 26th, 2015 (except Sunday, December 14th), St. John's Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street in Tallahassee, presents a weekly Service of Compline from 8:00 to 8:30 p.m. This ancient monastic service includes beautiful chants by the all-male choir, interspersed with scripture. Membership in the Compline Choir is open to any interested male singer by audition—contact Mike Norris at norris.mr@gmail.com.

Friday, April 10th, St. John's Episcopal Church will present a Café Garden Concert in Eve's Garden from 12:00-12:30 p.m. Admission is free, and lunch is available from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Lively Café. The concert will feature Trevor Williams, vocalist with guitar. In case of rain, the concert will take place in Alfriend Hall

Sunday, April 12th, the Seven Hills Guitar Series presents a recital by guitarist Petri Ceku at 3:00 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street in Tallahassee. Ceku, winner of the 2012 Christopher Parkening Competition, is originally from Kosovo but now lives in Zagreb. Admission is free.

Sunday, April 12th, the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra presents "A Commemoration of Appomattox" under the direction of conductor Darko Butorac, at 4:30 p.m. in Cascades Park in downtown Tallahassee. The concert will begin with music from Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, followed by a selection of African-American spirituals sung by soprano Marcia Porter. Next will be Ungar's "Ashokan Farewell" from the Ken Burns Civil War documentary. The program will conclude with Aaron Copland's *A Lincoln Portrait*, with Oscar-winning actor J. K. Simmons reading the words of Abraham Lincoln. For tickets and more information, contact the TSO box office at (850) 224-0461 or visit their website, www.tallahassee_symphony.org/tickets.

Sunday, April 12th, Mission San Luis, The Center for Music of the Americas, and the FSU College of Music and Musicology Area present "Missa Mexicana: Lost Treasures of the Mexican Baroque" at 7:30 p.m. at Mission San Luis Visitors Center, 2100 West Tennessee Street in Tallahassee. The concert will feature The Early Music Ensembles of the Florida State University College of Music and Cantores Musicae Antiquae directed by Prof. Sarah Eyerly, and the FSU Baroque Ensemble directed by Valerie Arsenault. The program will include unpublished and little-performed treasures from the cathedral archives of Mexico City and Oaxaca, and will explore the rich textures, harmonies, and rhythms of Mexican musical culture in the 17th and 18th centuries. Admission is free.

Tuesday, April 14th, the Thomasville Entertainment Foundation presents a concert by the Australian Chamber Orchestra. This world-acclaimed chamber orchestra with its artistic director Richard Tognetti and brilliant clarinet soloist Charles Neidich combine forces in a performance of unrivaled virtuosity. The concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Thomasville Center for the Arts (formerly the Thomasville Cultural Center). For tickets, visit www.tefconcerts.com or call the TEF box office at (229) 226-7404. Single tickets are \$38 for adults and \$15 for students.

Tuesday, April 21st, The Florida State University College of Music presents a concert by the FSU Baroque Ensemble, directed by Valerie Arsenault, and students from the Harpsichord Studio of Professor Iain Quinn at 6:00 p.m. in Dohnanyi Recital Hall on the FSU campus. Admission is free.

Tuesday, April 21st, the Capitol Bells, an auditioned group of handbell ringers from Tallahassee and the surrounding area, will present a concert at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, 2015 Fleischmann Road (between Centerville and Miccosukee Roads). The concert is at 7:00 p.m. and is open to the public. Admission is free.

Sunday, April 26th, The Artist Series of Tallahassee presents violinist Bella Hristova with pianist Amy Yang in recital at 1:30 p.m. in Opperman Music Hall on the FSU campus. (The earlier concert time is due to a conflict with the Tallahassee Community Chorus concert later in the afternoon.) Acclaimed for her passionate performances, beautiful sound, and compelling command of her instrument, Hristova has a growing international career as a soloist, recording artist, and chamber musician. Recent recipient of an Avery Fisher Career Grant, she began her violin studies at the age of six in her native Bulgaria; at 12 she participated in master classes with Ruggiero Ricci. In 2003 she entered the Curtis Institute of Music where she worked with Ida Kavafian. In 2010, she received the Artist Diploma with Jaime Laredo at Indiana University. She plays a 1655 Nicolo Amati violin which was once owned by violinist Louis Krasner. For further information and to purchase tickets, please visit the Artist Series website www.theartistsseries.org, phone (850) 224-9934, or go to Beethoven & Company in Timberlane Shops on the Square, 1415 Timberlane Road. Tickets are \$23.00 for an adult, \$5.00 for a student over the age of 12, and free for students under 12 when accompanied by an adult.

Sunday, April 26th, St. John's Episcopal Church will present a recital by the saxophone quartet ILLUME, which will play a variety of musical selections ranging from Johann Sebastian Bach to minimalist composer Philip Glass. The concert is at 3:00 p.m.; admission is free.

