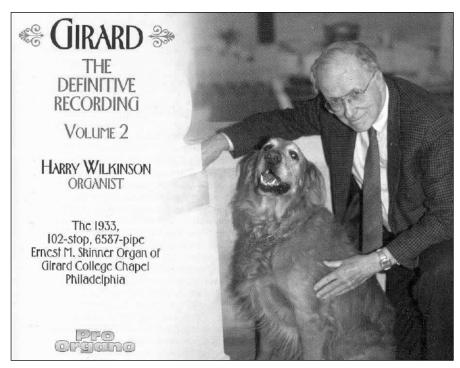


Newsletter of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists



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# Harry Wilkinson, Organist Friday, November 14, 2003, 8:00 PM Girard College, Philadelphia

tart your weekend of November 14th in a delightful manner - Come to Girard College's Founders Hall for leisurely appetizers and drinks (soft drinks and wine available) in the Library. If you would like more excitement, the museum on the second floor will be available for those who are interested. Appetizers will be available any time after 5:30 pm, with dinner to follow about 6:15. Dinner, served by Chef's Market, will be a buffet with selections of Italian roast chicken, top round of roast, and penne pasta (vegetarian), as well as side dishes and salad.

To make the evening even more enjoyable, why not look through the AGO directory and invite someone you know to come with you or meet you there? (The zip code section at the back may be helpful to find someone in your area.) In addition, before leaving Founder's Hall to go to the Chapel for the concert, we will install this year's officers. We are privileged to have *James Thomashower*, the Executive Director of the AGO, as our installing officer.

Cost for the meal is \$30.00 per person. For reservations, send a check made out to **Philadelphia AGO** to Ethel Geist; 1247 Colonial Drive; Quakertown, PA 18951 by <u>November 6th</u>.

Continued on page 5

CRESCENDO, the official bulletin of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, is published monthly, September through June. All material for publication must reach the Editor by the 1st day of the month preceding the date of issue, i.e. November 1 for the December issue. This must be type written and e-mailed (text only in the body of the letter), or mailed. Submissions on electronic media (3.5" floppy disks) in IBM format are appreciated. A hard copy should be included. Submissions become the property of the Philadelphia Chapter of the AGO and will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed and stamped envelope. CRESCENDO reserves the right to make editorial changes and to shorten articles to fit space limitations. Articles in Crescendo reflect the views of the writers and not necessarily those of the Guild. All advertising must be arranged through the Advertising Manager.

#### **Advertising Rates**

Camera-ready:	One-Time Season	
Professional Card	N/A	\$48.00
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Composition/Design, add \$75 per ad

#### **Editorial Board**

Calendar of Events/Articles/etc. Eric Gombert, Editor, CRESCENDO email: ago.crescendo@comcast.net c/o Trinity Lutheran Church 1000 W Main St, Lansdale PA 19446-1998 215.855.5330 x250

Positions Available/Substitute Listing/Advertisements Frank K.J. Orman, Advertising Manager email: phlagoadvertise@aol.com 3086 Mill Rd, Worcester PA 19490-0611 610.584.0909

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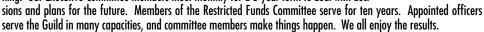
The deadline for the next issue, November, will be November 1, 2003

#### NOVEMBER 2003

### DEAN'S LETTER

November — end of daylight savings time — All-Saints Day — Election Day — Veterans Day — Thanksgiving Day — beginning of Advent.

Thinking of Thanksgiving makes me stop to appreciate the myriad of people who volunteer their time and abilities and make the world a better place for others. For instance, in our AGO chapter, I am amazed at the number of individuals who donate their talents and efforts. Our officers are committed to the heavy responsibilities of keeping the chapter running. Our Executive Committee members meet monthly for a 3-year term to deal with deci-



Out of all the years I've been involved in AGO activities, I don't think I've ever adequately thanked others for all they do, but I intend to try. I would like to challenge all our members to join this effort. Our officers are listed in each *Crescendo*. Next time you see someone who has accepted responsibility, thank him/her. Watch for committee members and other "unsung heroes" and express your appreciation for what has been accomplished. I challenge you to go even one step further – volunteer to help! It's really quite rewarding – if you haven't done so already, give it a try!

PS I'm glad you read this far! THANKS!

**Ethel Geist** 

# **Convention Corner**

The National AGO Convention will be held in Los Angeles July 4 - 9, 2004. Early rates (10% reduction) are in effect from October 1 through January 31. If you plan to attend, check their website at agohq.org/2004 or The American Organist for complete information and pre-registration forms.

...

