

PITTSBURGH PIPELINES

NEWSLETTER OF THE PITTSBURGH CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
108 North Dithridge Street, Pittsburgh PA 15213-2608 www.pitago.org

Inside this issue:

Noteworthy Events	p. 2
Dean's Notes	p. 5
Positions	p. 3
Substitutes	p. 6

Crossing the Chasm

By Gretchen Franz – Chapter Member

A few years ago Chapter member Gretchen Franz decided to try something new musically. She had always had a dream to be able to freely perform music with a group of singers. So she and several others got together and formed "Seraphic Singers", a professional women's vocal ensemble.

The group was founded in 2014. Twelve singers were invited. The number twelve was chosen because there are only four rehearsals. This enabled members like Sara Botkin and Katy Williams are who are busy with their other work activities to able to fit Seraphic singers into their schedules. The group's

first performance last April included compositions by Gustav Holst for women and harp which was played by Julia Scott. This year's April concert (see Noteworthy Events) features pianist Joy Crummie, violinist Ashley Freeburn, cellist Hannah Whitehead, and percussionist Mary Alice Ryan. The music includes a mixture of folk, faith, jazz and classical works.

Crossing over chasm into the secular world was a real eye-opener for Gretchen. There are many licenses to secure and purchase because the music chosen for their performance is not performed in a worship service which typically has pre-arranged license agreements with the institution that is using the music. Gretchen hires a media consultant to take care of the website, programs and other public relations items but the rest of the work falls to her as the director. Dreams of this type don't come with details and warnings regarding the amount of work and money it takes to make them come true. That's why dreams are so nice. Surmounting those obstacles gives a person a real sense of accomplishment.

Is it all worth it? Gretchen has lived a life of performing as organist, organist/conductor and conductor. She has performed the best of J. S. Bach as well as the best of P. D. Q. Bach. Never has she received such an enthusiastic response to a concert. Audience members still talk about the opening piece when the Seraphic Singers overwhelmed them with lovely unison singing from the rear of the church.

Moving and connecting with an audience is what it is all about, so the answer is 'yes,' it is worth it.



Organ Artist Series Concert – Christian Lane – April 22nd

By John Henninger – OAS Director (info@oas-series.com)

The Organ Artists Series will be presenting Christian Lane for the final concert of the season Friday, April 22, at 8:00 pm at Saint Paul Cathedral in Pittsburgh. This concert is being co-presented by Cathedral Concert Series of Saint Paul. The church is located at the intersection of Dithridge and Fifth in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh (see Noteworthy Events). The Cathedral has a magnificent von Beckerath tracker instrument which was brilliantly restored a few years ago as well as outstanding acoustic that significantly contributes to the enjoyment of music in the space.

Mr. Lane performs regularly throughout the United States and in Europe. Notable venues include St. Patrick's Cathedral (New York), both St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey in London, and Washington National Cathedral. He was a featured performer at the 2014 National AGO Convention in Boston, the 2013 National Convention of the Royal Canadian College of Organists in Ottawa, the 2005 AGO Region VI Convention in Colorado Springs, and a "Rising Star" performer at the 2002 National AGO Convention in Philadelphia.

Mr. Lane now maintains a private studio of organ students in Boston and teaches regularly on summer programs, including England's venerable Oundle for Organists, and has given master classes and workshops across the country and in the United Kingdom. Additionally, he leads a wide-ranging strategic planning process for the American Guild of Organists and on its behalf directed a summer organ festival in Boston, including two concurrent Pipe Organ Encounters in 2011.

Be sure to let others know about this great concert in a great space. Remember, students are admitted free this season! Bring a friend with you to enjoy this great event!

Noteworthy Events

Please submit new events online. Go to www.pitago.org, select "Noteworthy Events" and then select "Submit An Event".

