

DEAN'S LETTER

Dear Nashville Colleagues,

Happy Epiphanytide and greetings this cold January!

With our February program, we welcome international concert organist Lynne Davis at Christ Church Cathedral, 900 Broadway, Nashville. Moved from our usual first Monday evening date, the concert is SUN-DAY, February 1, at 4:00 PM. There will be no Chapter dinner or meeting, but a reception will follow the program. The concert is free to AGO members, and open to the public, \$15 for adults and \$5 for students. Many thanks goes to Christ Church and our hosts, Michael Velting and Jon Johnson, who are co-sponsoring the concert and reception.

There just happens to be another event scheduled for that day, which might be of some interest to a few of you. Not to worry! The Super Bowl kickoff is not until 5:30 pm. You and your friends are welcome to consider our AGO concert reception a pre-game party!

Our Chapter Executive Committee met prior to the January dinner/meeting. With a number of important reports shared at that meeting, I am reminded how committed so many of you are to our Nashville Chapter. Here are highlights:

 Committee member Hank Woerner met with Bill Gray, Gary Scott, and Richard Shadinger to discuss and recommend the formation of an Endowment Fund Committee, who will help ensure the continued growth and future use of the fund.

- Nick Bergin, Sub-Dean and Chair of the Program Committee, presented an outline of their 2015–2016 Program Year plan. Committee members Keith Cole, Darryl Miller, Doug Murray, John Semingson, Elizabeth Smith, Rhonda Swanson, Anthony Williams, and Nick are hard at work organizing what promises to be an exciting season of concerts and workshops.
- A Yearbook Task Force has been established to explore ways to address the rising costs of the book's production and distribution. And an Organ Sub-List Task Force, headed by Janet Schmidt, has also been established to help make our Chapter organ substitute list more accessible, informative, and user-friendly to those seeking our services.

Many thanks to all these folks who are working to strengthen and grow the Guild and advance the contribution of the AGO to our churches and community. In addition to these important tasks is the work of our Nominating Committee: Jon Johnson, Chair, Gayle Sullivan, and Rhonda Swanson. It is their task to present candidates for Chapter officers and candidates to serve as members at large on the Executive Committee. I hope those of you asked to be placed on the ballot will accept without hesitation. Be assured you will be supported and encouraged by all your Chapter colleagues!

I look forward to seeing you all February 1, at Christ Church Cathedral. Keep warm and stay well!

Jonathan Setzer Dean

FEBRUARY PROGRAM – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1 – 4:00 PM LYNNE DAVIS IN CONCERT

Christ Church Cathedral • 900 Broadway• Nashville, Tennessee 37203

NO DINNER — RECEPTION FOLLOWS THE CONCERT

MEMBER NEWS

We express our condolences to **Nancy Reiser** in the loss of her father in Jacksonville, Florida.

Yearbook update:

William Cumming (Chapter Friend) 824 Sutton Hill Rd. Nashville, TN 37204 615-292-0680 wcummingnmn@comcast.net

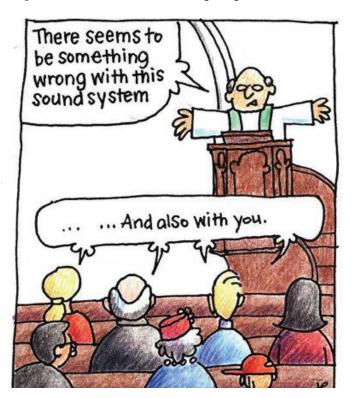
JOB OPENINGS

First Presbyterian Church, Lewisburg, TN is seeking an organist for one Sunday morning service and Wednesday night rehearsal each week. Bachelor's degree in music is preferred but not required. Specifications for the historic Kilgen 2/11 (1900) organ can be seen at <www.nashvilleago.org/AreaOrgans/Specs/FPCLewisburg/htm>. Please contact Bill Lawrie at <blavelength (blawrie 12@att.net) or 931-637-1750 for further information.

First United Methodist Church, McMinnville, TN has an immediate opening for an Organist for one Sunday service (10:30 AM) and Wednesday night rehearsal each week, as well as any special services during the church year. Salary is negotiable. Contact Donna Campbell, Director of Music, at 931-808-8415 or Senior Pastor, James Johnson at 931-473-4419. Charlotte Hughes, Placement Chair

AVAILABLE SUBSTITUTES

A current list of available substitutes can be found at our Chapter Website, <www.nashvilleago.org>.





Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres 2012 Ann & Dennis Ross Endowed Faculty of Distinction in Organ and Associate Professor Wichita State University School of Music

A native of Michigan, leading international concert organist Lynne Davis graduated with honors in organ performance from the University of Michigan where she studied with Robert Clark. Shortly after, she moved to France to study with Marie-Claire Alain. While there she also studied with Jean Langlais, Maurice and Marie-Madeleine Duruflé, and Edouard Souberbielle as well as other great European master organists.

For over thirty years, Lynne Davis made France her home, marrying Frenchman and Chartres International Organ Competition founder, Pierre Firmin-Didot. Between them the couple played a major role in the French organ music scene, initiating among other things the famous 1992 exhibition and recording of "Les Orgues de Paris".