The chapter's Vision Task Force is involving our membership in exploring ideas for the chapter's future by holding four Focus Groups. If you would like to be included in this process and have not been contacted, call one of the Focus Group hosts:

Tuesday, November 11, 7:30 pm 4514 Chester Avenue Roy Harker, host (215.222.3831)

Saturday, November 15, 10:30 am Wayne Presbyterian Church Jeff Fowler, host (610.688.8700)

Monday, November 17, 7:30 pm St. Denis' Church (RC), Havertown Ralph Purri, host (610.789.2354)

Monday, November 24, 7:30 pm St. Thomas Church, Whitemarsh Jim Batt, host (215.233.3970 x20)

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<u>volume lxvi, no. 3</u>

Continued on page 11

JOE

# CRESCENDO

# REGISTRAR'S CORNER

- 1. We heartily welcome the following new members to the chapter:
  - Ruth A. Draper Philadelphia

LEWIS,

Karen L. Confer Collegeville

Please greet them warmly at all chapter events and make them feel welcome.

2. Please remember that address mailing labels of the always updated/most current membership list of the Philadelphia chapter are available at a cost of \$25. per set for members and \$40. per set for non-members. They can be sorted by zipcode or alphabetically, and are great for publicizing your next recital, concert or special event. A statement is included with the labels, so there is no need to send payment until after they are received by you. Please allow several weeks notice prior to the time you need them. Either call me at 610.935.0895 or email spiele88@icdc.com to request them. I would appreciate, however, being informed for my records if you have any label-addressed mail returned for any reason. That way our computer records can be constantly updated. Email addresses of members are not available for purchase, but are available in the 2003 Membership Directory. NOTE ALSO that we encourage a single use for these labels, since address changes are received often, instantly updated in the computer, and our current labels that we send reflect the most up-to-date accuracy we can achieve- that way you reach the most number of people to advertise your event.

REGISTRAR

3. Please consider inviting a neighboring musician or organ enthusiast to join our chapter. There are many categories of membership that will suit almost anyone, including Chapter Friend, which allows individuals to be a part of the organization and receive our local publication, Crescendo, and to learn firsthand all the exciting things that go on throughout the year. Plus, there are many musicians (active organists and choral conductors) who work in Philadelphia and surrounding area churches and synagogues who have yet to know or become part of the chapter. A wonderful start in encouraging them would be to have them see what they're missing by inviting them to accompany you to a program or event, or at least to visit our newly refurbished website at www.agophila.org., which gives a wonderful overview of our offerings and ways to contact us. We count on you members to be goodwill ambassadors for the chapter and to encourage others to grow in their musical lives with fellow musicians who share similar interests. Be sure to refer any names of interested individuals to me. Thank you.

Joe Lewis

Registrar

# MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

JOSEPH LEWIS, REGISTRAR

Want to join the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists? Need to report AGO Directory Changes on your current membership?

Contact our Registrar, Joe Lewis at:

49 North Spring Lane Phoenixville, PÅ 19460 610-935-0895 spiele88@icdc.com

# PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

ELECTED OFFICERS		
DEAN Ethel Geist	215.529.1603	
SUB-DEAN Jeff Fowler	610.695.8059	
TREASURER Gerald Troy	610.626.5486	
RECORDING SECRETARY Maria DeJ. Ellis	610.896.6189	
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY Sister Paula Napoli	215.637.3838	
REGISTRAR Joe Lewis	610.935.0895	
	010.733.0073	
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Term ending 2004		
Lee DeMets	215.997.0219	
Paul Kinsey Stephanie Liem	215.672.9311 610.642.3209	
Glenna Sprang	610.497.4135	
Term ending 2005		
Catherine Robinson	610.626.4429	
Bruce Shultz Kim Beamon	215.729.3114 610.834.7639	
Marcia Mau	610.692.5009	
Term ending 2006		
James Batt	215.233.3970	
Phil Shade Katherine Reier	215.723.7907 215.517.4160	
Yoshiko Seavey	610.688.6268	
APPOINTED POSITIONS		
Chapter Telephone Catherine Robinson	610.626.4429	
Competition Committee Chair	010.020.4429	
Alan Morrison Education Chair	215.735.8259	
Mib Campbell	610.917.0649	
Examinations Coordinator Gary Garletts	610.853.8295	
Placement		
Frank Orman (Churches needing musicians; Musicia	610.584.0909	
Professional Concerns Chair	•	
Judy Lang Restricted Funds Chair	610.623.8069	
Mark Rippel	610.353.2763	
TAO Articles Corrspondent Marcia Mau	610.692.5009	
Tuesday Noon Recitals Coordinator		
Andy Heller Vision Task Force	610.789.0146	
Rae Ann Anderson	610.667.4921	
David Furniss Volunteer Coordinator	215.699.6374	
Loretta Hartnett	610.352.5441	
<b>REGIONAL/NATIONAL OFFICERS</b>		
AGO Region III Education Chair David Herman	302.733.0529	
Director-National Convention Comm	ittee	
Dennis Elwell	610.658.2128	
CHAPTER TELEPHONE NUMBER 215.727.2762		
n plidnop www	'n	

www.agophila.org

## SUBSTITUTE LIST

This list is published as a courtesy to the chapter membership. Only members of the Philadelphia AGO Chapter available for regularly-scheduled services are listed. Although the AGO assumes no responsibility for the musicianship or reliability of substitute organists, Guild certificates and other degree programs indicate preparation beyond the minimum.