Day	Date	Time	Event
Fr	8-Apr	8:00pm	Senior Organ Recital - Kevin Lyczak - Featuring works by Bach, Durufle, Tournemire, Jenkins and Reger. - Reception to follow downstairs - Saint Paul Cathedral, 108 North Dithridge Street, Pittsburgh, PA - 15213-2608 - Free - 215.983.8181 - kevinlyczak@gmail.com - info@saintpaulcathedral.org
Su	10-Apr	10:40am-12:00pm	Guest Choir at Shadyside Presbyterian Church - public school located in Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania, with a choral music department composed of over five hundred students. In addition to touring in Europe, the choir has performed at the White House and Carnegie Hall. Extended choral prelude begins at 10:45 a.m.; worship at 11:00 a.m. - Fellowship follows - Shadyside Presbyterian, 5121 Westminster Place, Pittsburgh, PA - 15232-2116 - Free - 412.682.4300 - info@shadysidepres.org - www.shadysidepres.org
Su	10-Apr	2:30pm 3:00pm	Preconcert - Sewickley Academy Chamber Ensemble, directed by Gino Faraci Concert - Oboe and Organ: A Mellifluous Combination - Larry Allen, organ and piano, and Scott Bell, oboe -a virtuoso duo concert featuring music from Baroque to Contemporary. Concert. - dessert reception afterward to meet the artists. - St. James Catholic Church, 200 Walnut Street, Sewickley, PA - 15143-1529 - Free - 412.741.6650 - s.schaefer@comcast.net - www.stjamesmusic.org
Su	10-Apr	3:00pm	Music in a Great Space Concert - Ayreheart performs music of the Renaissance from the British Isles, featuring the music of John Dowland, William Byrd, and John Johnson, as well as ballads from England, Scotland, and Wales. The quartet presents historically informed concerts which give a glimpse into the lute's past and expressiveness. - Reception in the Sharp Atrium - Shadyside Presbyterian, 5121 Westminister Place, Pittsburgh, PA - 15232-2116 - Tickets: \$15. Students and seniors (60 and older): \$10. - 412.682.4300 - info@shadysidepres.org - www.shadysidepres.org
Su	10-Apr	4:00pm	Master of Music Degree Organ Recital - Tyler Randolph - Program to include Widor, Bach, Tournemire, Mendelssohn, and more - solo performance, Duquesne University, from the studio of Dr. Ann Labounsky - Reception following. - Saint Bernard Roman Catholic Church, 311 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA - 15216 - info: trandolph@dioceseofgreensburg.org - Free
Th	14-Apr	7:30pm	Choral Dances: Spring Concert, Featuring the Choirs of Duquesne University - Duquesne University Voices of Spirit & Pappert Chorales Dr. Caron Daley, Conductor - A program of choral dance music, featuring world and folk idioms, renaissance and Baroque styles, and the humorous "Figures de Danse" by Lionel Daunais. - Reception in Holy Cross Hall to follow - First English Lutheran Church, 615 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA - 15219-4462 - Suggested Donation: \$10.00 at the door - 412.471.8125 - cantor@flcpittsburgh.org - www.flcpittsburgh.org
Sa	16-Apr	7:30pm	Dennis James - Musica Curiosa - theatre organ, glass armonica, theremin and glass harp - Keystone Oaks High School Auditorium, 1000 Kelton Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15216-2421, \$15 (advance) \$20 (door) info:724.446.9744 or 412.241.8108, patos.mail@verizon.net, www.pittsburghtheatreorgan.com
Sa	16-Apr	8:00pm	Organ Recital, Indiana University of Pennsylvania - Students from the studio of Christine Clewell - What better way to complete a year of study than with a performance in a great space on a magnificent instrument - Reuter, Opus 2176 -Heinz Chapel, 326 South Bellefield, Pittsburgh, PA - 15213 - Free -- orgel@iup.edu - www.heinzchapel.pitt.edu
Su	17-Apr	3:00pm	Choral Evensong - The Shadyside Chancel Choir - a liturgy with roots in the Anglican tradition. Led by the Chancel Choir, this prayerful, music-filled setting will bring a peaceful, calm close to the day. - Shadyside Presbyterian, 5121 Westminister Place, Pittsburgh, PA - 15232-2116 - Free - 412.682.4300 - info@shadysidepres.org - www.shadysidepres.org
Su	17-Apr	4:00pm	Seraphic Singers - professional women's vocal ensemble performing - music ranges from a delightful 16 th c. chanson, "Il est bel et bon," to 20 th c. "Send in the clowns," to a premiere of a work by Minnesota composer Jocelyn Hagen, "How do we know the light will come back?" The Singers will be accompanied by piano, drums, violin and cello, conducted by Gretchen Franz. - reception following - Mount Lebanon United Methodist Church, 3319 West Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15216-2201 - Admission is \$10. At the door - www.seraphicsingers.com
Fr	22-Apr	8:00pm	Organ Artists Series Concert, Christian Lane – Concert Organist; in cooperation Saint Paul Cathedral Concert Series.; at Saint Paul Cathedral, 108 North Dithridge Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2608, info: info@oas-series.com, 412.242.2782(arts), \$12 admission, students free, reception follows
Th	28-Apr	7:00pm	University of Pittsburgh Student Organ Recital - Grzegorz Piszczek - performing a variety of works for the organ to complete his studies toward a Bachelor of Arts in Western Music degree. Greg is also a student of the Swanson School of Engineering, working on a Bachelor of Science - Heinz Chapel, 326 South Bellefield, Pittsburgh, PA - 15213 - Free - grp12@pitt.edu - www.heinzchapel.pitt.edu



