



THE E-COUPLER
February 2011 Edition
Edited by Craig Smith,
Chapter Publicist

FROM THE DEAN

One of the primary goals of the AGO is the mutual support that is offered to members through our magazine, *The American Organist*; through Chapter events that encourage us to keep in touch with each other and with trends in our profession; and the promotion of performances by local artists.

One such performance took place Saturday, February 19, at First Presbyterian Church in Santa Fe. Kathleen McIntosh, an outstanding harpsichordist with an international reputation, and a Santa Fe resident, presented a lecture-recital on Bach's *Goldberg Variations* to a packed audience in the intimate Chapel. You may remember our Chapter event a few years ago where Kathleen was a most gracious and charming hostess as she displayed and performed period music on her collection of harpsichords.

Supporting each other and the mission of the AGO can take many forms. If you haven't looked at the AGO National website recently, I urge you to do so. The Guild has a number of initiatives aimed at fans of the organ. I know, these can also be found in *TAO*, but perhaps you haven't really taken the time to read those notices. We need a broad range of membership and support from musicians and community alike to maintain a vital chapter and be an active part of the Albuquerque/Santa Fe music scene. Throughout the year, workshops on topics pertinent to church music and scholarship are offered.

The March Chapter Event combines aspects of both in its exploration of French Classic organ literature. This is music of both style and substance, with the stylistic conventions that can seem a little intimidating. The purpose of the workshop is to increase awareness of the more accessible literature of the period and to de-mystify the exact nature of "good taste" in performance that many composers refer to. Marla Riggins-Clark and myself, will present this program on Saturday, March 19, 2 pm, at First Presbyterian Church (215 Locust St. NE) in Albuquerque.

With a late Easter (April 24), there is no Chapter event in April, but May gives you another chance to support not only a regional artist, but a talented young performer with a bright future in the organ world. Daniel O'Connor, winner of the Regional Young Organists Competition at our 2009 Region VII Convention here in Albuquerque, will present a recital at St. Luke Lutheran Church (9100 Menaul NE, Albuquerque). Details will follow soon.

Have you attended any Chapter events this year? If not, plan now to go to one or all of these excellent programs. See you there!

Jane

Jane Smith, Dean

ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER AGO

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NEWS FROM THE REGION AND NATIONAL

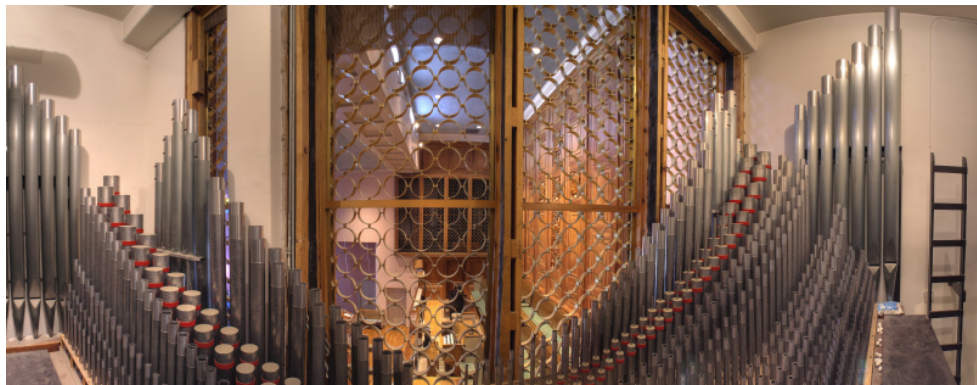
WIND & FIRE: AGO Region VII Convention 2011 June 12-15, 2011 Oklahoma City, OK You have probably already received your Convention Brochure with all the details about this exciting convention. Take some time to peruse it carefully and make your plans now to attend what promises to be an outstanding event! Early Registration ends on March 31, so don't wait; go to the convention website today: www.windandfireokc.com. **Highlights:** organists Mary Preston, Christopher Houlihan, Susan Ferre; Canterbury Choral Society, Richard Zielinski Singers; Fisk, Aeolian-Skinner, Zimmer, Schantz, Buzard, Reuter, Moller organs.

