

# CRESCENDO

FEBRUARY 2010

VOLUME LXXII, NO. 6

NEWSLETTER OF THE PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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## Chapter & Regional Competition Winner, Tom Sheehan, in Concert

Sunday, 28 February 2010, 4:00 pm

Grace Epiphany Episcopal Church, Mt. Airy  
224 East Gowen Avenue  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19119

**T**om Sheehan currently serves as Organ Scholar at Trinity Episcopal Church, Princeton, New Jersey, and is in his senior year as an organ performance major at Westminster Choir College, studying with Ken Cowan. In 2009 he was awarded first prize in both the Arthur Poister National Competition in Organ Playing, and the AGO/Quimby Regional Competition for the Mid-Atlantic Region (Region III). 2009-2010 performances include appearances in New York City, NY (St. Bartholomew's Church), Lancaster, PA, Chestertown, MD, Chambersburg, PA, and Little Rock, AR. In July, 2010 he will be a featured "Rising Star" performer at the National Convention of the American Guild of Organists in Washington, D.C. An experienced accompanist, he has performed frequently with the Westminster Chapel Choir and the Westminster Schola Cantorum. In 2007, Mr. Sheehan toured England with the Trinity Church Choir, including performances at St. Paul's Cathedral, London; Blackburn Cathedral; St. John's Chapel, Cambridge, under the direction of Tom Whitemore.

Grace Epiphany is home to the three manual, 31 rank, E. M. Skinner Opus 320, installed in 1921.

Grace Epiphany Church is located at the corner of Gowen Avenue and Ardleigh Street, in Mount Airy (Philadelphia). It is easily accessible by public transportation, on the #23 (Germantown Avenue) SEPTA bus route, as well as the L and H routes. It is one block from Mt. Airy station on the R7 (Chestnut Hill East) SEPTA rail line.



**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 supplied in an attachment), or mailed. A hard copy should be included for display ads. 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.

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Composition/Design, add \$95 per hour.

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FEBRUARY 2010

**CRESCENDO**

VOLUME LXXII, NO. 6

D E A N ' S L E T T E R

This month, before presenting a puzzle for us to consider, I want to convey my deep appreciation to all those who have made our recent January Jumpstart possible. This is a keystone event in the life of this chapter. As the AGO is chartered as an educational organization, this annual event is the reflection of our core mission.

During the past year, Sue Petura has undertaken the daunting task of coordinating the event. In countless telephone and email communications, she has been absorbing all the information and lessons-learned that Katherine Reier could provide, and applying such to this year's event. Thanks to Katherine, for setting the bar so high in the past several years, and for her willingness to share so much of her knowledge with Sue. Thanks to Sue, whose dedication to this event, and thus our chapter, has been unsurpassed. I encourage each of you to thank these folks personally.

We also continue to be deeply appreciative to Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church and the Music and Fine Arts staff (Jeff Brillhart, Jim Batt, and Stephanie Speakman) for hosting us in their magnificent physical plant with outstanding instruments. Many of our members, and members of nearby chapters, have also contributed their time as workshop presenters, accompanists, registration facilitators, and miscellaneous (yet essential) volunteers. Without this level of participation, this event would not occur. If you have not given your time in prior January Jumpstarts, please consider pledging of your time or talent to next year's event! We are a volunteer organization, and it is the dedication of volunteers that keeps this chapter alive.

Kudos Sue!

"PPP: Peddler, Pinocchio, and Pygmalion"

Within the American Guild of Organists, the letters PPP often refer to "Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza", an event geared to introducing young people to the organ. While that event has a place in this month's missive, the three P's that I'm addressing are "Peddler, Pinocchio, and Pygmalion". Some aspect of each of these characters, drawn from disparate sources, ties to the life of many organists, and the combination presents a conundrum most appropriate for the Lenten season.