April Meeting – Heiller and Bach at Saint Paul Cathedral

By Nathan Carterette - Sub-Dean (sub-dean@pitago.org)

Our April meeting will take place at Saint Paul Cathedral and will feature Bruce Stevens, on faculty of the University of Richmond, discussing Anton Heiller and Bach's *Orgelbüchlein*. Bruce Stevens is active as a recitalist across the United States and Europe. He frequently plays for the annual national conventions of the Organ Historical Society, and he has performed for regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists and for the national convention of the American Institute of Organbuilders. After receiving degrees in music from the University of Richmond and the University of Illinois, he moved to Europe, going first to Denmark for a year of organ study in Copenhagen with Finn Viderø and Grethe Krogh. Later he moved to Vienna to become a student of Anton Heiller for several years. He also studied at the Royal School of Church Music near London. Mr. Stevens has been a finalist in the American Guild of Organists competition as well as in other national competitions held in Los Angeles and Fort Wayne. Active as a recording artist, he has produced seven discs for Raven Recordings, including a series of four CDs devoted to Josef Rheinberger's organ sonatas played on various historic American organs.

Mr. Stevens is director of Historic Organ Study Tours (HOST) which he founded in 1994 to further the study of historic organs in Europe and elsewhere. He also works as a writer-editor for the Virginia Department of Education.

Dinner will feature grilled sausage, stuffed shells, broccoli and of course a dessert which will be pound cake.

Finally don't forget that our May meeting will be at Saint Vincent Abbey in Latrobe, PA, with several other AGO chapters. Check the web site, www.pitago.org, for the planned events for that day. If you have more questions or want more specifics about that exciting event please email me or Rev. Cyril Hurnyak at chaplain@pitago.org.

Positions *(substitutes or placement @pitago.org)*

By Nicholas Will - Coordinator 814.460.1446

Positions Open: *as of April 2016*



Only current members of the AGO may be on the substitute list.

AGO assumes no responsibility for the musicianship, reliability, or conduct of substitute organists. Background checks are the responsibility of the employer. Churches may contact organists directly or ask the coordinator for assistance.



Guided by the Guild

By Wilberta Naden Pickett, SMM, ChM – Chapter Member

Having chronicled three installments of my career, the next and last move was "the big one in 1965" to Pittsburgh. There I held two organist/director jobs - Ben Avon United Methodist and later Bower Hill Community Presbyterian in Mount Lebanon. Both were a half hour away from home which meant practicing the organ elsewhere had to be arranged part of the time. My pastor at Ben Avon was a good friend of the pastor at Grace United Methodist Church in Sharpsburg, just a mile down the hill from where we lived in O'Hara. He graciously allowed me to practice on their Allen.

At the same time, I lived near the Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church where **Bruce Bengtson, FAGO**, another graduate of Union Seminary's School of Sacred Music was just starting out. I soon decided to take some organ lessons from him. What a great boon that was. He was a superb teacher who even invited me to practice there, but it was to my own peril. One day as I was working on Bach's great B Minor Prelude and Fugue Bruce came bounding up the steps from his office to tell me I was playing a B flat when it should have been a B natural (or the other way around). He drilled me on fine points of registration and phrasing that I needed. What a joy to be supported by his inspiration and encouragement.

In 1970, the year I moved onto the Bower Hill Church, Fox Chapel hired **Bob Johnson**, another alum of the School of Sacred Music at Union Seminary, to be its full time Minister of Music. Again I was welcome to practice there. I was already attending other events at the Fox Chapel Church with my neighborhood friends and felt very much it was my second church home. In 1976, the big Bicentennial Year, Bob invited me to collaborate with him on a joint organ and choir program around Memorial Day to celebrate the year. We each played a short organ recital of early American music. Then the men from both choirs combined to sing Randall Thompson's *Testament of Freedom*, for which we divided the directing and accompanying. This program was performed at Bower Hill at a morning worship, and the following week we repeated it at Fox Chapel in the afternoon. I ended the program with Charles Ives' *Variations on "America."* At the conclusion a passing car outside honked an applauding "Toot-toot" in perfect rhythm to great laughter inside. Once again the collegiality and trust of a fellow Guilder gave me a sense of professional worth and fulfillment.

