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Contact the Editor: Regina Kettering

editor@pitago.org

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FROM THE EDITOR

Regina Kettering (editor@pitago.org)

This month we welcome Aaron Tan at the Organ Artist Series concert on November 24th.

Sunday, November 24, 2019

3:00 pm

AARON TAN

Winner of the American Guild of Organists
National Young Artists Competition

Co-presented with

Music in a Great Space

Shadyside Presbyterian Church

5121 Westminster Place

Pittsburgh, PA 15232



November also sees us hosting the Tournemire L'Orgue Mystique series, played by Richard Spotts. After a wonderful meeting at Duquesne at the end of October, he will perform the entirety of L'Orgue Mystique over the course of 10 concerts, taking place at various churches in the Pittsburgh area. The events page contains details about locations and times for each concert. All concerts are free and open to the public, but donations are welcome.

DEAN'S NOTES

by Chaz Bowers, Dean (dean@pitago.org)

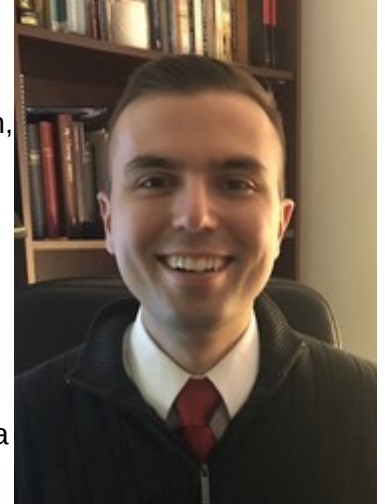
Practice, practice, practice!

One of the things that I learned in college was the correct answer to the question, “How much have you practiced lately?” Some of my classmates would answer truthfully whereas others seemed to have a mathematical equation: actual practice time + plus two extra hours each day – one hour on certain days to make it seem more realistic. I found the (truthful) answer that seemed to satisfy my conscience and my teachers was “never enough.”

Now being on the other side of academia, I find that one of the hardest tasks of a teacher is to get students to understand how to practice. Additionally, as someone who is constantly on the run between my church and school jobs, as well as my work for the guild, I need to get the best ‘bang for my buck’ when it comes to how I spend my precious time at the console practicing. To that end, I often reference a book that my undergraduate teacher, Edgar Highberger, recommended to me by T. Ernest Nichols: *Virgil Fox: The Innermost Secrets-The Method Behind the Madness*. While it documents much of Fox’s life, this text also includes some of Fox’s best practice techniques. Nichols outlines the importance of extremely slow practice (even 1/10 tempo), working with hands apart, marking in fingers and pedalings, learning music on the piano without the use of the sustain pedal, as well as focusing on small four measure passages on light registrations or even note by note. Nichols quotes Fox as often having said, “There is no pill to take. There are no shortcuts. Hard work is the only thing that can get you where you want to be.”

One additional challenge that I often issue to students before they go to practice is to write a “to do list” before they even enter the practice room. This allows them to determine realistic sections that they wish to learn or review based on the time that they have and to mark their progress. When I talk about practicing with them, I often conclude by telling them that I’m talking to myself as much as I am speaking to them.

It seems like we are all living over-extended lives. Our time is so precious. When it comes to better, more efficient practice, there is no “one size fits all” technique. However, much like students, I recommend we all should not be afraid to try some different or seemingly unusual approaches, you never know if that will make all of the difference! I hope that you enjoy these approaches to develop one’s practice techniques that I often share with my students. Now, off to the bench!



NOVEMBER MEETING – HANDBELL WORKSHOP

November 25, 2019

Handbell Workshop with Nancy Lutz

Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church

3319 W. Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15216

6:30 pm. Dinner in Asbury Center (lower level, enter from parking lot)

7:30 p.m. Business Meeting

7:45 p.m. Presentation in the sanctuary (Elevator available)

There is plenty of parking in the church lot. Enter from W. Liberty Avenue (Washington Road), or from Scott Road. Dinner, catered by Bistro To Go, includes Cucumber Tomato Salad in Italian vinaigrette, coleslaw, Corn bread with honey and butter, Crispy Chicken with Honey Mustard, Oven fried panko encrusted boneless chicken served with an exquisite honey mustard dipping sauce. Honey BBQ Roasted Pork Loin Slow roasted with a sweet and tangy sauce. Green Beans seasoned with Dill Macaroni & Cheese. For desert, Brownies and gourmet chocolate cookies.

