



## COMING UP!

### HOLIDAY CONCERT NEWS!!!

SEND US YOUR CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS AND TIMES OF SERVICES/CONCERTS, ETC. FOR A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SECTION IN NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER.

WE WILL LIST BY PLACE OF WORSHIP.

### FRIENDLY REMINDER

Remember that new AGO memberships and renewals are now on a "rolling" yearly basis: in other words, you have twelve months of membership from the time you actually pay your dues.

Membership rates are:

- \$100 Regular members
- \$75 Special (Senior) members
- \$40 Students
- \$75 Supporting Partners

You will receive a renewal notice upon expiration of your last year's membership.

# The Tallahassee Organist

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

VOLUME X NUMBER 3 – NOVEMBER 2018

November 1, 2018

Dear AGO Members and Friends,



The unwelcome arrival of Hurricane Michael certainly made the month of October one for the record books. Our hearts go out to our friends to the north and west (including members of our very own chapter) who suffered serious damage to their homes and places of worship. Despite climate change, it is my sincere hope that we have seen the last major hurricane for a very long time!

At least the severe weather blew away much of our prolonged heat and humidity and we are enjoying cooler temperatures as we head into the holiday season. On a brighter note, our **Halloween Organ Spooktacular Concert** on Friday, October 19th at St. John's Episcopal Church was quite a success (despite the complications caused by the hurricane). The audience—which included people from as far away as Madison thanks to an article in the Tallahassee Democrat—particularly enjoyed Act I, Scene 3 from Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera*, sung by member **Anna Marie Friars** (Director of Music at Good Shepherd Catholic Church) and special guest **Larry Gerber** (Professor Emeritus of Voice at FSU and Cantor at the Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More). Special thanks to members **Elizabeth LaJeunesse** and **Betsy Calhoun** for their careful organization and decoration and to **Elizabeth, Amy Nungesser, Michael Corzine, Nathaniel Brown and Adam Cobb** who (along with myself) volunteered to perform. We really need MORE PERFORMERS for next year.

In addition to the many arts events happening in November, student members **Adam Cobb** and **Nathaniel Brown** will soon present on their summer experiences at the Harlem International Organ Festival and the Organ Historical Society Conference. This event will be held on **Sunday, November 11th** at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall at the Episcopal Church of the Advent, 815 Piedmont Drive in Tallahassee. Our organ students are our future—come out and support them!

As we take one final breath before the holiday onslaught, I wish you and yours all the best for a delightful Thanksgiving. In spite of our recent setbacks, we still have much to be thankful for as church musicians in the Big Bend!

ALL THE BEST!

*Joe*

Joe Kraus  
Dean, Tallahassee AGO



Visit our chapter website: [www.tallahasseeago.org](http://www.tallahasseeago.org)

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**NOTE NEW  
EMAIL ADDRESS!!!**

## 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 Anthony Rimore, anthony.rimore@gmail.com

**NEXT DEADLINE  
November 20, 2018**

## Upcoming Events

Thursday, November 1st

7:30 PM

### Daniel Hope and Friends: Air – A Baroque Journey

Thomasville Entertainment Foundation presents violinist Daniel Hope and five virtuoso collaborators as they trace the evolution of the violin during a dynamic period of development, discovery and experimentation through the music of Bach, Vivaldi, Telemann and Handel. This concert takes place at the Thomasville Center for the Arts, 600 East Washington Street in Thomasville, GA. Tickets are \$38 for adults and \$15 for students and may be purchased by calling the box office at 229.226.7404 or by going online to [TEFconcerts.com/tickets](http://TEFconcerts.com/tickets).

Sunday, November 4th

3:30 PM

### Big Bend Community Orchestra

Under direction of Dr. Shelby Chipman, the Community Orchestra will present its first concert of the season at Lee Hall Auditorium, 1601 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard on the campus of Florida A&M University in Tallahassee. The concert, which is free and open to the public, will include Symphony No. 25 in G minor by Mozart, Selections from *West Side Story* by Leonard Bernstein as well as works by Morton Gould, Lindsay Sargent, Gioachino Rossini, Charles Gounod and Arthur Frackenpohl.

Friday, November 9th

Noon

### Fridays at Noon

Ben Sung, FSU Professor of Violin, in Balfour Chapel in the Forbes Building on the campus of Thomasville University, 1501 Millpond Road in Thomasville, GA. Free and open to the public.