The particular "Peddler" to which I refer is that character described in Tom Lehrer's song "The Old Dope Peddler". Specifically the lines

"He gives the kids free samples,  
because he knows full well  
that today's young innocent victims  
will be tomorrow's clientele."

*Continued on page 10*



David Beatty

#### CHAPTER EVENTS IN REVIEW



*Philadelphia Chapter Officers at holiday party: (l-r backrow: Registrar Joe Lewis, Dean David Beatty, Sub-Dean Rudy Lucente, (l-r frontrow) Treasurer Gerry Troy, Crescendo Publisher and Host Roy Harker, Secretary Maria Ellis.*

**Philadelphia, PA, January 3, 2010.** Philadelphia Chapter Members gathered for an elegant potluck Dinner at the home of *Crescendo* publisher, Roy Harker and Bob Ranando. Their stately home and graciousness provided the perfect setting to escape the chill of winter and relax after our hectic schedules during the Christmas holiday.

—Elizabeth Cochran

**More photos follow on pages 11, 12, and 13**



## REGISTRAR'S CORNER

JOE LEWIS, REGISTRAR

## REDUCED DUES PROGRAM FOR NEW MEMBERS FOR THE REMAINDER of the 2009-10 YEAR

Please don't forget that the National Headquarter's REDUCED DUES PROGRAM FOR BRAND NEW MEMBERS is now in effect from February 1 through March 31. What a great way for future potential long-time members to get acquainted with the advantages of AGO membership without waiting for our next membership drive starting this May. Nine issues of The American Organist are included with this offer, and this is the only dues discount that the AGO headquarters allows, since dues are not pro-rated. Please do what you can to help subscribe new members, since members like YOU are our greatest advertisement! Send me the name and address/e mail of a potential member, and I will mail them a form.

Here are the Reduced Dues rates:

- Regular = \$68.
- Special = \$50.
- Full-time Student = \$28.
- Dual Member = \$26.
- Dual Student = \$10.
- Partner = \$50.
- Chapter Friend = \$23.

## CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

At publication time, we stand at 386 members. We hope to have many newcomers join based on the January Jumpstart brochures, and more will surely take advantage of the Reduced Dues offer before the end of the program.

## PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER AGO MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY for 2009-10

Thank you to all those who updated their data for the Directory. Thank you also to publisher Roy Harker, and to Katherine Reier and her staff in getting the finished copies out to the membership. It should be accompanying the February *Crescendo* in your mail. Those who get the electronic version of *Crescendo* will be mailed the Directory separately. Please contact me if you have any questions (610-935-0895 or registrar@agophila.org.)

Thank you.

Joe Lewis, Registrar  
Registrar@agophila.org

...

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AMERICAN GUILD  
OF ORGANISTS

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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?  
Need to purchase a set of chapter mailing labels for your next music event?

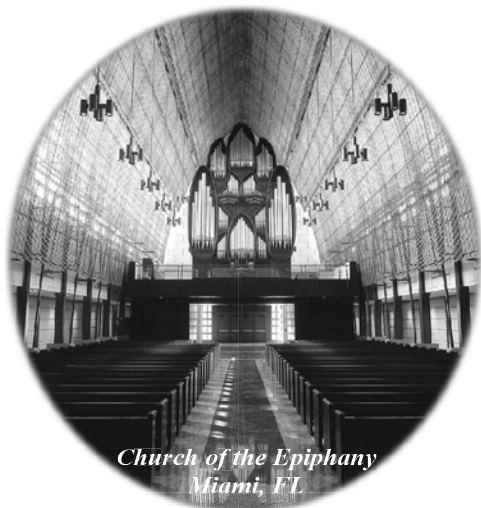
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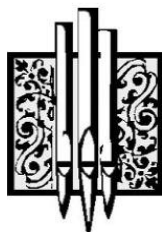


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## CHAPTER EVENTS

## 2009-2010 PROGRAM YEAR

**Sunday, 27 September, 2009, 4:00 pm**  
First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia  
Evensong and Installation of Officers

