



May 2022

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Message from the Dean

Dear friends and colleagues,

I hope you had the opportunity to view our Chapter’s Monday, April 25th virtual program “Alleluias for the Easter Season 2022.”

(The program can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/4pQEDq8W4Ns>)

This brilliant video showcases our chapter’s many talented organists, choirs, vocalists and instrumentalists, enabling us to see musicians in action, to see beautiful churches, to hear wonderful organs, and to have the opportunity to witness what we may not have been able to attend while we were “on the bench.”

Thanks and congratulations to sub-dean Christine Clewell, and to consultant Brandon Mock for his expertise in assembling and editing the program.

Special thanks to colleagues who sent video recordings: Russ Weismann, Alan Lewis, Jon Tyillian, Douglas Starr, Christine Clewell, Kevin Clemens, Michael Kearney, Wayne Earnest, Ryan Croyle, Ed Moore, Ethan LaPlaca, (and me).

While we all long for more “normal” chapter gatherings, there may well be a place for this kind of virtual programming in the future when monthly meeting dates fall close to the busy celebrations of Christmas and Easter.

Speaking of programming—we need your ideas: for presenters, topics, venues, and volunteers to assist with practical matters. Soon sub-dean Christine Clewell will announce plans for a formal planning committee. We also need a person who can coordinate technology for our chapter—to video tape and post monthly meetings, and to be sure that we are using our websites and social media connections to our best advantage.

As we seem to be emerging from two years of Covid complications and readjustments, I want to thank all of you for your understanding and cooperation as your elected and appointed leadership work diligently to keep our great chapter together and functioning.

Be assured of my devotion to and admiration for our amazing Pittsburgh chapter. Please be in touch with thoughts and ideas as we journey into brighter days ahead.

Ken

Kenneth Danchik, FAGO

Dean

Message from the Sub Dean

May Greetings, friends and colleagues.

We wish to thank everyone who contributed to the April program, “Members’ Recital: Alleluias for Easter Season 2022”. Special thanks go to Brandon Mock who made this virtual event possible with his expertise. We hope that you expressed your appreciation to all who performed beautifully on a variety of wonderful instruments.

This month’s May meeting is a commemorative recital presented on the occasion of the 200th Anniversary of the birth of César Franck (1822-1890). This members’ recital program is called, “The Music of César Franck and His Inner Circle.” The event takes place on Monday, May 23, at 7:30P, at Mount Lebanon United Lutheran Church. The church is located at 975 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA, 15228-2045. We are grateful to our host, Larry Allen, the church’s Director of Music/Organist. The instrument is a Ruffatti/Zamberlan Organ.

<https://mtlebanonlutheran.org/>

Those who are interested in performing in this recital should contact me as soon as possible with your program information which includes: musical title(s); a short biography (150 words or less); the composer (s) and dates. We recognize that the length of works may vary from that of a Franck Choral to a shorter work. Upon hearing from prospective organists, further information will be shared about the organ specifications and how to schedule practice time at the church.

Recalling our commitment to selling organ scores to benefit the Pittsburgh Organ Academy, we invite chapter members to bring music that you wish to donate or sell. A table will be set up in the narthex for everyone to contribute and purchase music. Proceeds will go to POA.

It was six months ago that we last gathered in-person. As you are comfortable, we hope that you will join us, in person, on May 23rd to reconnect with friends and colleagues, and listen to great music written or influenced by Franck. Gathering at Mount Lebanon Lutheran also affords the opportunity to wish Larry well as he ushers in a richly deserved retirement!

Happy Centenary, PitAGO!

Member News

WILBERTA PICKETT, MSM, ChM., CCM, RECEIVES NATIONAL HONOR

In late June 2021, chapter member **Wilberta Pickett** received an Honorary Lifetime Membership from the Presbyterian Association of Musicians in honor of her work in the organization nationally since 1970 and, in 1983, as a founding and charter member of the Pittsburgh PAM Chapter. As such, she served on the staff for the first two years of the Westminster Conference on Music and Worship. Her honor was announced at last summer's Montreat Conference on Music and Worship. She formerly served a total of twelve years on the Pittsburgh Presbytery's Worship Conference, half the time as chair person, who helped launch the Pittsburgh chapter. In Pittsburgh she served as Organist/Director of the Ben Avon United Methodist Church and the Bower Hill Community Presbyterian Church in Mt. Lebanon. At age ninety-three, Mrs. Pickett remains an active church musician at both Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church and at Longwood at Oakmont, where she resides, and is also an active member of both the Pittsburgh AGO and PAM Chapters. We encourage you to congratulate her when your paths cross or by sending her a note or e-mail.