Both **Bruce Bengtson** and **Bob Johnson** were Guilders who guided me. They even consoled me during my working years when I shared occasional conflicts at the churches I served. Haven't we all had a few? How much I appreciated their friendship and good counsel.

While I was at the Bower Hill Church, there were two other Guild members who were a big help to me: **Emma Austin**, another transplant from the Cleveland chapter who had moved here and was doing only substitute work, was always willing to sub for me at the 11:00 PM Christmas Eve service after I played two previous services and needed to get home to play Santa Claus to our five children. She also accompanied me when I sang Brahms' "Alto Rhapsody" with the choir men.

The other one, not yet a Guild member since she was still in college at Ohio Wesleyan University, was **Gail Mertz**, daughter of well-known piano teacher in the South Hills, Rachel Mertz. Gail was known to be an outstanding organ student, one who thrilled me when she agreed to sub for me every summer, even though I never met her till after she graduated and came back home to Pittsburgh and joined our chapter. You know her as **Gail Henry**. She told me recently that she liked to sub for me because I always left her a folder with complete instructions about the service, the organ and the bulletin requirements.

How true it is that we all grow on the shoulders of others who have carried us along the way. I am very grateful to the Guild and to these special friends.

Membership Renewals Will Be Coming Up Soon

J. Barbara McKelway- Registrar (registrar@pitago.org)

April is the month many of us receive our membership renewals. Although we have had the ONCARD email system for 2 years, it is still relatively new and can always use an explanation. Although AGO National collects your dues, the chapters receive their portion(s) of the dues. If you would like to, you will also have an opportunity to donate to our chapter, Pipe Organ Academy, Organ Artists Series or Student Dinners at AGO Chapter meetings. AGO Headquarters will email invoices to all members with valid email addresses and will send paper invoices to those with no email or prefer to have them sent by mail. They have member preferences in their files. If renewing on line, you will receive an email from the following email address: renewals@agohq.org. Because these emails go out in large bulks, sometimes some emails may be routed to spam, junk mail or Gmail promotional folders. Please check your messages in those folders just to be sure you don't miss it. The deadline date for April renewals is July 31. If you are a member who joined AGO on a different date, your renewal notice will come on your 12th month anniversary date. Whenever and however you receive your invoices, please be sure to follow the directions and answer all the applicable areas on the forms. It's a good way to keep all of us up to date. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at registrar@pitago.org or 412.366.4513.

DINNER RESERVATION

Bruce Stevens Talk on Anton Heiller and the Orgelbüchlein

Monday, April 25th 6:00pm meet and socialize, 6:30pm dinner, 7:30pm meeting, 8:00pm program

Saint Paul Cathedral • 108 North Dithridge Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2608 • 412.621.4951

Name _____

Guests _____

Amount enclosed (\$18 per person) _____

I have included \$_____ to underwrite a student dinner. (\$18 underwrites one dinner)

Reservations to:

Ed Halo • 3574 McClure Avenue • Pittsburgh, PA 15212-2172 • 412.335.9695 or reservations@pitago.org



Dean's Notes

By Edward Alan Moore, DMA - Dean (dean@pitago.org)

Cameron Carpenter is one of the most talented organists on the scene today and also one of the most controversial. A Julliard-trained organist, his comments towards the church have sometimes been negative: "I have no understanding of the reverence for the Church. It has no over-arching power over me." In addition, on the role of the pipe organ he has been quoted to say that he "wants to free the pipe organ from its long association with churches" and "The idea of the organ as a sacred instrument is nothing more than religious propaganda."

Cameron Carpenter is coming to Pittsburgh! He will be the featured soloist playing his touring organ with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra at Heinz Hall on April 15 and 17.

So why should members of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, whose membership is comprised almost entirely of church musicians, attend a concert by someone who holds work as church musicians in such low regard? I will be attending on Sunday, April 17. Will you?

Cameron is extremely gifted and talented, that cannot be disputed. He has every right to work hard, explore new territories, make a name for himself, and establish himself as l'enfant terrible of the organ world. However his interests in the King of Instruments seem to forget his roots. If it were not for the organ in the church a young Taylor Cameron Carpenter may never have been introduced to the organ and his path may never have led him to where he is today. I wish him all the success in the world. But if I had the chance I would encourage him to not forget where he came from and those who came before him who made his current success possible.