Sunday, November 11th

3:00 PM

### The Tallahassee Bach Parley

Autumn Concert, a program consisting of Cantata Nos. 61 and 150 by J. S. Bach, featuring the Bach Parley Chamber Singers. The concert begins at 3:00 PM at St. John's Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street in downtown Tallahassee. A donation of \$10 is requested; free childcare is available.

Sunday, November 11th

4:00 PM

### Sundays at Four

A Veteran's Day Community Bands Concert at Thomasville Municipal Auditorium, 144 East Jackson Street, in Thomasville, GA. This concert is free and open to the public.

Thursday, November 15th

7:30 PM

### Opening Nights at Florida State University

Presenting Anthony Trionfo, flautist, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street in downtown Tallahassee. Praised for his "spellbinding" performances, Mr. Trionfo recently made his Young Concert Artists Series debuts at Washington's Kennedy Center and in New York's Merkin Concert Hall. At the 2016 Young Concert Artists International Auditions, Trionfo received several prestigious awards and is the first YCA artist to win the inaugural LP Classics Debut Recording Prize, granting him a commercial recording. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$15 for students and may be purchased at the Fine Arts Ticket Office on the corner of Call and Copeland Streets, online at [www.openingnights.fsu.edu](http://www.openingnights.fsu.edu), or by calling 850.644.6500.

Sunday, November 18th

4:00 PM

### Tallahassee Community Chorus

"Exultation!" in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall, 222 South Copeland Street, on the Florida State University campus. This concert opens the chorus's 31st season with two of the Baroque era's best-loved choral works. Bach's setting of the Magnificat, the Latin text of the story of the Virgin Mary as told in the Gospel of St. Luke, is imbued with a sense of exultation. The Christmas portion, along with other selections from Handel's *Messiah*, rounds out the program, culminating with the great "Hallelujah" chorus. Tickets ranging in price from \$6 to \$22 may be purchased at [www.tcchorus.org](http://www.tcchorus.org) or by calling 850.597.0603. The lobby box office at Ruby Diamond Auditorium will open at 2:30 PM on the day of the concert; the auditorium will open at 3:30 PM.

**And much, much more!**

**Check out the Tallahassee Arts Guide**

[www.tallahasseearts.org](http://www.tallahasseearts.org)

**Visit our chapter website: [www.tallahasseeago.org](http://www.tallahasseeago.org)**

## NOTABLES OF THE MONTH WOMEN IN CHURCH MUSIC Part 1 of 4

*reprinted by permission, Mary Rogelstad*

Quietly, in places ranging from convents to conservatories to farms, extraordinary women have written innovative music without the benefit of fame. Historical archives hint at the challenges they have faced. Critics called composer **Ethel Smyth** a "little woman" with "utterly unfeminine" works and **Florence Price** echoed the concerns of other minority women when she penned in a famous letter: "To begin with I have two handicaps – those of sex and race."

Over time many talented men have landed in the history books, including Beethoven, Bach and Mozart. But what about female composers? We will look at the accomplishments of nineteen women composers.

Two of the earliest composers on our list – **St. Kassia** and **St. Hildegard** – wrote for religious reasons. As St. Hildegard noted, "I composed and chanted plainsong in praise of God and the saints even though I had never studied either musical notation or singing."

Later women composers often had family connections that provided a gateway to music education. Numerous child prodigies also made their mark because their talent could not be ignored. And some talented women ended up composing simply because their love of music surpassed the limitations of their time or location.

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*Mary Rogelstad joined Pepper Architects in 2018 as the company's Marketing Content Coordinator. Previously she worked as a journalist in the international media and as a communications specialist at various nonprofits. In her free time, Mary has enjoyed singing in various choral groups and performing in musical theater.*

## IMPORTANT CALENDAR INFORMATION

Many of the FSU.COM concerts and recitals do NOT make it into the Arts Guide, which often only includes popular music (bars, jazz clubs, etc.).

Anyone wanting comprehensive information about what's going on at the College of Music MUST go to this website -- [www.music.fsu.edu](http://www.music.fsu.edu) and click on "View All Events".

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

### November 4th Celebrating Couperin

Commemorating the 350th anniversary of the birth of one of the foremost French Baroque composers, Francois Couperin le Grande (1668–1733).

### November 11th To End All Wars (I)

Music made in time of war, in reflection on war, and in commemoration of the centenary of the November 11, 1918 Armistice, ending World War I.

### November 18th To End All Wars (II)

Music made in time of war, in reflection on war, and in commemoration of the centenary of the November 11, 1918 Armistice.