**Saturday, 3 October, 2009, 11:00 am**  
St. Mark's Locust St., Philadelphia  
A weekend with Barry Rose

**Sunday, 8 November, 2009, 4:00 pm**  
St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Chestnut Hill  
Members Recital: Music of Felix Mendelssohn

**Sunday, January 3, 2010, 5:00-8:00pm**  
A Holiday Party  
Pot-luck Dinner and Christmas Conviviality  
Home of Roy Harker and Bob Ranando, Philadelphia, PA

**Saturday, 16 January, 2010**  
Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church  
January Jumpstart

**Sunday, 28 February, 2010, 4:00pm**  
Grace Epiphany, Mt. Airy  
Chapter and Regional competition winner, Tom Sheehan, in concert

**Sunday, 18 April, 2010, 4:00pm**  
Trinity Lutheran, Lansdale  
Recital: Isabelle Demers

**Saturday, 8 May, 2010 (tentative)**  
An Introduction to the Organ for children

**Sunday, 13 June, 2010**  
End of Season Celebration  
Spirit of Philadelphia Cruise (tentative)

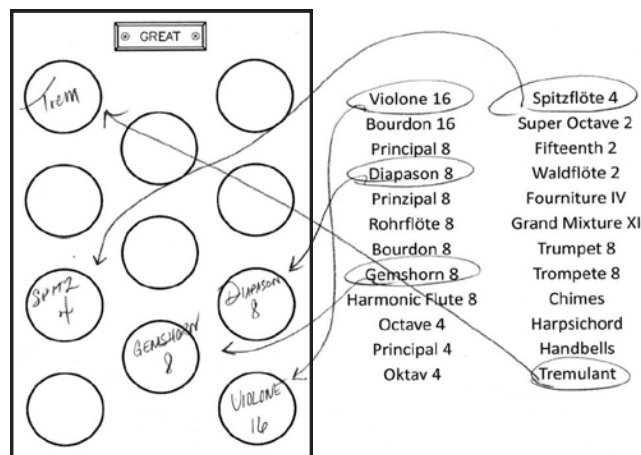
**Kimmel Center Presents: Master Musicians: Organ**  
Co-sponsored by the  
Philadelphia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

**Saturday, 17 October, 2009, 3:00pm**  
OLIVIER LATRY

**Saturday, 6 March, 2010, 3:00pm**  
CAMERON CARPENTER

**Saturday, 8 May, 2010, 3:00pm**  
PAUL JACOBS

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Fund. The purpose of this fund is to expand programs for leadership development among AGO members, to educate new organists, and to cultivate new audiences for organ and choral music. This fund is prudently administered by the Chapter's Endowment

Committee. Tax-deductible contributions to the Endowment Fund are invested in perpetuity to produce continuing income support for the Chapter's educational programs and projects. Contributions may be accepted in the form of cash, stocks, bonds, real estate, or other assets. You are also encouraged to consider including the AGO Philadelphia Chapter in your will and bequests. Prior consultation with your financial advisor and/or legal counsel is advised. For providing your gifts or seeking further information, please contact the Chair of the

Endowment Committee by e-mail at

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*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.*

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 12:00 PM**

Bucky Clark, organ. Philadelphia AGO's Tuesday Noon Recitals. Free admission. Organ: M.P. Moller, 3/68, 1969. Abington Presbyterian Church, 1082 Old York Rd, Abington PA 215.887.4530  
[www.apcusa.org/MusicatAbington](http://www.apcusa.org/MusicatAbington)

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 5:30 PM**

Due Solisti (Zofie Vokalkova, flute and Kathleen Scheide, harpsichord). Works by Bach, Forqueray, LeClair and Roesgen-Champion. Free admission. Bedminster Dillon Library, 2336 Lamington Road, Bedminster, New Jersey. 908.234.2325