Substitute	Location	Phone Number
Lawrence C. Bandfield*	Philadelphia, PA	215.563.5552
Sharon Bertha-MacCabe	Royersford, PA	610.948.9055
Dr. Norman Caldwell-Coombs		215.849.1514
Rosemary Colson	Philadelphia, PA	215.848.1995
Doris J. Dabrowski	Philadelphia, PA	215.387.6635
A. David Deery	Phoenixville, PA	610.933.3666
Jeremy J. Flood, MD, CAGO	Philadelphia, PA	215.625.2747
Elizabeth Forsyth	Doylestown, PA	215.230.0593
Robert H. Frederick	Philadelphia, PA	215.755.7648
Lisa Guglielmo	Glenmoore, PA	610.913.0803
W. Franklin Hoxter, Jr.	Philadelphia, PA	215.424.5406
James D. Ingles	Ardmore, PA	610.658.5813
Dorothy M. Jennings	Feasterville, PA	215.357.1910
Joel E. Klingman	Southampton, PA	215.355.8445
Carl Kunkel	Drexel Hill, PA	610.356.4179
Sarah Leamy		610.279.7186
Monica Liggins	Wyncote, PA	215.572.6437
Bruce R. Marshall	Philadelphia, PA	215.844.8343
Dr. Mardia Melroy	Maple Glen, PA	215.646.1975
Dr. Kathleen J. Moyer	Drexel Hill, PA	610.394.9682
Michael B. Peters	Pottstown, PA	610.327.3010
Katherine Reier	Abington, PA	215.517.4160
Jane Dougherty Smith	Haddonfield NJ	856.428.5334
Harry S. Solomon, Jr.	Philadelphia, PA	215.473.6228
Glenna M. Sprang	Boothwyn,PA	610.497.4135
Janet Stacy	Telford, PA	215.721.1897
Michael A. Taylor	Newark, DE	302.836.8122
Janet L. Tebbel	Philadelphia, PA	215.848.3915
Elaine E. Thomas	Bridgeport, PA	610.272.9946
Mary Louise Varricchione-Lyon	Doylestown, PA	215.348.9507
Karen Whitney	Philadelphia, PA	215.424.8450
Peter V. Young	Ardmore, PA	610.649.2526
Freda Zimmerman	Philadelphia, PA	215.698.1331

\*conducting only, no keyboard

# CRESCENDO

# **Calendar of Events**

Please include the following information when submitting items for inclusion in Crescendo or just copy and use this form. Calendar items are stored in a database so send them as early as you are able.

LOCATION INFORMATION:

Name
Address
Telephone #
Email address
Web site
EVENT INFORMATION:
Date
Time
Instrument
Name of Event (include performer, instrument, brief details)
□ Free □ Free-will offering □ \$ □ Other
Submitted by
Telephone #

Harry Wilkinson, Organist Continued from page 1

Philadelphia organist, Harry Wilkinson, will play the famous 1933 Girard College Chapel E. M. Skinner Organ. Dr. Wilkinson is Professor Emeritus, West Chester University of Pennsylvania (theory and organ) and was chair of the W.C.U. Theory/Composition Department. He has also been on the adjunct faculties of Chestnut Hill College and Beaver College (now Arcadia University). He holds the Ph.D. (theory) Eastman School of Music, and is a Fellow of the American Guild of Organists. His organ studies were with Harry C. Banks, Ernest White, Harold Gleason, and David Craighead. Wilkinson chaired the A.G.O. National Examination Committee (as then titled), 1973-1980; was Program Chair for the 1964 A.G.O. National Convention, and the 1977 International Congress of Organists. He was organist for many years of the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, then of other area churches. Currently he is organist at Jenkintown (Pa.) United Methodist Church. Two of his Pro Organo CD recordings of the Girard College Organ have been broadcast on P.B.S. Pipedreams, and on former "classical music station" WFLN.

The concert is free to AGO members and the public.

#### **DIRECTIONS TO GIRARD COLLEGE**

#### FROM I-76 WEST to GIRARD COLLEGE

- Take I-76 West to Girard Avenue exit. At top of ramp make a right to light. This is Girard Avenue. Make a right onto Girard Avenue. There will be metal trolley tracks on roadbed. Follow the tracks down Girard Avenue. When you get to a stone wall this is one side of Girard College. Follow tracks around school to entrance on left. Security will guide you once in the college.

#### FROM I-76 EAST to GIRARD COLLEGE

 Take I-76 EAST to Girard Avenue exit. At top of ramp make a left at light. This is Girard Avenue.. There will be metal trolley tracks on roadbed. Follow the tracks down Girard Avenue. When you get to a stone wall this is one side of Girard College. Follow tracks around school to entrance on left. Security will guide you once in the college.

#### FROM I-95 TO GIRARD COLLEGE

- Get off Girard Avenue exit. Continue on Girard, cross over Broad St. At Corinthian Street, make a right turn to school entrance. High stone wall will be on the right. Security will guide you once in the college.