### November 25th Poland's Pride

Guest Andrzej Szadejko introduces instruments and composers in celebration of the centenary of the restoration of Poland's sovereign independence on Nov. 11, 1918.



## Upcoming Regional and National Events

On Sunday, November 11th, the Jacksonville chapter of the AGO will present A Festival of Psalms: Inspiration from the Church's First Hymnal, at 5:00 p.m. at Riverside Park United Methodist Church, 819 Park Street in Jacksonville. In recent years, Jacksonville AGO chapter hymn festivals have become popular events in the area community. This one will feature several local organists in a themed hymn festival in the style of Paul Manz.

The Southeast Regional Convention will take place June 9–12, 2019, hosted by the Grand Strand Chapter of the AGO in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Their website is [www.agose2019.com](http://www.agose2019.com). SAVE THE DATE!

Looking ahead, the 2020 National AGO Convention will take place practically in our own front yard, in **HOTlanta, Georgia!** The dates are July 5th–9th, 2020. To sign up for the convention newsletter and get other information, visit the convention website at [www.agoatlanta.org/ago-atlanta-hosts-2020-conference](http://www.agoatlanta.org/ago-atlanta-hosts-2020-conference). Let's all plan now to attend!

Visit our chapter website: [www.tallahasseeago.org](http://www.tallahasseeago.org)

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Regardless of how they started, many women composers needed resilience when life tested them. Various musicians on our list overcame prejudice, illness, the death of loved ones, poor education, or the barrier of being a woman in a male-dominated field. Yet they have left a legacy of changing music, winning awards and altering lives.

Here are the first of twenty female composers on our list:

**St. Kassia**, aka Kassiana: 810–865

Why unique: St. Kassia is the earliest female composer for whom we have preserved music.

St. Kassia was a Byzantine composer who came from a wealthy family in Constantinople. She was an abbess who wrote sacred hymns and is a recognized saint in the Eastern Orthodox Church. About 24 of her pieces survive today, including *The Fallen Woman*, also known as *The Hymn of Kassiani*. It is sung on Holy Wednesday in the Eastern Orthodox faith and is said to include a line written by Emperor Theophilos, who had loved Kassia but rejected her earlier in his life.

**St. Hildegard von Bingen**: 1098–1179

Why unique: Hildegard von Bingen's music was not only innovative in its time, but it's also seen a revival in recent decades.

Like Kassia, Hildegard von Bingen was an abbess and she is a canonized saint in the Roman Catholic Church. She was born in Germany and wrote about 77 chants, along with a musical drama that's similar to a modern-day opera. In her work, Hildegard did innovative things, including inventing her own language and unlike other music of the time used melodic fourths and fifths so that her songs sometimes had ranges of up to two and one-half octaves. She also wrote songs that allowed a singer to move up and down on a single syllable. In 1994, her work was brought back to life in Richard Souther's album *Vision: The Music of Hildegard von Bingen*, which won the Billboard Award for Top Classical Crossover Album.

## Member News Local Chapter Events

Sunday, November 11, 2018, at 6:30 PM – Reports on the Harlem International Organ Festival and the Organ Historical Society Conference by Sub-dean **Adam Cobb** and E. Power Biggs Fellow **Nathaniel Brown**, in the Parish Hall at the Episcopal Church of the Advent, 815 Piedmont Drive in Tallahassee.

Chapter member **Adam Cobb** recently returned from a week long trip to England. He gave a recital as part of the Mayfair Organ Concerts at St. George, Hanover Square, which is where George Friderich Handel was a parishioner. The recital featured works of Bach, Franck and Messiaen. Aside from touring the sights around London, including a tour of Buckingham Palace, he attended Choral Evensong at Canterbury Cathedral. The highlight of the trip was having a two-hour lesson with organist **Dame Gillian Weir**.



On Sunday October 21st, the John Wesley United Methodist choir performed selected choral works composed by AGO member **Olivia Ahyoung** at their 10 AM service. The compositions based on selected verses of Psalms 95, 116 and Psalm 150 were written around the theme, "Come, let us worship the Lord with songs of Petition, Praise and Thanksgiving." The service music included an a capella Introit and Amen, an accompanied Call to Prayer, two short anthems and a simple melodic setting of the Methodist Creed which served as a benediction. The settings of simple to medium difficulty proved to be quite effective and suitable for small- to medium-sized choirs. The John Wesley director and choir worked hard and gave of their best, to which the congregation responded very favorably with resounding Amens!