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 12:30 PM**

Due Solisti (Zofie Vokalkova, flute and Kathleen Scheide, harpsichord). Works by Bach, Forqueray, LeClair and Roesgen-Champion. Donation. Church of the Holy Trinity, Rittenhouse Square, 1904 Walnut St., Phila, PA 215.567.1267 [www.htrit.org](http://www.htrit.org)

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 12:30 PM**

Michael Britt, organ. After Noon Concert Series: 30-minute recitals on Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. Free admission. Princeton University-Chapel, Nassau and Washington Rds., Princeton NJ 609.258.3654  
[epultz@princeton.edu](mailto:epultz@princeton.edu) [www.princeton.edu/~choir/](http://www.princeton.edu/~choir/)

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 3:00 PM**

David Clark Little, organ and keyboard. Bach *Preludes and Fugues* and Mozart *Sonatas*. Free will offering. First Presbyterian Church, 502 N. Easton Rd, Willow Grove, PA 215.659.5938 <http://firstpreswg.org>

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 4:00 PM**

A concert of African-American sacred music; Lis Stevens, soprano. Repertoire featured include selections composed or arranged by H.T. Burleigh, William Grant Still and Donald Dumpson. Free admission with a suggested donation \$15. First United Methodist Church of Germantown, 6001 Germantown Ave, Philadelphia PA 215.438.3677  
[www.fumcog.org/music](http://www.fumcog.org/music)

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 5:00 PM**

The St. Martin's Choir, Ken Lovett, director. William Mathias: *Canticles* (Jesus College); C. Hubert H. Parry: *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*. Handicap accessible; childcare provided. Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Willow Grove Ave & St Martin's Ln, Chestnut Hill PA 215.247.7466  
[www.StMartinEC.org](http://www.StMartinEC.org)

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 7:30 PM**

The St. Olaf Choir, Anton Armstrong, director, sponsored by The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. Tickets at [stolafickets.com](http://stolafickets.com). Verizon Hall, The Kimmel Center 215.893.1999 [www.kimmelcenter.org](http://www.kimmelcenter.org)

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 12:00 PM**

Katherine Reier, organ. Philadelphia AGO's Tuesday Noon Recitals. Free admission. Organ: M.P. Moller, 3/68, 1969. Abington Presbyterian Church, 1082 Old York Rd, Abington PA 215.887.4530  
[www.apcusa.org/MusicatAbington](http://www.apcusa.org/MusicatAbington)

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 12:30 PM**

Taione Martinez, organ. After Noon Concert Series: 30-minute recitals on Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. Free admission. Princeton University-Chapel, Nassau and Washington Rds., Princeton NJ 609.258.3654  
[epultz@princeton.edu](mailto:epultz@princeton.edu) [www.princeton.edu/~choir/](http://www.princeton.edu/~choir/)

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 8:00 PM**

Conspirare, professional choir from Austin, Texas under the direction of Craig Hella Johnson. Celebrating the centennial of Samuel Barber's birth in West Chester and membership at First Presbyterian Church. Free will offering. First Presbyterian Church, 130 W Miner St, West Chester PA 610.696.0554 [www.firstpreswc.com](http://www.firstpreswc.com)

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 4:00 PM**

Jeff Fowler, organ. Works by Elgar, Franck, Gigout, Guilmant, Mendelssohn, Vierne. 1963 Austin, IV/87. Wayne Presbyterian Church, 125 E. Lancaster Ave, Wayne PA 610.688.8700 [www.waynepres.org](http://www.waynepres.org)

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 12:00 PM**

Ethel Geist, organ. Philadelphia AGO's Tuesday Noon Recitals. Free admission. Organ: M.P. Moller, 3/68, 1969. Abington Presbyterian Church, 1082 Old York Rd, Abington PA 215.887.4530  
[www.apcusa.org/MusicatAbington](http://www.apcusa.org/MusicatAbington)