#### FROM CENTRAL / NORTH JERSEY via. New Jersey Turnpike TO GIRARD COLLEGE

- Get off NJ Turnpike at Exit 4, take Route 73 North to Betsy Ross Bridge. Cross bridge and take I-95 South. Get off at Girard Avenue exit. Continue on Girard, cross over Broad St. At Corinthian Street, make a right turn to school entrance. High stone wall will be on the right. Security will guide you once in the college.

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### SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER PATRONS FOR 2003-2004

#### ANGEL

#### Paul Fejko

#### BENEFACTOR

Lauretta E. Miller

#### **S**PONSORS

Jeffrey Brillhart Charlotte W. George Joseph J. Lewis Alan Morrison Harry Wilkinson FAGO

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# CHAPTER EVENTS

Friday, November 14, 2003, 8:00 PM

Girard College, Philadelphia Harry Wilkinson, Organist

See cover article

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2004, 9:00 AM

Overbrook Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia January JumpStart / Author: Craig R. Whitney

A workshop experience geared toward the church musician seeking fresh ideas for a new year. Includes choral techniques, reading sessions for mixed choirs, youth, small choirs, children; and organ repertoire. After a catered noon luncheon, Craig R. Whitney, author and Assisting Managing Editor of the New York Times, will speak regarding his new book, *All the Stops: The Glorious Pipe Organ and Its American Masters*. This interesting book is built around the controversies which were generated over Ernest M. Skinner vs. G. Donald Harrison and Virgil Fox vs. E. Power Biggs. The book has been hailed as, "The best thing to happen to the pipe organ since the Erzahler." Let the wars continue! Lunch by reservation.

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2004, 8:00 PM

Philadelphia Legends I Celebrating the Legacy of Organ Culture in Philadelphia Joseph Jackson, Organist at First Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia

This is the first in a series over the coming years highlighting the people, instruments, churches (et cetera) and their music programs which have shaped the Philadelphia organ/music scene. Joseph Jackson will host the first event of this series, speaking about the church, its music program, its organs and organists. This will be followed by a recital on the recently installed Reuter Organ. A tour of the organ and a reception follow.

#### March 2004

Philadelphia Cathedral (Episcopal) Sacred Music: Sacred Space Details TBD

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 2004

Road trip to Washington, DC Washington National Cathedral Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

Bus transportation will be provided for up to 45 people to travel to Washington, DC to tour the organs of the Basilica and the Cathedral with an opportunity to play the National Cathedral organ. Dinner in the Washington, DC area. Cost and other details will be forthcoming.

#### FRIDAY, MAY 7, 2004: 8:00 PM

Wayne Presbyterian Church, Wayne Matthew Lewis, Organist

A native of Massachusetts, Dr. Lewis has been on the organ faculty and a graduate of the Juilliard School since 1993 (DMA). He is Organist and Director of Music at Church of the Incarnation (Episcopal) in New York City, as well as Organist and Choirmaster at Temple Israel, Lawrence, NY. He will perform on Wayne's IV / 87 1963 Austin Organ (new draw-knob console in 2003). He will also give a masterclass Saturday morning at 10 AM.

#### JUNE 2004: TBD

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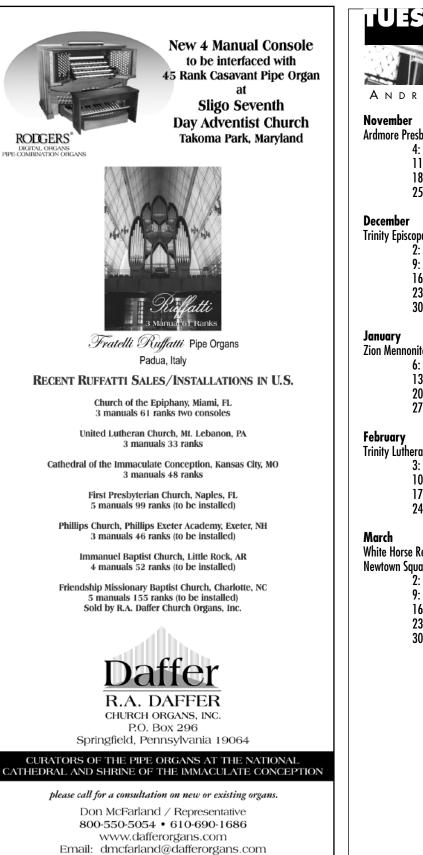
You could you assist with our chapter's web site by:

- Updating sections, then sending them to the webmaster
- Working with others to edit our "Favorite Links" section
- Develop and edit our "Featured Instruments" section

Could you be our webmaster? Do you work with any website publishing software such as Adobe GoLive or FrontPage?