## EXECUTIVE BOARD UPDATE

The Executive Board of the Tallahassee Chapter of the AGO will meet on Sunday, November 11th at 5:45 PM at the Episcopal Church of the Advent, 815 Piedmont Drive, in Tallahassee (just before the student program at 6:30).

On the agenda are the latest financial report, as well as plans for the Epiphany Party in early January of 2019, the reception for **Dr. Iain Quinn's** recital at First Presbyterian Church on February 17th and the visit of guest artist **Colin Andrews** on March 9th and 10th.



## COMPLINE

Every Sunday evening through December 2, 2018

St. John's Episcopal Church  
211 North Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
8:00 to 8:30 PM

This ancient monastic service includes beautiful chants by an all-male choir, interspersed with scripture.

Membership in the choir is open to any interested male singer by audition.  
Contact Mike Norris at [norris.mr@gmail.com](mailto:norris.mr@gmail.com)

Visit our chapter website: [www.tallahasseeago.org](http://www.tallahasseeago.org)

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## ASK TILLIE



Conservatory trained, Matilda (Tillie) Apel has over 50 years experience in organ performance and church music, serving on the staff of several large and small churches as a Minister of Music and many other positions. She has recently retired and would love to share her thoughts and wisdom on any questions you might have. Please forward the questions to [asktillieago@gmail.com](mailto:asktillieago@gmail.com). Matilda, who resides in a private retreat in the Poconos, will answer as many questions as space permits. Tillie is always learning and growing. If you don't agree with her answers, or have more to add, let her know! (names changed to protect the guilty).

Dear Reader: This was a very sad week and my heart is heavy from the news about the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting. Eleven people were killed and six wounded in the deadliest attack on Jews in American history. I am at a loss to know what to say. But I do know how evil anti-semitism is. When I was an undergraduate, I learned first-hand of the time, talent and monetary gifts that were showered upon the arts in all forms from the Jewish people. I would not be an organist today if I had not benefited from that generosity in forms of financial aid and scholarships.

I present to you a hymn that is being promulgated on all the organist Facebook Pages, AAM and other Episcopal and Presbyterian Facebook pages and the American Guild of Organists page itself. You may wish to ask your Pastor if it might be appropriate to program the hymn this Sunday or perhaps sing at a special service. The hymn writer is one known to me for many years. **Carolyn Winfrey Gillette** is the author of over 400 hymns that have been sung by thousands of congregations around the world, and are found in 20 books and thousands of web sites, including [www.carolynshymns.com](http://www.carolynshymns.com). Many of her hymns are published at Sojourners and are also found in *Christian Century* magazine, *The New Yorker*, National Public Radio, and PBS-TV. She and her husband **Bruce Gillette** are Presbyterian ministers who have served congregations in Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey. If you wish a high resolution copy of this hymn, please email me at [asktillieago@gmail.com](mailto:asktillieago@gmail.com). Be kind to everyone and Happy Thanksgiving!

**O God, This Day We Grieve**

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2018 Leoni (Traditional Hebrew melody)

1. O God, this day we grieve your child - ren who were lost,  
2. We grieve for those who died, for fam - ilies left be - hind,  
3. We thank you, God, for ones who brave - ly en - tered in,  
4. God, teach us all to love— and may we un - der - stand  
5. O God, u - nite us all, no mat - ter how we pray,

and we, as one, are hor - ri - fied by ha - tred's cost.  
for those who won - der if this world can still be kind.  
to serve and to pro - tect, so ha - tred would not win—  
that ha - tred can - not have a place in this good land,  
and may we work to - geth - er for a bet - ter day—

For peo - ple loved by you— your child - ren, called and blest—  
So ma - ny lives were changed, so ma - ny dreams were crushed.  
and for the ones who lead, we of - fer you this prayer:  
and guns can - not se - cure the peace we pray will be.  
where all may safe - ly live and have no cause for fear.

were mur - dered on their Sab - bath Day of prayer and rest.  
There's so much ha - tred! God, what has be - come of us?  
May they be good ex - am - ples of re - spect and care.  
May we, to - geth - er build a true com - mu - ni - ty.  
May we to - geth - er seek your peace and jus - tice here.

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E-mail: [bcgillette@comcast.net](mailto:bcgillette@comcast.net) | New Hymns: [www.carolynshymns.com](http://www.carolynshymns.com)

**Disagree, have questions or want to add to Tillie's advice? Send to [asktillieago@gmail.com](mailto:asktillieago@gmail.com)**