The members of the Pittsburgh AGO, the members of the National AGO, and indeed organists around the world all practice long hours each week and bring great joy to the worshipers who hear them during services and concerts. We are indeed much more than just church organists. The AGO is an educational institution. Our members are church organists, enthusiasts, educators, and performers. What we do each week gives witness to the long history of the King of Instruments and provides for its future. We have nothing to be ashamed of and everything to be proud of.

As part of our witness to our profession the boards of the Pittsburgh AGO, Organ Artists Series, and Pipe Organ Academy, approved placing a full-page ad in the Symphony's program book for the concerts featuring Cameron Carpenter. This ad will give a glimpse into what these three organizations do. It will have premium placement on the inside front cover of the program book. This ad will run in the book for the April 15, 17 and May 6, 8 concerts, reaching thousands of concertgoers.

I hope you will attend the concerts on April 15 or 17 and serve as a positive witness for our profession. Talk to those sitting around you. Tell them what a privilege it is to serve as an organist in Pittsburgh and beyond. Give them a glimpse of what really makes the organ the King of Instruments.

Copyright© 2016, Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, all rights reserved.

For a current listing of officers, committee directors and organists available for substitute service see the web site www.pitago.org or call the Editor at 412.241.2345 if you cannot access the web. Please contact the Chapter Registrar to update your address or change to/from electronic distribution of Pipelines.



American Guild of Organists Pittsburgh Chapter
 Saint Paul Cathedral
 108 North Dithridge Street
 Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2608

www.pitago.org

Nonprofit Org.
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Pittsburgh, PA
 Permit No. 1707

Return Service Requested

Meeting and OAS concert this month– April 22nd
 OAS with Christian Lane and meeting on April
 25th - Bruce Stevens Talk on Anton Heiller and
 the Orgelbüchlein – both at Saint Paul Cathedral
 in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh.

Address label

**Substitute Organists available for
 SUNDAY MORNING services**

**Substitute Organists NOT available for
 SUNDAY MORNING services**

Name	Phone	Zipcode	Services	Name	Phone	Zipcode	Services
Bedford, Clark	412.364.4756	15237	WFES	Aikins, Candace	724.568.2640	15690	WF
Cafaro, Ross	412.885.1625	15236	WFESL	Bruhn, Lynn	724.733.8111	15632	WFE
DuBois, Jr., Ronald	740.282.6671	43952	WFES	Carterette, Nathan	203.668.4370	15201	WFES
Earnest, Dr. Wayne N.	724.206.8854	15301	WFESLN	Daugherty, Jamie	412.292.1970	15056	WFES
Janko, Ray	724.325.7449	15668	WFES	Daniels, J. R.	412.389.6658	15212	WF
Justham, Mary Ann	724.335.7792	15068	WFES	English, Daniel	412.889.2681	15209	WFESL
Hill, Thomas	512.421.1484	15217	WFES	Gordon, Jacob	412.243.4483	15221	WFES
Kohl, George	412.523.7765	15207	WFES	Lipisardi, Emily	304.216.0302	15401	WFES
La Rue, Elizabeth	412.999.4812	15218	WFES	Miller, Jane	412.526.6618	15139	WF
Lindsey, III, C. Dennis	918.409.6467	15224	WFES	Pinkerton, Richard	412.561.2015	15243	WFE
Mislin, David W.	617.223.1270	15206	WFES	Reiland, Michael	412.882.5521	15227	WFE
Piszczek, Greg	610.406.3577	15213	WFE	Spencer, George	412.731.3324	15147	WFE
Rasely, Don	724.487.7303	15226	WFES (Day)	Strobel, Joyce Moon	412.366.0074	15237	WFES
	724.283.4829		WFES (Eve.)	Schulz, Ronald	412.512.4987	15226	WFES
Roederer, Charlotte	412.780.7445	15213	EFS	Wallace, Justin	412.531.0525	15216	WFES
Rollet, Tony	412.726.8569	15217	WFES				
Rubright, Sandy S.	724.994.8872	15668	WFE				
Szeremany, Richard	412.327.6254	15146	WFES				
Vanderlaan, Brett A.	301.919.1835	15419	WFES				
Wannamaker, CAGO, Keith	650.210.6574	15101	ES				

Services: W-Weddings, F-Funerals, E-Eveinings, S-Saturdays, L-Liturgical Only, N-Non-Liturgical