IF ANY OF THIS APPLIES TO YOU, CONTACT ETHEL GEIST AT 215/529-1603 OR ETHELGEIST@COMCAST.NET

•••



# TUESDAY NOON RECITALS



#### ANDREW HELLER, COORDINATOR

Ardmore Presbyterian Church, Montgomery and Mill Rds, Ardmore

- 4: Paul Fejko
- 11: Gary Garletts
- 18: Robert Gallagher
- 25: Kevin Freaney

Trinity Episcopal Church, Old Bethlehem Pike and Highland Ave, Ambler

- 2: TBA
- 9: Katherine Reier
- 16: Barbara Hartenbauer
- 23: Stephen Schreiber
- 30: Andrew Heller

Zion Mennonite Church, Front St & Cherry Ln, Souderton

- 6: Vincent Ryan
- 13: Marian Archibald
- 20: Kirsten Olson
- 27: Martha Johnson

Trinity Lutheran Church, 1000 W Main St, Lansdale

- 3: Kirsten Olson
- 10: Kevin Daly
- 17: Rev. Bruce Thorsen 24: Yoshiko Seavey
- ZH. TUSHIKU JEUVEY

White Horse Retirement Community, Delchester and Gradyville Rds., Newtown Square, PA

- 2: Philip Gehman
- 9: Roy Harker
- 16: Michael Trinder
- 23: TBA
- 30: Michael Stairs

...



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# Quick! **Complete it and send it in!**

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## Dennis Elwell

**Overbrook Presbyterian Church - Philadelphia** Rowan University - Glassboro, NJ Temple University Center-City - Philadelphia

### Marjorie Lynch Shoemaker, C.A.G.O

First Presbyterian Church of Olney

# William J. Gatens, D. Phil., F.A.G.O., Ch.M.

Church of the Good Shepherd, Rosemont Congregation Adath Jeshurun, Elkins Park American Record Guide

Roy Harker **Church of Saint Asaph** Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania



# SAINT THOMAS' CHURCH, WHITEMARSH



Organ Rededication Recital

Featuring

# Jeffrey Brillhart, Organist

on the newly refurbished 1964 Casavant Frères Ltée Organ

# NOVEMBER 16, 2003

# 3:00 P.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

# FREE WILL OFFERING

PERFORMING WORKS BY Alain, Buxtehude, Howells, Bach, Vierne, Reger, Duruflé

### REVIEWS

Jeffrey Brillhart's splendid performance was an exciting conclusion to the concert and to the convention."—David Herman, for <u>The American Organist</u>, October 1999.

"Jeffrey Brillhart... conducted with a passion and precision rarely encountered in this day and age... he oversaw every instance of the music as well as propelled that music to its consoling conclusion... this was the most successful overall performance of this great score I've heard." Michael Caruso, for <u>Chestnut Hill Local</u>, March 1996 performance of Verdi "Requiem."

# SAINT THOMAS' CHURCH, WHITEMARSH

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For information call James A. Batt, Minister of Music at 215-233-3970 or on the web at: www.stthomaswhitemarsh.org

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### ERIC GOMBERT, COORDINATOR

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1-23, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM DAILY

Chrysanthemum Festival. Concerts throughout the day, Saturdays & Sundays. Gardens admission: \$15/\$6/\$2 Longwood Gardens, US Rte 1, Kennett Square PA 610.388.1000 www.longwoodgardens.org

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 12:00 PM

The Philadelphia Classical Symphony-Musical Ghosts & Goblins. Karl Middleman, Artistic Director. This Family Halloween Fair & Concert in the grand cathedral space will be out of this world! Tickets: 610.664.8481. Philadelphia Cathedral (Episcopal), 3723 Chestnut St (38th & Chestnut), Philadelphia PA 215.386.0234 x122 music@philadelphiacathedral.org

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 6:00 PM

Esther Wideman, organ, with Albert Falkove, viola. J.W. Walker Organ. Viola Concerto by Telemann & works by Bach, Corelli, Saint-Saens & Messiaen. Free-will offering. Chestnut Hill SDA Church, 8700 Germantown Blvd, Philadelphia PA 215.233.0562

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 8:00 PM (ORGAN PRELUDE BEGINS 7:30 PM)

"Romantic Mysticism: French & English music for choir & organ" Bucks County Choral Society, Thomas Lloyd, Artistic Director, with Jeffrey Brillhart, organ & Jason Switzer, baritone. Faure Requiem & Vaughan Williams Mystical Songs. Suggested donation: \$20 National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, 654 Ferry Rd, Doylestown PA www.buckschoral.org 215.598.6142

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 8:00 PM

Ursinus College Choir. John French, conductor; Alan Morrison, organ. Durufle Requiem. Ursinus College-Bomberger Hall, Collegeville PA www.ursinus.edu

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 4:00 PM

Solemn Evensong for All Saints & All Souls. St. Mary's Choir & Soloists. Gordon Turk, Choirmaster. Music of Poulenc. Free-will offering. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Lancaster & Louella Aves, Wayne PA 610.688.1313

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 4:30 PM

Choral Evensong for All Saints sung by the Parish Choir, William J. Gatens, Choirmaster. Works to include Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis in B-flat by Purcell and "O quam gloriosum" by Victoria. Preceded at 4:00 with a vocal recital by section leaders. Church of the Good Shepherd, Lancaster and Montrose Aves, Rosemont PA 610.525.7070