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 12:30 PM**

F. Anthony Thurman, organ. After Noon Concert Series: 30-minute recitals on Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. Free admission. Princeton University-Chapel, Nassau and Washington Rds., Princeton NJ 609.258.3654  
[epultz@princeton.edu](mailto:epultz@princeton.edu) [www.princeton.edu/~choir/](http://www.princeton.edu/~choir/)

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 8:00 PM**

"Rule, Britannia!" University Organist Eric Plutz will perform English Organ Music. Admission \$15, students free. Princeton University-Chapel, Nassau and Washington Rds., Princeton NJ 609.258.3654  
[epultz@princeton.edu](mailto:epultz@princeton.edu) [www.princeton.edu/~choir/](http://www.princeton.edu/~choir/)

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 7:00 PM**

Cabaret Tonight! Members of the various ensembles and friends of Music at Abington will present a light-hearted evening of musical bonbons and delicious desserts in the renovated Parish Hall. Proceeds benefit Music at Abington. Call to purchase tickets. Abington Presbyterian Church, 1082 Old York Rd, Abington PA 215.887.4530  
[www.apcusa.org/MusicatAbington](http://www.apcusa.org/MusicatAbington)

Continued on page 11



## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

ALLEN POPJOY, COORDINATOR  
610-269-7069 ALLEN.POPJOY@AGOPHILA.ORG

### ORGANIST/MUSIC DIRECTOR

First Presbyterian Church  
118 West Main Street, Freehold, NJ 07728  
Phone: 732-462-0234  
Fax: 732-462-7621  
www.fpcfreeshold.org

First Presbyterian is seeking an organist/music director. Applicants should be Christian, and will be asked for a brief statement of faith and philosophy of church music.

The position requires approximately 15 hours per week, for one traditional worship service (September – May) and one blended worship service (June-August). There are currently two choirs, adult vocal and adult handbells. The music director will oversee the contemporary worship leader.

The organ is a two-manual Austin (Opus #2663), with 24 stops and 22 ranks. Other instruments include 5-octave Malmark handbells, 4-octave choir chimes, and a Hallet, Davis & Co. grand piano.

There is an opportunity to provide private instruction using church instruments.

There is a possibility to split the position between organist and director. Please send resume, brief statement of faith, and philosophy of church music ministry.

Contact: Revs. David or Cindy Bowman at the church address or phone listed above, or by e-mail: ceb6455@aol.com.

### ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Christ Church Ridley Park  
104 Nevin St. Ridley Park, PA 19078  
610-521-1626  
www.ChristChurchRidleyPark.org

Two Sunday services; one mid-week rehearsal; one adult choir. We are looking for an organist and choirmaster who has a good background in church music and the Anglican liturgy and is at home with more traditional hymnody and organ repertoire. Wonderful congregation and beautiful sanctuary designed by Theophilus Chandler/George Natress. Superb 3-manual, 74-stop pipe/digital Cornel Zimmer, 2003, featured on the cover of the Diapason magazine. Salary: \$17,000 - \$19,000. 4 weeks paid vacation. Send resume to Fr. Douglas Tompkins, Rector, at above address, or fax to 610-521-4988, or e-mail to dg.tompkins@verizon.net. Position description soon to be posted on web site.

### DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

St John's United Church of Christ  
315 Gay Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460  
610-933-5311

