

PipeNotes

American Guild of Organists – Milwaukee Chapter

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Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

www.agomilwaukee.org • chapter@agomilwaukee.org

Volume 64 – July 2017



Choral Music for the Church Year

A Repertoire Session for Directors and Singers
with Conductor and Worship Leader John Albrecht



Tuesday, August 1, 2017 | 6:30-8:45 p.m.

Mount Carmel Lutheran Church, 8424 W. Center St., Milwaukee

John Albrecht serves as director of music ministries at First Congregational United Church of Christ in Appleton, Wisconsin. He holds degrees from Northwestern University (BME) and the University of Iowa (MA in choral conducting). He has taught senior high school vocal music in Iowa and Illinois, and has worked



extensively with private children's choruses, including serving five years as the associate conductor of the Glen Ellyn (Illinois)/Anima Children's Chorus. John also served as director of music ministries at First Presbyterian Church of Glen Ellyn for ten years.

At First Congregational, John develops the worship, music, and fine arts ministries of the church. His time there has included starting and directing a children's choir and a youth handbell ensemble, directing children's musicals, serving as music director for intergenerational musicals, implementing a new audition process for First Congregational's Lawrence University Music Scholars, and hosting workshops and concerts with numerous choirs, including such groups as the world-renowned Vienna Boys Choir.

John is an active member of the American Choral Directors Association and has served two terms as the Repertoire and Standards Chair for Music in Worship in the North Central Division. In addition, he is a member of the Appleton Boychoir conducting staff, working with the Senior Choir.

Registration:

\$15/person or \$25/
choir (includes
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singers, for
a total of 5 people)

Register online at
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Music will be
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(Music is not
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Early registration is
encouraged.

Please contact
Paul Kasten:
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and the Milwaukee Chapter, AGO

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pneditor@agomilwaukee.org.
The Deadline is the 20th of the preceding month

Welcome to our **new Board Members**—Class of 2019: David Bohn, Tim Handle, David Porth and Steve Rohde. Thank you to the outgoing Class of 2017: David Bohn, Veronica Fregoso, Barry Hay and Michelle LaPaglia. I would like to have one summer board meeting likely on the evening of the Mount Carmel Choral Reading Session — Tuesday August 1st. Register for the choral event on our web-site <http://agomilwaukee.org> or when you arrive at Mt. Carmel for the workshop (6:30pm start time).

Please pencil in our Potluck and Officer Installation for Monday evening August 28th. Come as you are and share a dish. I'll bring my signature Kopp's Custard and we'll post the location shortly.

The Competition for Young Organists opened the **Iowa North Central Regional Convention**. Isaac Drewes, our Milwaukee contestant from the local Quimby Competition took 2nd place in Iowa City. Larry Wheelock heard all competitors and you can ask him for the complete low-down. I arrived afterward on Monday evening for the opening hymn-sing with Aaron David Miller, a rousing start. Concerts included Ken Cowan, Ahreum Han, Karen Black and Stefan Engal. And what a joy to hear the new Klais at the University of Iowa! I found the two Morning Prayer services a rich experience: 1) based on the catechism questions in the Lutheran Hymnal and 2) Catholic Liturgy of the Hours using schola/congregation SATB psalm-tones. Programming two theatre organ venues on Wednesday afternoon (my birthday) effectively counter-acted my innate need for a nap. The bump-in time with our Chapter members and informative conversation on bus-trips with happen-chance meetings made the week a rich experience.



We used the Convention encounter to advertise the **MILWAUKEE North Central Regional Convention (June 16-20, 2019)**. Larry Wheelock had pencils and magnets printed for convention-goers to sample. I had ten 8x11 signs printed/laminated (enlargement of Larry's magnet) which we literally wore. Larry was first victim to be a walking billboard but we all became visual ads for our upcoming convention.

We ask for your prayers please. **Matt Lawrenz**, Director of Music at St. Gregory the Great (Milwaukee) is one of our younger members, married to Athena and father of two young sons. On May 5th he was diagnosed with two forms of Leukemia. He is now on his third of four rounds of chemo and anticipates a bone-marrow transplant in August. You can message him and follow his treatment on CaringBridge — Site Link: www.caringbridge.org/visit/mattlawrenz / Site Name: mattlawrenz.

Some of you received my **June Dean's Column** via email as I submitted it too late for inclusion in the June Pipenotes. The extra page will be included here as I wrote it during my Pipedreams (Michael Barone) trip to France (May 24-June 3rd). It was literally a dream-come-true, 30 churches in 10 days playing 29 of the 30 organs. I received a photo recently from a friend on the trip that I will treasure forever — myself playing the organ at Saint Sulpice with Daniel Roth and Carolyn Shuster Fournier pulling stops. Be still my heart! [Grand Organ: Clicquot (1781), Aristide Cavallé-Coll V/100 (1862); Case: Chalgrin (1776) V/102].