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 5:00 PM

Choral Evensong. The St. Martin's Choir, Ken Lovett, director. Works of James Buonemani, Jack Ossewaarde & C.V. Stanford. Childcare provided. Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Willow Grove Ave & St Martin's Ln, Chestnut Hill PA 215.247.7466

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 9:00 PM

Sunday Night Prayer for the Departed-All Soul's Day. Gregorian chant, incense, and contemplative silence in commemoration of the departed. Philadelphia Cathedral (Episcopal), 3723 Chestnut St (38th & Chestnut), Philadelphia PA 215.386.0234 x122 music@philadelphiacathedral.org

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 12:00 PM

PAUL FEJKO, organ. Ardmore Presbyterian Church, 5 W Montgomery Ave @ Mill Rd, Ardmore PA 610.642.6650

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 7:30 PM

An Evening of Bernstein, Sondheim, & Weill. Jason Vodicka, piano; Charles Walker, tenor; Cindy Lesser, soprano. Call 215.862.2432 for tickets. Odette's Restaurant & Theater, 274 S River Rd, New Hope PA info@odettes.com

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 7:30 PM

Gordon Turk, organ. Works of Bach, Dello Joio, Franck, Guilmant. Suggested donation: \$5 St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 32 S 5th St, Allentown PA 610.435.1641

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 7:30 PM

Music for the Theater. Guest soloists Kathryn Thomas Moyer, Robin Massie, Alyson Harvey, Sara Blann, Charles Walker, Scott Williamson, & Leon Williams. Also the Pennsbury HS choirs & Pennsbury Community Chorus. Tickets: \$10. Pennsbury HS East Campus

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 8:00 PM

Cantores Vocal Ensemble performs Brahms' Op. 52 Liebeslieder, Debussy's Trois Chansons, & music of Healey Willan & Halsey Stevens. Christ Church, 2nd St above Market, Philadelphia PA

#### SATURDAY/SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8/9, 7:30 PM

Wayne Oratorio Society. William Walton: Beshazzar's Feast & The Coronation Te Deum/Daniel Pinkham: Letters from St. Paul (Matthew Pressley, tenor) 180 voice choir, orchestra & soloists. Free. Wayne Presbyterian Church, 125 E. Lancaster Ave, Wayne PA 610.688.8700 www.waynepres.org

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 7:30 PM

Chichester Psalms & other works. Mr. Alexander Bernstein, guest speaker. Guest soloists K Thomas Moyer, R Massie, A Harvey, S Blann, C Walker, S Williamson, & L Williams. Also the Pennsbury Bernstein Choir & guest orchestra.Tickets \$10. Pennsbury HS East

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## ERIC GOMBERT, COORDINATOR

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 3:30 PM

Clair Rozier, organ. Works of Dandrieu, Bach, Schumann & Albright. Free-will offering. St. David's Episcopal Church (Old Church,) 763 Valley Forge Rd, Wayne PA 610.688.7947 www.stdavidschurch.org

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 4:00 PM

"Symphony of Hymns (and More!)" Glenn Kinckner & Linda Lorgus, organ & piano recital. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 10 W Pleasant Grove Rd, West Chester PA 610.399.3377 www.westminsterpc.org

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 4:00 PM

Philadelphia Brass. Donation: \$8 Cathedral Church of the Nativity, 321 Wyandotte St, Bethlehem PA 610.865.0727 www.nativitycathedral.org

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 12:00 PM

GARY GARLETTS, organ. Ardmore Presbyterian Church, 5 W Montgomery Ave @ Mill Rd, Ardmore PA 610.642.6650

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 8:00 PM

HARRY WILKINSON, organist. (preceded by dinner-reservations req'd at 6:00) Girard College, Philadelphia

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 8:00 PM

Joseph Gramley, multi-percussionist. Free-will donation. Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1000 W Main St, Lansdale PA 215.368.1710 www.trinitylansdale.com/concerts

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 7:00 PM

Gordon Turk, organ. Free-will offering. Trinity United Methodist Church, 36 W Maple Ave, Merchantville NJ 856.665.1806 info@gotrinity.org

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 4:00 PM

Evensong sung by the choir of St. Mark's Church, Philadelphia. Donald Nally, director. Free-will offering. St. James Episcopal Church, 119 N Duke St, Lancaster PA 717.397.4858 www.stjameslanpa.org

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 4:00 PM

Robert Wech, organ. 35-rank Austin. Free. St. John's Lutheran Church, 425 Jefferson Ave, Scranton PA 570.472.3498

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 4:00 PM

Timothy Olsen, organ. First place winner of the 2002 AGO NYACOP Competition. Free-will offering. St. John's United Church of Christ, 500 W Main St, Lansdale PA 215.855.5489 www.st-johns-ucc.org