PAUL JACOBS WINS GRAMMY: Organist Paul Jacobs, whom you may remember gave a wonderful recital in Albuquerque two years ago, has won the 2011 GRAMMY® Award for Best Instrumental Soloist Performance (without Orchestra) - the first organist ever to win a solo Grammy. According to AGO National "The award was announced at the 53rd Annual GRAMMY Awards in Los Angeles on Sunday, February 13, and given in recognition of his CD recording of Olivier Messiaen's *Livre du Saint-Sacrement* (Naxos 2010) made at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin in New York City. Jacobs's recording of contemporary classical organ music shared the spotlight with such notable sensations as Lady Gaga, who won three GRAMMYS, herself, in the popular music genre. Paul was unable to walk the red carpet to receive the award in person because he was performing with the Phoenix Symphony Orchestra."

DUES NEWS: National's new online dues collection system will be activated on or about May 15, 2011. According to National, "New and renewing members will be able to log in to their own personalized user account, confirm or update their contact information, and renew online using a major credit card or pay later by sending a check. For those without Internet access, local chapters will provide a printed dues renewal form. ... Because the local portion of AGO membership dues and contributions will be remitted back to local chapters via electronic funds transfers weekly, the new online dues collection system will help the AGO support a 'greener' environment."

Registrar Frederick Frahm will be the Chapter point person for this exciting new venture. New, that is, for the AGO, but something familiar to most every one of us. Very few won't have shopped, paid bills, or renewed a membership of some sort online! Stay tuned for more details, coming soon.

KEEP US POSTED: Don't forget to let us know of upcoming concerts and events in your church, synagogue, or with any music group you're associated with. We not only can list them in The Coupler, but send email blasts out to our membership. Call Craig at 505-603-1750, or email him at critic53@cybermesa.com.



CHAPTER NEWS AND REPORTS

PROGRAM UPDATES: As Dean Jane Smith noted in her introductory letter, Kathleen McIntosh's Feb. 19 lecture-recital on Bach's *Goldberg Variations* at Santa Fe's First Presbyterian Church drew a packed and appreciative audience. It also took in \$341 in free-will offerings that will be put toward the expenses of the event. And Dorothy Papadakos's silent-film accompaniment to *The Phantom of the Opera* on January 21, at the Cathedral Church of St. John in Albuquerque, boasted a capacity crowd as well. Many thanks to Linda Raney, director of music and organist at FPC, and Maxine Thevenot, director of cathedral music at CCSJ, and their governing bodies, for permitting AGO to use both superb spaces.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Chapter finances remain in solid shape. Currently our Bank of America checking account stands at \$14,537.12 and BofA savings account at \$100.09. Our investment funds at Charles Schwab are \$22,339.68 (Nelson Recital Fund) and \$16,636.65 (Savings, including Education Fund).

At its monthly meeting on Feb. 7, the Executive Committee agreed that it's time to reconsider our investment strategy and look toward moving the Schwab funds into more active status—bearing in mind, of course, the current unstable economic climate and our need to consult a financial advisor in this area, ideally pro bono. Additionally, the Committee agreed that devising a settled budget for the 2011-12 program year was a definite goal; in the past, we have not had a settled budget as such. Any member interested in being part of the budget discussion, or wishing more detailed information on our income and expenses, should contact Craig at critic53@cybermesa.com or call him at 505-603-1750.

THANK YOU, FRED: Our fine-looking and functional Website's maintenance, our well-designed Coupler, our complete and detailed membership lists, and above all our superbly produced Yearbook, would not be possible without Registrar Frederick Frahm's computer expertise and ongoing generous contribution of time. Many thanks, Fred! We're grateful for your support, especially given your busy schedule of rehearsals, services, planning meetings, and composition commissions. Members, please consider if you have talents or skills that could be of use to the Chapter in the same way as Fred and others help. Computer knowledge, financial expertise, availability of rehearsal instruments, willingness to host meetings or specific events or take part in a phone tree, all would be welcome. Let any member of the Executive Committee know—our contact information is, of course, in the Yearbook.