Nancy Lutz has planned an enjoyable and informative workshop featuring The Chapel Bells, an adult handbell choir that she directs at Mt. Lebanon Methodist Church. She will speak about using handbells solo, with organ, accompanying congregational song, and in smaller bell ensembles. Included will be a bibliography of handbell resources.

Nancy Lutz is the founding Artistic Director of Three Rivers Ringers, Pittsburgh's premier handbell ensemble, fulfilling a long-time vision of creating an outstanding community handbell ensemble in Western Pennsylvania. Founded in 2010, the group has enjoyed great success, appearing in the Pittsburgh Symphony Holiday Pops series in December 2015 and 2016 and again in 2019. Nancy retired in May of 2019 and is now Artistic Director Emerita.

Nancy is also Director of Handbells at Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church where she leads two excellent adult ensembles. The church program grew from a single adult choir playing three octaves of handbells to the present groups who play on seven octaves of handbells and six octaves of handchimes.

She is a founding director of the Western Pennsylvania Handbell Festival, an event for beginning and intermediate level handbell ensembles that holds an annual festival each spring. She has been honored to direct this festival along with several others.

Mentoring new handbell directors and other handbell ensembles is of particular interest to Nancy. She enjoys doing workshops for directors and ringers, doing so extensively throughout western Pennsylvania.

NUNC DIMITTUS – CORAL MCMUNN

Our Chapter is saddened to learn of the passing of Coral A. McMunn. Below is the edited obituary from the Post-Gazette. May she rest in peace. (continued on next page)

Peacefully, surrounded by family, on Thursday, October 3, 2019, age 90, of McCandless. Beloved wife for 58 yrs. of the late George L. McMunn; daughter of the late Raymond R. and Adelina Patti (Patterson) McWilliams; mother of David R. McMunn of Greensburg, Glenn D. McMunn of McCandless, and the late Raymond L. McMunn; grandmother of Katie (Ryland) Weber, Keith (Melody) McMunn, and Rick (Andrea) Secen; great-grandmother of Oakley, Cruz, Valor, Fox, and Maxwell; sister-in-law of Bert (Sue) D. McMunn; niece, Christy McMunn; also survived by many cousins including, Joan Forsyth, Maxine French, dear friends, and ministry team associates. Coral recently retired after 55 years as the organist of Memorial Park Church. She was a member of the American Guild of Organists, Pgh. Chapter, Presbyterian Assn. of Musicians, and North Hills Music Club. She was a faithful servant of the Lord who was devoted to her church. She took great delight in her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and took pleasure in being a homemaker. She enjoyed cooking shows and baking cookies which have become one of the many family

traditions she enjoyed keeping. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Memorial Park Church's Music Ministry.

Published in Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on Oct. 4, 2019

NUNC DIMITTUS – CLARK BEDFORD

It is with sadness that our chapter has learned of the passing of a longtime member, Clark Bedford, on Monday, October 7th, from Alzheimer's disease.

Born April 12, 1934, went home to be with his Lord on the 7th of October, 2019. He was devoted to his God, his family and music. Clark was husband to Sandra for nearly 60 years and father of Christopher and Timothy; grandfather of Danielle, Holly, Alex, Ian and Zola. They all sat on his lap at the grand piano when they were infants. They were all very precious to him. His greatest accomplishment in life was his kindness and generosity to those around him. Clark had a Bachelor and Masters degree from the [University of Michigan](#) where he was also the accompanist for the U. of M. Men's Glee Club. He served in the U.S Army in Special Services, directing and performing in productions for enlisted men as well as at the Officer's Club. He went on to NYC where he took special studies at The Juilliard School of Music. Bedford was Organist-Choirmaster of a large Manhattan Church, taught at Nyack College, and an accompanist at the Mannes School of Music as well as for several opera singers. In 1965, Bedford went to London to become the organist-choirmaster of the famous All Souls Church under The Dr. Rev. John Stott. During their time there, The Bedford's had the privilege of attending the Queen's Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. Clark conducted The City Singers in the financial district of London. His sons, Christopher and Timothy were both born in London. Clark and his family returned to the States in 1973 where he taught in the Music Department at Taylor University, then moved to Pittsburgh in 1979. He has been organist-choirmaster for several large churches. Bedford founded the Pittsburgh Concert Chorale in 1985 and conducted it for 23 years. He was honored for this contribution to the city with an Honorary Doctorate from LaRoche College in 1998. When Sinatra was in Pittsburgh for his last performance, Clark played at the William Penn for his private dinner party. Mr. Sinatra came up to him and said, "What you do with that instrument is wonderful."