Sunday, April 26th, the Tallahassee Community Chorus presents Felix Mendelssohn's epic oratorio "Elijah" at 4:00 p.m. in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall on the FSU campus. This dramatic work, with chorus, four soloists, and full orchestra, depicts events in the life of the Old Testament prophet Elijah. Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$15 senior (62+), and \$5 student. For more information and to purchase tickets, please go to the chorus website www.tcchorus.org or visit Beethoven & Company, 1415 Timberlane Road. Tickets may also be purchased from any chorus member.

Tuesday, April 28th, the Tallahassee Civic Chorale under Dr. Leslie Heffner, artistic director, presents their spring concert *Musique Francaise*, featuring Gabriel Faure's Requiem in D minor. The concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. at Faith Presbyterian Church, 2200 N. Meridian Road. Tickets are \$9 adult, \$7 senior (62+) and students. TCC students, faculty, and staff are admitted free with I.D. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit the chorale's website www.CivicChorale.org, or call (850) 942-1893. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

Sunday, May 3rd, St. John's Episcopal Church presents *Bells and Whistles*, an Anniversary Concert celebrating St. John's Tower Bells (1915-2015) and its C. B. Fisk Organ (2005-2015). The concert, at 4:00 p.m., will feature St. John's Tower Bell Guild, Organists, Choirs, and Congregation, and will be followed by a reception. Admission is free; childcare will be provided.

Voces Angelorum, a choir of women’s voices founded by the late Charles Witmer, will be giving several concerts this spring. They are as follows: Monday, May 4th, at 7:00 p.m. at Maguire Hall in the Westminster Oaks retirement community on Dempsey Mayo Road; Tuesday, May 12th, at the Tallahassee Senior Center on the corner of Monroe Street and Seventh Avenue in midtown Tallahassee— time to be announced; Thursday, May 14th, at 7:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 110 N. Adams Street in downtown Tallahassee; and Sunday, May 17th, at 4:00 p.m. at Centenary United Methodist Church in downtown Quincy, Florida. The choir is directed by Scott Leaman and their accompanist is AGO member Paul Miller.

Sunday, June 7th, the Tallahassee Bach Parley will present *Musical Offerings*, the concluding concert of their “Back to Bach” season, at 3:00 p.m. at St. John’s Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street in downtown Tallahassee. Admission is free, but a donation of \$10 is suggested. The concert will be followed by the annual membership reception in the church parish hall. Free childcare is available. For further information, please visit www.tallahasseebachparley.org.

EXECUTIVE BOARD NEWS

The Executive Board of the Tallahassee Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will meet at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 19th, at First Presbyterian Church immediately preceding the recital by Iain Quinn.

MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to students Marissa Hall and Amy Nungesser, who have both received E. Power Biggs Fellowships from the Organ Historical Society. The Fellowship is awarded to outstanding applicants with a developing interest in the American pipe organ. The intent of the Fellowship is to introduce people to the historic pipe organ through conventions of the Organ Historical Society. The award provides financial support for attending their convention, covering registration, travel within the continental US, and lodging and meals during the convention. The fact that two students from the same institution were selected reflects well on the FSU organ program. Again, our congratulations!

REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS

The 2015 Convention of the Southeastern Region (formerly Region IV) of the American Guild of Organists will be held July 1–4, 2015, in Charlotte, North Carolina. For information about the convention schedule, concert venues, recitalists, workshop presenters, fees, etc., please visit the convention website www.agocharlotte2015.org.

For your planning information, the next National Convention of the American Guild of Organists will be held July 19–23, 2016, in Houston, Texas. The 2018 National Convention will be hosted by the Kansas City, Missouri, chapter of the AGO.

Enjoy organ music in its infinite variety each week with *PIPEDREAMS* from American Public Media, each Sunday 7:00-9:00 p.m. on WFSQ (91.5 FM) and on the internet at any time (24/7) at www.pipedreams.org.

April 12th – Polish(ed) Gems...with focus on a further collection of compositions, instruments, and performers from Poland.

April 19th – Americans Abroad...although relatively few in number, some significant instruments by organ builders from the United States have found themselves as musical ambassadors in foreign settings.

April 26th – Toccatas, Again...the original “touch piece” has manifested itself in many different ways, depending on time and place.

May 3rd – Midwestern Marvelous...concert performances of American music from an American Guild of Organists convention in the Minnesota twin cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul.

May 10th – Strange Friends...along with the usual sorts of musical hookups, the pipe organ gets along pretty well with the guitar, panflute, bassoon, and taragot.

ADD YOUR VOICE

If you have information about any upcoming events, news about chapter members, information about open choral or organ positions, corrections to previous newsletters that you’d like to share, or anything else of musical interest, please e-mail these items to the newsletter editor at pherrington@fsu.edu. Of special interest for the May newsletter would be any programs for the season of Pentecost that your church or other organization might be planning to present. Thank you.