Dr. Benjamin Cornelius-Bates was commissioned for a solo organ work in memory of the late Reverend Doctor Lydia Agnus Speller, who was an Anglican minister who shares a small connection with Ben. You can hear more about it in the premier performance of the work. Due to continuing pandemic issues, the performance of the piece can be seen and heard on YouTube in the next few weeks before it is pulled from the public as performed by Dr. Jan Kraybill. Please go and listen to the piece before it is removed from the public:

<https://youtu.be/9iO43okKaS4?t=2246>

This piece will receive its Pittsburgh premier later this year when Jan Kraybill joins us for her OAS concert at East Liberty Presbyterian.

Upcoming Events

Friday, May 6, 2022, 7:30 p.m. Organ Recital by Ahreum Han

St. Paul's Cathedral, 108 N Dithridge St, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

PROGRAM:

WIDOR: Symphony No. 5 in F Minor, Op. 42, No. 1 (Movement 1, Allegro Vivace)

BACH: Sonata No. 3 in D Minor, BWV 527

BERVEILLER: Mouvement

ALBRIGHT: Sweet Sixteenths (A Concert Rag for Organ)

MICHEL: Organ, Timbrel, and Dance: Three Jazz Organ Preludes

OFFENBACH: Overture to *Orphée aux enfers* (Orpheus in the Underworld)

JONGEN: Sonata Eroica, Op. 94

Sunday, May 15, 2022, 3 p.m. Pittsburgh Artists Series Presents an Organ Recital by Dr. Jan

Kraybill

East Liberty Presbyterian Church

116 South Highland Avenue

Pittsburgh Pennsylvania 15206-3911

Tickets available at the door (cash or card).

General admission \$12.

Student free with valid ID.

Wednesday, June 1, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. In the Mood for Summer (Music in a Great Space Concert Series).

The Pittsburgh Camerata

Shadyside Presbyterian Church

5121 Westminster Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15232

The Pittsburgh Camerata

Wednesday, June 1, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets: www.pittsburghcamerata.org

Substitutes

It is the policy of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Guild of Organists that only current members in good standing may list their names on the Substitutes List. Employers may contact organists directly or ask the coordinator for assistance. The AGO assumes no responsibility for the musicianship, reliability, or conduct of substitute organists, and background checks are the responsibility of the employer. Persons listed as available substitutes may be required by employers to present clearances; e.g. Child Abuse History Clearance; Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Checks for Employment; and/or Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Fingerprinting.

Services: W-Weddings, F-Funerals, E-Evenings, S-Saturdays, L-Liturgical Only, N-Non-Liturgical
Substitute Organists Available for Sunday Mornings

ALEY, PHILIP 412.302.8653 WFE

ANDERSON, GERALD 412.251.6718 WFELNS

BROWN, JUDITH 240.522.5070 WFES
CAFARO, ROSS 412.885.1625 WFES
CLEMENS, KEVIN M. 443.604.5072 WFELNS
EARNEST, Dr. WAYNE N. 724.206.8854 WFESLN
HILL, THOMAS 512.421.1484 WFES
JANKO, RAY 724.325.7449 WFES
JUSTHAM, MARY ANN 724.335.7792 WFES
KETTERING, REGINA 412.477.5547 WFES
KRANTZ, DOUGLAS 724.554.3314 WFS
LA RUE, ELIZABETH SPC 412.999.4812 WFESLN
LINDSEY, III, C. DENNIS 918.409.6467 WFES
MASTERS, SARA 412.266.5821 WFES
MISLIN, DAVID W. 617.223.1270 WFES
PARK, HAEHYUN 734.657.0869 WFESLN
REILAND, MICHAEL 412.882.5521 WFESLN
ROEDERER, CHARLOTTE 412.853.6647 EFS
ROLLET, TONY 412.726.8569 ES
RUBRIGHT, SANDY S. 724.994.8872 WFE
SKROUPA, DANE 724.265.4840 FLN
STIPCAK, VALERIE 724.388.1038 WFES
SZEREMANY, RICHARD, AAGO 412.327.6254 WFES
WILL, NICHOLAS, AAGO 412.566.9597 WFES

Substitute Organists NOT Available for Sunday

Mornings

AIKINS, CANDICE 724.568.2640 WF
BRUHN, LYNN 724.733.8111 WFE
COCHRAN, NICOLE 724.799.1373 WFES
DANIELS, J.R. 412.389.6658 WF
HAMMER, MICHAEL 217.766.4230 WFES
HENRI, LAURA 412.418.7392 WFESL
KARDOS, MICHELLE 724.757.0972 WFELSN
MILLER, JANE 412.526.6618 WF