Edited from article published in Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on Oct. 10, 2019

Date	Event
2 Nov 8:00 PM	The National Anthems - For this Resonance Works performance, director Maria Sensi Sellner was inspired by David Lang's 2014 work based on national anthems of all 193 countries of the United Nations. Included will be choral and chamber music by Chen Yi, James MacMillan, Arvo Pärt, Lili Boulanger, Kaija Saariaho, and more. Before the performance, guests have the opportunity to experience a musical prelude and tour of the Nationality Rooms in the Cathedral of Learning. For tickets: https://www.showclix.com/events/24341 Heinz Memorial Chapel, Fifth & Bellefield Avenues, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
3 Nov 3:00 PM	A Service of Remembrance for All Saints - In recognition of All Saints' Day, traditionally observed November 1, and, particularly, in memory of those who have joined the Church Triumphant in the past year, the Shadyside Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir will present Maurice Duruflé's Requiem in liturgical context, with Communion, on Sunday, November 3, 2019, at 3:00 p.m. during a service of remembrance. <i>Shadyside Presbyterian Church, 5121 Westminster Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15232 412-682-4300 www.shadysidepres.org info@shadysidepres.org</i>
3 Nov 3:00 PM	University of Pittsburgh Women's Choral Ensemble Choir Festival - Pitt's Women's Choral Ensemble, under the direction of Lorraine Milovac, will present a Women's Choir Festival featuring women's groups from various schools in the region and beyond. <i>Heinz Memorial Chapel (address above) 412.624.4157</i>
3 Nov 3:00 PM	Requiem by Gabriel Fauré - East Liberty Presbyterian Chancel Choir and Chamber Orchestra, Edward Alan Moore, conductor, Gail Novak Mosites, soprano, David Jennings-Smith, baritone, Todd Farwell,