#### Responsibilities:

1. Shall be proficient in playing the Austin pipe organ with 2 manuals and 14 ranks in the sanctuary.
2. Shall be designated the primary organist. Therefore all playing of and maintenance to the organ shall be consulted with the Director of Music (DM).
3. Assist the Pastor in planning the order of service relating to music for all public worship of the church.
4. Have administrative responsibility for necessary replacement organist, pianist, and/or choir director. Any "guest" organist or pianist for public and private services must be agreed upon in consultation with the DM.
5. Have administrative responsibility for all invited musical groups including soloists and children's choirs.
6. Plan and have administrative functions for all music ministries including special music for services and weddings, funerals, etc.
7. Lead and direct the chancel choir for one Sunday morning and any special services from September through May, including up to 1.5 hour weekly rehearsals.
8. Lead and direct the primary choir to sing at approximately eight services annually between September and May including up to one 0.5 hour rehearsal weekly.
9. Responsible for weekly organ playing for one Sunday morning service in the sanctuary, one service on Christmas Eve, one service on Ash Wednesday, one service on Maundy Thursday, one service on Good Friday, two services on Easter Sunday, any special public services of worship, and First Sunday 9:30 am services in the sanctuary from October through May.
10. Perform other duties as assigned in consultation with the Pastor as appropriate to a DM.
11. The supervisor of the DM shall be the Pastor and employment authority shall rest with the Consistory with Spiritual Council serving as the Personnel Committee.

**Remuneration and Compensation:** The DM annually shall receive four Sundays off with pay. The DM is responsible to secure her/his own replacement. Vacation time may be taken in cooperation with the Pastor at any time during the church year except for Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday. Current annual salary is \$14,556.00, paid monthly.

**Option:** Lead and direct the 3-octave handbell/3-octave hand chime choir(s) to play at approximately eight services annually between September and May, including up to 1.5 hour weekly rehearsals for an additional annual salary of \$2,004.00, paid monthly.



Positions available  
Continued from page 8

Consideration may be given to separating the Organist from the Director of Choirs. Separate job descriptions may be obtained by contacting the church.

### ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Folcroft, PA  
610- 583-4977

St. John's is seeking a church musician to provide musical leadership to enhance our worship experience.

Responsibilities include:

- Playing the organ or electric piano for all services throughout the church year (one Sunday morning service, mid-week Lenten services and other festival services throughout the year)
- Selecting and preparing preludes, offertories and postludes appropriate to the day/liturgical season
- Planning, in consultation with the pastor and worship and music committee, special services (i.e. Thanksgiving, Good Friday, weddings, funerals etc).
- Selecting anthems for and directing the choir.

The position involves approximately 6-10 hours per week (Sunday morning along with evening choir rehearsal during the week). Interested candidates should contact Pastor Cindy Ray at the number above.

• • •

### Preview of Coming Chapter Event...

#### Kimmel Center Presents concert: Cameron Carpenter Saturday, 6 March, 2010

Pre-concert "Artist Chat" 2:15 pm, Concert 3:00 pm  
Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center, Broad and Spruce Streets  
Philadelphia, PA

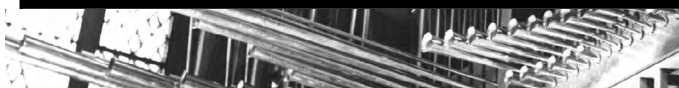
This season's series of Kimmel Center Presents organ concerts continues with Cameron Carpenter.

Carpenter, dubbed "The Maverick Organist" by The New York Times (2006), is known for his intensely personal, often flamboyant, performances. Cameron's repertoire spans the organ and piano literature; his original compositions; film scores, especially from Japanese animé; and improvisations influenced by folk song, jazz, disco and pop. From his use of color, to the concert clothes and organ shoes he designs - prompting press such as Women's Wear Daily to nickname him the "organist/runway model" - his approach to the organ is unique.

In early 2008 Cameron signed with TELARC® Records. His Telarc debut, *Revolutionary*, references Chopin's *Revolutionary Étude*. In 2008 he was appointed Artist-In-Residence at Middle Collegiate Church in New York

City's East Village, an ethnically and musically diverse congregation to which his tastes and abilities are perfectly suited. Cameron holds Bachelor's (2004) and Master's (2006) degrees from The Juilliard School in New York City.