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 12:00 PM

ROBERT GALLAGHER, organ. Ardmore Presbyterian Church, 5 W Montgomery Ave @ Mill Rd, Ardmore PA 610.642.6650

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 4:00 PM

Gordon Turk, organ. Free-will offering. Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 58th & Race Sts, Philadelphia PA

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 4:30 PM

Choral Evensong for Christ the King Sunday sung by the Valley Forge Choir of Men & Boys, Ronald Howell, Choirmaster. Works to include Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis in D major by T.A. Walmisley. Church of the Good Shepherd, Lancaster and Montrose Aves, Rosemont PA 610.525.7070

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 12:00 PM

KEVIN FREANEY, organ. Ardmore Presbyterian Church, 5 W Montgomery Ave @ Mill Rd, Ardmore PA 610.642.6650

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2003-SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2004

A Longwood Gardens Christmas. Daily afternoon Organ Sing-Alongs and evening concerts. Gardens admission: \$15/\$6/\$2 Longwood Gardens-Special Events Pavilion, US Rte 1, Kennett Square PA 610.388.1000 www.longwoodgardens.org

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 4:00 PM

Marvin Mills, organ. Dedication of new 3m AP-31 Allen Organ. Greater St. Matthew Independent Church, 5544 Race St, Philadelphia PA 215.472.6537

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# VOX HUMANA

# THE KIMMEL CENTER ORGAN-THE REAL STORY The Building of the Kimmel Center Concert Hall Organ Part Three: Taking the Leap

Jeffrey Brillhart, Frederick R. Haas

hoosing a builder for a major new pipe organ is without question one of the supreme joys in an organist's life. The responsibility for choosing the organ builder who would craft an instrument that would partner with The Philadelphia Orchestra was both exhilarating and daunting! Envisioning the legacy of an instrument that would exist for many future generations of concert-goers had a sobering effect on us.

Fortunately for this committee, the selection process took place during one of the most exciting eras of concert hall organ building. Artisans were building organs that reflected the best of every era of organ building.

Because of the extraordinarily high quality of organ building, every organ we visited impressed us. Each instrument had its own distinctive personality. Each instrument contained stops which were among the most beautiful we had heard. Each instrument was a joy to play and to hear. All of the organ builders had attributes which we desired for this project.

As exciting as all this was, having such a wealth of options made the final selection of the organ builder the cause of many sleepless nights. How would we be able to decide WHO should build this incredibly important organ?

Complicating the decision was that we were choosing a builder for a hall that existed only on paper. We were planning an organ for a hall whose drawings included little space for an organ.

As exciting as all this was, having such a wealth of options made the final selection of the organ builder the cause of many sleepless nights. How would we be able to decide WHO should build this incredibly important organ?

At the start of the RPAC project, the idea of a pipe organ was not much more than an afterthought. The only nod to the concept of an organ's presence was a rough drawing of some pipes at the front of the balcony areas over the stage. The size of the pipe chambers, the façade design and structural elements were yet to be determined.

A computerized acoustical design had been planned. At the push of some buttons canopies would rise or fall and doors to sound resonating chambers would open or close, thereby maximizing or minimizing the reverberation of the hall. Russell Johnson, the acoustical designer, had a sterling reputation but no one knew for certain whether this hall's acoustic would ultimately be sympathetic to an organ.

Right where the organ SHOULD be placed, preliminary drawings showed space being devoted to the equipment to raise and lower the massive canopy that reflected sound from the stage. These floating canopies needed a lot of room for supporting struts that would take up valuable space backstage.

George Schaeffer, the construction liaison, was actively involved in behind-the-scenes discussions on how to maximize the space for the pipe chambers, yet still allow all the struts for the canopies to be in place.

The complexity of the decision was also compounded by the reality that no money had been allocated for a pipe organ in the concert hall project's budget. It became clear to us that we who would choose the builder would also have much of the responsibility to raise the money to build the organ.

These issues played a critical role in the selection process. After our extensive audition process, we then narrowed the playing

Continued on page 13

Kimmel Center Organ Continued from page 12

field to three builders. We drafted a Request for Proposal (RFP) and waited for the builders' responses.

Which proposal would best meet the needs of the hall? Which plan would catapult Philadelphia into the forefront of the organ world? And, most critical at this phase of the building project: Which builder would be able to work most effectively with the architect, acoustician, and project manager?

After reviewing each of the builders' proposals, we set about the task of further narrowing the playing field to two.

In reviewing these proposals we looked for originality. We looked for elements that reflected a builder's quest to blaze new directions in organ building while respecting historic organ building traditions. We looked for signs that the builder had really put his best foot forward. Above all we looked for signs that showed which builder most shared our vision for an exceptional instrument.

This process led to final face-to-face interviews with the two finalists. We knew either could build a glorious instrument for Philadelphia.

You all know, of course, that Lynn Dobson was chosen. A few reasons became evident during the final interview:

The proposed stoplist showed daring originality. After exhaustively studying "The Philadelphia Sound," Dobson concluded that this organ ought to reflect The Orchestra's rich German romantic roots. This would be the first modern organ to reflect the great traditions of mid-19th century German builders such as Ladegast - Liszt's favorite organ builder. It would also be inspired by the best of American romantic organ traditions embodied by Hook and Hastings, for example.