Date	Event
	bass, Dawn Posey, solo violin, Ethan LaPlaca, organ. <i>East Liberty Presbyterian Church, 116 South Highland Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 412.441.3800, ext. 124 www.ELPC.church EdM@coh.net</i>
4 Nov 7:00 PM	Tournemire L'Orgue mystique Concert Series, Day One - The complete performance of Charles Tournemire's "L'Orgue mystique" hosted by Duquesne University in conjunction with the Pittsburgh & Duquesne Chapters of the American Guild of Organists will be presented by organist Richard Spotts of Bucks County, PA. The once-in-a-lifetime, historic 10-day event will be held in Pittsburgh area venues during November 2019, the 80th anniversary of Tournemire's death. All of the performances will be in two parts with a short intermission, and live streaming will be available. On Day One, Mr. Spotts will perform Part One • Cycle de Noël, Opus 55 I, II, III and Part Two • Cycle de Noël, Opus 55 IV, V Donations accepted. <i>Chapel of the Holy Spirit, Duquesne University, 600 Forbes AV, Pittsburgh PA 15282</i> For more information, contact Ann Labounsky at 412-766-8738.
7 Nov 7:00 PM	"L'Orgue mystique" Mass - In conjunction with the L'Orgue mystique Concert Series, a mass will be celebrated at 7:00 pm on Thursday November 7, 2019 at <i>Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, 5801 Hampton Street, Pittsburgh PA 15228 412-661-1245.</i>
9 Nov 4:00 PM	Tournemire L'Orgue mystique Concert Series, Day Two - Organist Richard Spotts will perform Cycle de Noël, Opus 55 VI, VII and Cycle de Noël, Opus 55 VIII, IX Donations accepted. <i>Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, (address and info above)</i>
10 Nov 3:30 PM	Organ Concert Series - Organist Craig Cramer of Notre Dame University <i>St. Paul Cathedral, 108 N. Dithridge Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 412-621-6082 http://stpaulpgh.org/ donaiddfellows@verizon.net</i>
10 Nov 4:00 PM	Tournemire L'Orgue mystique Concert Series, Day Three Organist Richard Spotts will perform Part One • Cycle de Noel, Opus 55 X, XI and Part Two • Cycle de Pacques, Opus 56 XII, XIII, XIV Donations accepted. <i>Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, 1066 Washington Road, Mt Lebanon PA 15228-2024 412-531-7153</i>
11 Nov 7:00 PM	Tournemire L'Orgue mystique Concert Series, Day Four - Organist Richard Spotts will perform Part One • Cycle de Pacques, Opus 56 XV, XVI, XVII and Part Two • Cycle de Pacques, Opus 56 XVIII, XIX, XX Donations accepted. <i>First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 615 Grant Street, Pittsburgh PA 15219 412-471-8125</i>
12 Nov 7:00 PM	Tournemire L'Orgue mystique Concert Series, Day Five - Organist Richard Spotts will perform Part One • Cycle de Pacques, Opus 56 XXI, XXII and Part Two • Cycle de Pacques, Opus 56 XXIII, XIV, XV <i>Heinz Memorial Chapel, University of Pittsburgh, (address and info above)</i>
13 Nov 7:00 PM	L'Orgue mystique Concert Series, Day Six - Organist Richard Spotts will perform Part One • Cycle après la Pentecôte, Opus 57 XXVI, XXVII and Part Two • Cycle après la Pentecôte, Opus 57 XXVIII, XIX, XXX Donations accepted. <i>Church of the Assumption, 45 North Sprague Ave Pittsburgh PA 15202 412-766-6660</i>
14 Nov 7:00 PM	Tournemire L'Orgue mystique Concert Series, Day Seven - Organist Richard Spotts will perform Part One • Cycle après la Pentecôte, Opus 57 XXXI, XXXII, XXXIII and Part Two • Cycle après la Pentecôte, Opus 57 XXXIV, XXXV Donations accepted. <i>Church of the Redeemer, 5700 Forbes AV, Pittsburgh PA 15217 412-422-7100</i>
15 Nov 7:00 PM	Tournemire L'Orgue mystique Concert Series, Day Eight - Organist Richard Spotts will perform Part One • Cycle après la Pentecôte, Opus 57 XXXVI, XXXVII, XXXVIII and Part Two • Cycle après la Pentecôte, Opus 57 XXXIX, XL Donations accepted. <i>Chapel of the Holy Spirit, Duquesne University, 600 Forbes AV, Pittsburgh PA 15282 412-396-6000</i>
16 Nov 4:00 PM	Tournemire L'Orgue mystique Concert Series, Day Nine - Organist Richard Spotts will perform Part One • Cycle après la Pentecôte, Opus 57 XLI, XLII, XLIII and Part Two • Cycle après la Pentecôte, Opus 57 XLIV, XLV Donations accepted. <i>Ingomar United Methodist Church, 1501 West Ingomar Road, Pittsburgh PA 15237 412-364-3613</i>
17 Nov 3:00 PM	A Patriotic Thanksgiving - The Murrysville Cantata Choir, under the direction of Ruth Poscich, will present a selection of sacred Thanksgiving anthems and patriotic songs that honor veterans of all branches of service in celebration of Veterans Day. <i>Heinz Memorial Chapel (address and info above)</i>
17 Nov 4:00 PM	Tournemire L'Orgue mystique Concert Series, Day Ten - Organist Richard Spotts will perform Part One • Cycle après la Pentecôte, Opus 57 XLVI, XLVII, XLVIII and Part Two • Cycle après la Pentecôte,

Date	Event
	Opus 57 XLIX, L, LI Donations accepted. <i>Saint Bernard Parish, 311 Washington Road, Pittsburgh PA 15216 412-561-3300</i>
22 Nov 7:30 PM	Organ Concert Series - Organist Nicole Simental <i>St. Paul Cathedral, (address and info above)</i>
22 Nov 6:00 PM	Thiel College Choir and Chamber Orchestra in Concert - "The Weary World Rejoices-A Prelude to the Season" <i>First Lutheran Church, Grant St, Pittsburgh, PA</i>
30 Nov 8:15 PM	Heinz Chapel Choir Holiday Concert - The Heinz Chapel Choir, under the direction of Dr. Susan Rice, will perform an all a cappella concert of seasonal music, a decades-old Pitt tradition. Tickets must be purchased in advance through the University of Pittsburgh Stages Box Office (412-624-7529) or by visiting music.pitt.edu/tickets . General admission is \$15; students and seniors are \$10. <i>Heinz Memorial Chapel (address and info above)</i>