### TUESDAY NOON RECITALS



ANDREW HELLER, COORDINATOR  
610-789-0146, ANDREW.HELLER@AGOPHILA.ORG

#### FEBRUARY, 2010

Abington Presbyterian Church  
1082 Old York Road (Route 611)  
Abington, PA. 19001

HOST ORGANIST: Ethel Geist (church: 215-887-4530)

ORGAN: Moller, 1969, 3 manuals, 68 ranks

#### RECITALISTS:

FEBRUARY 2: Bucky Clark  
9: Katherine Reier  
16: Ethel Geist  
23: Theodore Didde

NEXT MONTH (March): Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

Born in 1981 in rural northwestern Pennsylvania, Cameron was an acknowledged child prodigy who flourished under his parents' home schooling and then, from age 11, as a student at the American Boychoir School in Princeton, New Jersey. As a boy soprano he was a soloist in such venues as Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center and with pop star Joe Jackson on Jackson's 1994 album *Night Music*. He performed Bach's *Well-Tempered Clavier* at 11 and gave his European debut as an organist shortly after leaving the School at age 13. He later attended high school at the North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem, NC, where he was simultaneously organist of the First Baptist Church and Resident Organist at Reynolds House Museum of American Art, both in Winston-Salem.

Starting with his transcription for organ alone of Gustav Mahler's *Symphony No. 5* — a one-year project finished on his 16th birthday — pushing the limits of what is physically performable on the organ has been an ongoing passion. This continues today in his recent arrangements of virtuoso piano music (such as Liszt's *Mephisto Waltz No. 1* and Horowitz' *Variations on a theme from Bizet's 'Carmen'*).

Cameron's mentors are Dr. Beth Etter (formerly of Allegheny College, Meadville, PA, and his boyhood teacher from the age of 4), and the New York City-based pianist and Adele Marcus student Miles Fusco, with whom he coaches regularly. His high school studies were with Dr. John E. Mitchener and Clifton Matthews at the North Carolina School of the Arts; at The Juilliard School, he studied with Dr. Gerre Hancock, Dr. John Weaver, and Paul Jacobs.



Dean's Message  
Continued from page 2

Herein lies the connection to those AGO "Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza" events. In those events, as well as many of our other Organ Encounter events, like the Old Dope Peddler, we give the kids free samples. We know that they, like us, will become hooked (perhaps even addicted) to the organ and its music.

After becoming hooked on the instrument, these innocent victims undertake their study of the instrument. Teachers then act the part of Geppetto, carving this magic raw material into a Pinocchio of the organ world. Like Pinocchio, these characters spend their days wishing to be real, hoping that someday too they might secure those elusive positions wherein they can play the repertoire they love, employing an instrument that enables the performance of that literature, situated in a room that will allow the sounds to reverberate and bloom.

The situation is also similar to George Bernard Shaw's play, *Pygmalion*. Just as Eliza Doolittle's manner of expression was transformed from that of coarse Cockney flower girl to refined society lady, organ students are transformed in their manner of expression by their teachers. However, the core conundrum of the *Pygmalion* story remains in effect: after this transformation, what can Eliza Doolittle do? Her eyes (and ears) have been opened, such that she cannot happily return to her prior existence. She does not have the backing capital to enable her to continue within the society class whose manner of expression she now employs. Likewise, after teachers sculpt the raw materials into fine organists, how can the sculpted happily return to their prior existence? Was it fair of Henry Higgins to engage in the transformation without thinking through what would happen next? Should organ instruction even occur unless there are positions for organists available?

As we enter into the Lenten season, should we not feel guilty about the glut of Pinocchio organists, which many of us in the role of Pygmalion or the Old Dope Peddler, have created? They cannot return to their prior form of expression, but there are not positions for all of them to "become real".

David P. Beatty

...

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

REV. BRUCE THORSEN CHAPLAIN@AGOPHILA.ORG

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

— Matthew 6:21 NRSV

Advent and Christmas have passed, and Lent is fast approaching. I hope that all of you took a deep and long breath between Christmas and New Year's Day. Epiphany time seems short. February 17 and Ash Wednesday are right around the corner. Five weeks of Lent and then Holy Week & Easter- the church year doesn't stop! God's work never stops. What is important is our approach and our reason for the work we do.