Challenges were viewed as opportunities. We required a second remote console that allowed the organist for the orchestra the option of either performing on stage or at the built-in console. The challenge of adding electric action to a large mechanical organ was treated as a bonus by Lynn and his engineers. This would enable everything from sub and super couplers to the possibility of Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI) technology.

Dobson had a fine track record of working with exacting architects on challenging projects. We had sensed that this could be the case in Philadelphia and it was imperative that the organ builder function well in such circumstances. His talents proved to be a godsend when it came time to negotiate adequate space for the organ. From the extremely limited space initially allotted for the organ, there is now optimum space.

Dobson's philosophy of case design and an acknowledged ability to integrate a case into a difficult architectural situation had great appeal.

While we had the utmost confidence in the acoustician, Russell Johnson, we were impressed with Dobson's ability to overcome difficult acoustical conditions.

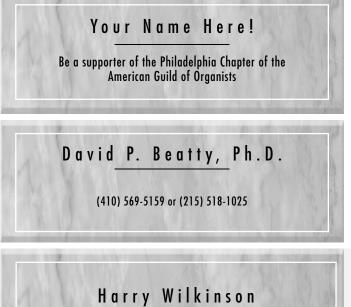
In a presentation to the AGO last year, Jeff said that "Lynn Dobson is an organ builder whose career has followed an even, upward path. His track

record of building impeccably crafted, reliable, elegant, musical pipe organs is stunning. He is an organ builder who never rests on his laurels, who is never content to merely repeat a success. He is an organ builder whom other organ builders respect and admire. He is an artist who constantly seeks answers, solutions, ideas, perfection. He is the right organ builder for this project. His creation in this space will inspire our successors and their children."

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Now that you've read a little of the background and the selection process, we'll get to that part that most excites the organist: The Stoplist. Stay tuned!

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Ph.D., F.A.G.O.

# VOX HUMANA

#### Timothy Olsen to Be Featured in Area Recital

During the 2002 National Convention in Philadelphia, the National Young Artists Competition in Organ Playing was held at First Presbyterian Church. Winning first prize in the competition was Timothy Olsen, whose award included career development assistance provided by Karen McFarlane Artists. Mr. Olsen will be returning to the area to perform on Sunday, November 16, at 4:00 pm, at St. John's United Church of Christ, 500 West Main Street in Lansdale. Mr. Olsen is currently serving in two capacities as sabbatical replacement: he is filling a two-year appointment at Cornell University as Acting University Organist and a fall term appointment as adjunct instructor of organ at the State University of New York at Binghamton. He is in the process of completing his doctoral studies as a student of David Higgs at the Eastman School of Music, where he received the Master of Music in Organ Performance and Literature in 2000. For more information about the recital in Lansdale, call the church at 215-855-5489 or visit the church's web site at www.st-johns-ucc.org.

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#### **Postcards from Camp:**

### Arnold Schoenberg:

Dear ma & pa. How are you? I am fine. Love Arnold. Arnold love, fine am I. You are how? Pa & ma dear. DlonrA evoL .enif ma I ?uoy era woH .ap & am raeD ..read am & ap ?woh era uoy .I ma enif ,evol dlonrA

#### Philip Glass:

Hello heh heh hello, o-hell o-hell oh ellow ellow heh heh heh hello mama mama muh muh muh-mah, ah ah ah ahhhhh! Aye aye aye aye aye yam yam yam yam Eye yam yam Fie aye aye aye fuh fuh fuh fie un yun yun yun Hah hah aha hah ow ow ow wow ow wow ow ow ah hah aha haha are are are are yuh huh huh h uh yuh you? Oooh. Oooooooh. -Philip

#### John Cage:

-John

Anton Webern (c. 1913): Hello. Hel. H. Ol-leh. Lo. Fi. I am I Fine.

Morton Feldman (c.1986): He. H. He. He. H. H. H. Hel. He. Hel. He. H. He. Hel-lo. He. H. Lo. L. He. Hel. Hel-lo. How. H. How. H. Are. Are. How. You. You. How. H.

Pierre Boulez (c. 1952): X=cm2 1x2x3 A+C Schoenberg is dead. Q to N

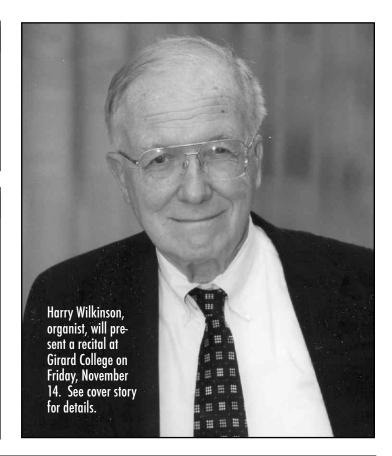
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References & Samples available upon request.

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