REMAINING EVENTS:

2 pm Saturday, March 19: *Master Class on French Classical Repertoire.* Jane Smith and Marla Riggins Clark, presenters. First Presbyterian Church, 215 Locust Street NE, Albuquerque.

April: No scheduled activities Happy Easter!

4 pm Sunday, May 15: *Young Artist Organ Recital: Daniel O'Connor.* St. Luke Lutheran Church, 9100 Menaul Blvd NE, Albuquerque.

12:30 to 5:30 pm Saturday, June 11: *Catered Chapter Year-End Social and Installation of New Officers.* The House of the Dancing Turtle, 550 E. Alameda, Santa Fe.

AND BY THE WAY...

REMINDER 1: The AGO National HQ has launched a new career center for AGO members. The service is accessed through the AGO National home page.

REMINDER 2: All chapter members are welcome at all Executive Committee and Board meetings. Executive Committee meeting minutes are posted on our website as they become available, under the Officers link.

REMINDER 3: Don't forget the weekly TGIF recitals, at 5:30 pm every Friday at First Presbyterian Church in Santa Fe. Admission is by free-will donation. March events are Linda Raney, March 4, music of Buxtehude, Stanley, and Langlais; Edwin Light and Madeline Williamson, March 11, piano four-hands music by Mozart, Schubert, and Persichetti; March 18, Chancel Choir, Bach Cantata No. 80, *Ein feste Burg*; and March 25, the EPIK Youth Artists of Santa Fe Concert Association.

DO YOU KNOW THE WAY TO IMSLP? These days, thanks to computers, electronic media, and the Internet, finding public domain music for use is easier than ever. Music stores and online retailers offer the complete works of many composer, including organ masters, on CD or in download format. Insert the disc or do the download, select what you want, print, and photocopy—voilà! Inexpensive publishers including Dover offer Urtext editions of a wide range of classical music, including all the organ and keyboard works of Bach, as well as many cantatas; keyboard music of Handel; organ music of Schumann and the French masters; full scores of operas and oratorios; and the Verdi Requiem. One note of caution: many of these original edition reprints, whether on CD or in a printed book, require the ability to read clefs at ease for performance.

Another excellent online resource is the Petrucci Music Library of the International Music Score Library Project, which also includes a journal and a forums site: imslp.org. On this site you can find, download, and print without charge thousands of public domain scores by literally hundreds of composers. From Bach to Lili Boulanger, Palestrina to Purcell, and Zambalo to Zyka, it's a cornucopia of opportunity. Caveats: the scores are scanned from original parts or editions, which may make reading difficult at times due to wide use of different clefs, odd note shapes, etc.; not all pieces are in US public domain and hence not accessible; and you do need a reasonable laser or inkjet printer with a capacity of at least 600 dpi. That said, you can hardly go wrong with IMSLP and Petrucci.

INTERESTING ORGAN WEBSITES: Consider bookmarking these sites for regular surfing and survey—and be sure to include those for other chapters around the country and denominational or church pages of our members.

Albuquerque AGO (<i>surely you've got this one marked already!</i>)	agoabq.org
Church Organs of CO, Evergreen, CO (Rodgers, Allen)	churchorgansofcolorado.com
Church Organ Works LLC, Loveland, CO (Johannus)	churchorganworks.com
Friends of the Wanamaker Organ	wanamakerorgan.com
Frederick Frahm, organist-composer	frederickfrahm.com
National AGO	ago.hq.org
Organ Clearing House	organclearinghouse.com
Maxine Thevenot, organist-conductor	maxinethevenot.com
Southwest Church Organs, Albuquerque (Allen)	southwestchurchorgans.com