Do we feel that we are on a treadmill? We may have those days. Do we feel that the work will never be done? In reality this is true. I believe that if we are aligned or attuned to God, our heart will be at peace within the stresses and strains of our work, the work God has called us to do.

Whether it be in a church, business, educational institution, or wherever your vocation is, there will be changes amidst the routine. The challenge is to stay centered. Lent is a good time to examine what is most important to us. Where our treasure is, our hearts will be also.

Many of us are called to be a catalyst for another persons' growth- musically, spiritually. We are called to encourage them to increase their health. Sometimes this may mean that anthem or other piece of music will not be just perfect. It may be more important to listen, to cut back just a little in order to help people feel more positive about themselves. It may be more important to take time to digest a text to grow spiritually. The true treasure is not about our rewards here but in heaven.

I challenge all of us to examine what is most important in the ministries we have. Lent is a season designated for this. This means that we may have to practice setting time aside to read and to sit quietly. Allow God to speak to us and to refresh us. Sitting quietly is a challenge, and as a result, it needs to be practiced.

When we are aligned and know where our true treasure is, when are hearts in tune with God, then we can let go and make music.

...



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 National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, PA

**Vincent M. Ryan**

Advent Lutheran Church, Harleysville, PA

*Calendar of Events  
 Continued from page 7*

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 12:00 PM**

Theodore Didden, organ. Philadelphia AGO's Tuesday Noon Recitals. Free admission. Organ: M.P. Moller, 3/68, 1969. Abington Presbyterian Church, 1082 Old York Rd, Abington PA 215.887.4530  
[www.apcusa.org/MusicatAbington](http://www.apcusa.org/MusicatAbington)

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 12:30 PM**

Craig Williams, organ. After Noon Concert Series: 30-minute recitals on Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. Free admission. Princeton University-Chapel, Nassau and Washington Rds., Princeton NJ 609.258.3654 [eplutz@princeton.edu](mailto:eplutz@princeton.edu) [www.princeton.edu/~choir/](http://www.princeton.edu/~choir/)

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 4:00 PM**

Lenten Concert, The Valley Forge Choir of Men and Boys, William Howell, Choirmaster. Free will offering. [www.vfboyschoir.org](http://www.vfboyschoir.org) Church of the Good Shepherd, Lancaster and Montrose Aves, Rosemont PA 610.525.7070

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**Images from the AGO Holiday Party...****Volunteer Opportunity**

At the end of this volume of *Crescendo*, our current **Editor-in-Chief, Carl Gedeik**, will be handing over this position to new leadership in the guild after serving for six years. The Philadelphia Chapter is currently looking for a member who can volunteer to take on this project on an ongoing basis beginning with the September 2010 issue.

The Editor-in-Chief's responsibility each month is to solicit, organize, fact-check, and proof articles, copy and photographs received from various chapter members and committees, and submit the completed volume to the publisher. The completed content, summarized in a Word document, is transmitted electroni-

cally upon completion, usually by the second week of each month. Material is due to the editor by the first of each month.

*Crescendo* provides an essential service to the Guild, along with the website, communicating our concerns, events, celebrations, and continuing education to musicians in the Delaware Valley and beyond. Your service to the Guild in this way is an invaluable gift to the craft and your colleagues.

If you think you would like to consider this service to the Guild, please be in touch with Roy Harker, Communications Coordinator, at [Roy.Harker@AGOPhila.org](mailto:Roy.Harker@AGOPhila.org).





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### Images from the AGO Holiday Party...





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

**Roy Harker**

Church of Saint Asaph  
 Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania

**Images from the AGO Holiday Party...**



# CRESCENDO

NEWSLETTER OF THE PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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