We were privileged to occupy the organ gallery for liturgy on the Feast of the Ascension at Notre Dame—Paris. My trusty iPadPro preserved three videos of Notre Dame organist Philippe Lefebvre's Prelude, Communion and Postlude improvisations. I intend to invite the Chapter for an informal evening of tour photos, videos and chat on organs and music of France. Stay tuned... Cordially,

Sheri

July 2017

11 (Tues) 7:30 Nicholas Liese, Organ
Church of the Gesu
1145 W. Wisconsin Ave
Milwaukee, WI

12 (Wed) 12:15 Mark Valenti, Piano
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist
812 N. Jackson St
Milwaukee, WI

12 (Wed) 12:15 Devin Attelin, Organ
Lunchtime Organ Recital Series
St. Joseph Catholic Church
404 W. Lawrence St
Appleton, WI

13 (Thurs) 12:15 Andrew Birling, Organ
Lunchtime Organ Recital Series
Memorial Presbyterian Church
803 E. College Ave
Appleton, WI

16 (Sun) 2:00 Karen Beaumont, Organ
St. Hedwig's Church
1702 N. Humbolt
Milwaukee, WI

16 (Sun) 2:30 Michael Hey, Organ
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist
812 N. Jackson St
Milwaukee, WI

19 (Wed) 12:15 Mark Brampton, Organ
Maureen McCarty, Violin
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist
812 N. Jackson St
Milwaukee, WI

19 (Wed) 12:15 Dr. Naomi Rowley, Organ
Lunchtime Organ Recital Series
First Congregational Church
724 E. South River St
Appleton, WI

26 (Wed) 12:15 Olga Sklyanskaya, Piano
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist
812 N. Jackson St
Milwaukee, WI

26 (Wed) 12:15 Dr. Derek Nickels, Organ
Lunchtime Organ Recital Series
Zion Lutheran Church
912 N. Oneida St
Appleton, WI

30 (Sun) 2:00 Karen Beaumont, Organ
Milwaukee Catholic Home
2463 N. Prospect
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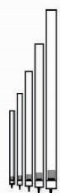
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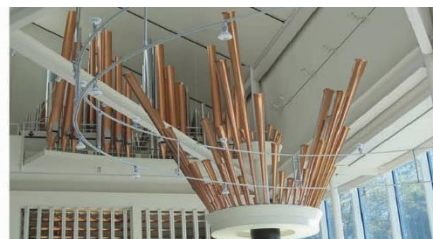
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It gives me the greatest pleasure to write this Dean's Column to you from the Hotel Daunou-opera — 6 rue Daunou — Paris, France. This is a Pipedreams (Michael Barone of Minnesota Public Radio) tour of French organs. The itinerary for today and tomorrow includes: Saint-Gervais (Francois Couperin), Saint-Antoine du-XV-XX Church (Eric Lebrun), the Auditorium of Marcel Duprés home, Saint-Séverin (Michel Chapuis), Notre-Dame-des-Champs, Saint-Étienne-du-Mont (Duruflé) and the beloved Saint-Sulpice (Lefebure-Wely, Fauré, Widor, Vierne and Dupré). It has been a joy to play all but one of the instruments on this trip.

The resident musicians have been gracious in registering our pieces and turning pages. Several have encouraged me to leave my iPad Pro for their use. The tablet has been a God-send. I scanned numerous compositions as pdf's and have nothing to carry besides my shoes and the tablet. The only down-side has been well-lit consoles. The light can glare on the face of the iPad obscuring visibility.

At Notre Dame Cathedral I was in the organ gallery for Mass on the Feast of the Ascension sitting 6 feet from organist—Philippe Lefebvre. I have videos of his improvisations for the prelude, communion and postlude. This instrument (like King's College—Cambridge) can assign a split-point in the pedal which he utilized for the Offertoire—a chant melody on Trompette in the right foot and 16/8/4 registration on the expected bass line for his left foot. I will post these videos on Facebook when I return to Wisconsin. The hotel Wi-Fi hasn't been able to handle the file size for these posts. I have posted many photos of the almost 30 sites in the tour. The posts are public but you are most welcome to friend me. I'm simply listed as expected "Sheri Masiakowski". There is also a page where anyone on our tour can post their own pictures and commentary, "Pipedreams tour 2017: historic organs of France".

I am most impressed with the French Classical instruments. These compositions have vivid color beyond my imagination—music of the Couperins, Grigny, Balbastre, Nivers, Clérambault, Rameau, Dandrieu. I enjoyed the improvisations at Notre-Dame Church in Jivigny (Organist: Eric Brottier), a tiny town in northern France. "Built in Châlons-en-Champagne from 1663 by Jean de VILLERS and Jacques CAROUGE, "modernized" in the 18th century and again in the 19th century, this organ was transferred to Juvigny in 1791. Considerably mutilated by this transfer and by the transformations that took place in the 19th century, it still had enough elements to envisage the reconstruction of the organ in its original 17th century spirit." (Tour itinerary book) Local organist, Eric Brottier, provided a fine demo of a variety of French Classical registrations and I played Clerambault "Basse de Cromorne" from the Suite on the 2nd Tone.



The staircases to these organ lofts deserve their own photo exposé. The most challenging was 92 steps up (all in spiral), a small level walk and then 15 down in an even tighter spiral. I don't cherish heights!



Yesterday we spent several hours at the home of Marcel Dupré. The 1899 Cavallé-Coll in his auditorium was the only time that everyone on the tour could see/hear without cramming ourselves into a tight gallery area. The instrument's combination action is risky and manual compass has an extra octave which is disorienting. There is a "sostenuto" stop; play a chord and the notes continue to sound until you play a new chord—of limited use. I was able to play the "Sortie— Ite missa est" from Tournemire's *Suite morceaux*, opus 24.

What a rich experience to walk in the foot-steps of these august musical ancestors!

Cordially,

Sheri

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Membership 2017-18

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