PINKERTON, RICHARD 412.561.2015 WFE
RASLEY, DON 724.487.7303(D) 724.283.4829(E) WFES
RIZZO, ELMIRA, CAGO 724.612.2029 WFES
SCHALL, STEPHEN 412.215.2971 WFE
SPENCER, GEORGE 412.731.3324 WFE
STROBEL, JOYCE MOON 412.366.0074 WFES
TYILLIAN, JON 724.456.5135 WFESV
ANDERLAAN, BRETT, SPC 301.919.1835 WFES
WALLACE, JUSTIN 412.531.0525 WFES

IMSLP Resources

John Ireland (1879 – 1962)



John Ireland was born on 13 August 1879 at Bowden, Cheshire, His parents were literary people and knew many writers of the day, including Emerson. His initial education was at Leeds Grammar School, At age fourteen Ireland moved to London where he began his studies at the Royal College of Music. He studied piano at the from 1893 to 1897, continuing at the College until 1901 as a composition scholar, under Sir Charles Villiers Stanford. At the age of sixteen he was awarded a fellowship at the Royal College of Organists, the youngest student ever to do so, and organ was his second study at the College, under Sir Walter Parratt. His fellow students at the RCM included Vaughan Williams and

Holst. He took his Ph.D. from Durham University in 1906, and was later (1932) to be awarded an honorary doctorate there.

From 1904 until 1926 Ireland held the post of organist at St Luke's, Chelsea, which allowed him time to compose. He also gained a strong reputation as a much-respected teacher. Soon after the end of the First World War he joined the staff of the Royal College of Music as Professor of Composition, a position he held for many years; his pupils there included talents as diverse as those of Benjamin Britten, E. J. Moeran, Richard Arnell, Alan Bush and Humphrey Searle. His involvement in music education took other forms, too: he was a music examiner and 'Inspector of Music in Schools' for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music.

Ireland had a long association with the Channel Islands, and he took advantage of a request to design an organ in a church on Guernsey to insist that he should be the organist and choirmaster. He took up the post just before the outbreak of the Second World War, and narrowly escaped after the German invasion: he was one of the 1,500 people crammed onto the last boat to make it back to the British mainland. He settled in Chelsea again after the War but left London in 1953 to live in a converted windmill on the West Sussex Down, opposite the Chanctonbury Ring. Here he spent the rest of his life. Ireland died on 12 June 1962, two months short of his 83rd birthday.

Ireland had been composing since boyhood but, fiercely self-critical, he destroyed all his early works; the earliest surviving work in his catalogue therefore dates only from 1903. His music belongs to the school of 'English Impressionism'. Having been brought up on the German classics, notably Beethoven and Brahms, he was strongly influenced in his twenties and thirties by the music of Debussy, Ravel, and the early works of Stravinsky and Bartók. While many of his contemporaries, such as Vaughan Williams and Holst, developed a language strongly characterized by English folk song, Ireland evolved a more complex harmonic style closer to the French and Russian models. Like Fauré, he preferred the intimate forms of chamber music, song, and piano music to the larger orchestral and choral canvases. He wrote neither symphony (unlike his friend Arnold Bax who wrote seven) nor opera and only one cantata, *These Things Shall Be*, but his Piano Concerto is arguably the best to have been written by an Englishman, and is a work of intense emotion and nostalgic feeling.

Ireland was strongly influenced by English poetry. His settings of A. E. Housman, Thomas Hardy, Christina Rossetti, John Masefield and Rupert Brooke are among the best known of his works. He was also highly susceptible to the spirit of place. He lived for many years in London's Chelsea (*Chelsea Reach* is a depiction in the form of a barcarole of that great sweep of the Thames as it passes along the Embankment to the west of the Houses of Parliament). One of his best-known piano pieces, *The Island Spell*, was inspired by a warm summer's day on Jersey in 1912. Jersey also lay behind the orchestral prelude *The Forgotten Rite* (1913), and the historical images of the South Downs brought forth the symphonic rhapsody *Mai-Dun* (1921).

Sourced material from:

<https://johnirelandtrust.org/biography/>

https://www.boosey.com/pages/cr/composer/composer_main?composerid=2962&ttype=BIOGRAPHY

List of works for organ

Alla Marcia

Sursum Corda

Elegiac Romance

Miniature Suite

1. Intrada

2. Villanella

3 Menuetto

Capriccio

Meditation on John Keble's Rogantiontide Hymn

Intrada

[Link to Imslp Library of Works](#)

https://imslp.org/wiki/Category:Ireland,_John

Links to transcriptions for organ.

Elegy (From a Downland Suite, arr. By Alec Rowley).

[https://imslp.org/wiki/A_Downland_Suite_\(Ireland%2C_John\)](https://imslp.org/wiki/A_Downland_Suite_(Ireland%2C_John))

The Holy Child arranged by the composer

<https://s9.imslp.org/files/imglnks/usimg/1/18/IMSLP298183-PMLP433665->

[Ireland_The_Holy_Boy_\(organ\).pdf](#)