In the fall of 2006, she was appointed Associate Professor of Organ, holding the Robert L. Town Distinguished Professor of Organ chair at the Wichita State University School of Music in Kansas. In addition to heading the organ program, she also produces the Rie Bloomfield Organ Series and performs monthly half-hour organ recitals,

From Darryl Miller:

I am happy to recommend Todd Wilson's new recording, *The Organ Music of Gerre Hancock* (Raven OAR-951). Actually, there are two CDs, and includes every composition of Gerre Hancock, most of which are published.

Everything about this CD is a real treasure. The wonderful booklet contains a bio and pictures of Gerre through the years, information on the organs, information on the pieces performed, and a bio of Todd. Why is this recording important? Judith Hancock, Gerre's wife of over 50 years, says: How wonderful to experience Todd Wilson in a CD playing the complete organ works of Gerre Hancock! These pieces represent several stages in Dr. Gerre's compositions, from "Air" written around 1960, to "An Evocation on 'Urbs Beata Jerusalem", completed on Easter Day, 2009. Todd was a student at Cincinnati Conservatory when Dr. Gerre was at Christ Church, Cincinnati. He formed a relationship with Gerre that informed his future career in organ. There were some improvisation lessons and countless services where Todd's music senses were saturated with that certain style of service playing and performance. Now that we have lost Gerre, but not the beautiful compositions he left us, not the students he affected, it is so appropriate that Todd Wilson has done this recording. which will remind us of that special style of Gerre Hancock's, but it will also allow us to hear the registration of these pieces as Gerre intended them to sound. Years from now, when the organs heard on this recording are no longer at St. Thomas, this CD will assist our memory of the uniquely thrilling and beautiful qualities of the instruments that were so closely associated with Gerre's own playing and composing.

Music included on the recording:

Air: Prelude for Organ

Variations on Palm Beach, Coronation, Ora Labora

Fantasy on Divinum Mysterium

Prelude & Fugue on *Union Seminary*

Meditation on Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Preludes on Nettleton, Somerset Hills, Playford,

Bayhead, Hyfrydol. Slane

An Evocation of Urbs Beata Jerusalem

A Paraphrase of St. Elizabeth

A Fancy for Two to Play: Duet for Organ

A Laredo Fanfare

Fantasy on St. Denio

Fanfare on Antioch

Trumpet Flourishes for Christmas

Holy Week (suite)

Toccata for Organ

The printed music is available from Lois Fyfe Music, and the CD can be purchased directly from Raven at <www.ravencd.com>.

A personal word from Darryl:

Todd's association with Gerre began in Cincinnati where Todd was a student at the College-Conservatory of Music (CCM), and Gerre was at Christ Church (now Cathedral) and adjunt instructor at the CCM. Most of us organ students heard Gerre perform regularly; I fondly remember his exciting improvisations during the annual "Boar's Head Festival" at Christ Church. I've known Todd since he was 16 and wore "beatle boots" as organ shoes. By then he was performing at an incredibly high level. Todd and I studied with Wayne Fisher at CCM, so we go "way back!"

www.nashvilleago.org



ARTS CALENDAR - FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL

FEBRUARY

2/1 - 4:00 PM

Organ Concert cosponsored by Christ Church Cathedral and the Nashville Chapter AGO Lynne Davis, organist Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville 900 Broadway, Nashville 37203

2/6 (Friday) — 6:15 PM

Broadway Dinner Show and Silent Auction "I Hear America Singing" First Presbyterian Church 4815 Franklin Road, Nashville 37220 FPC Sanctuary Choir and Friends

2/8 — 5:00 PM

Choral Evensong St. George's Episcopal Church 4715 Harding Road, Nashville, 37205

2/15 - 12:20 PM

Vanderbilt Concert Choir, David Binn Williams, director First Presbyterian Church 4815 Franklin Road, Nashville 37220

2/22 - 3:30 PM

Lententide Solemn Choral Evensong and Organ Concert Elizabeth Smith, guest organist Christ Church Cathedral Choir, Michael Velting, Canon for Music, Jon Johnson, Associate Organist and Choirmaster Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville 900 Broadway, Nashville 37203

MARCH

3/1 - 4:00 PM

Choral Evensong

All Saints' Chapel, 735 University Ave., Sewanee 37383 St. George's Choir with the Choir of the University of the South

3/6 (Friday) — 7:30 PM

Concordia College Choir, Rene Clausen, director First Presbyterian Church 4815 Franklin Road, Nashville 37220

3/8 - 4:00 PM

Christ Church Cathedral Chorister Festival Evensong Christ Church Senior Choristers and Regional Guests Michael Kleinschmidt, Guest Director Michael Velting, Canon for Music Jon Johnson, Associate Organist and Choirmaster Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville 900 Broadway, Nashville 37203

3/15 - 7:00 PM

Vienna Boys Choir Schermerhorn Symphony Center One Symphony Place, Nashville 37201

3/18 (Wednesday) — 9:15 PM

Compline

St. George's Episcopal Church 4715 Harding Road, Nashville, 37205

3/27 (Friday) — 5:00-11:00 PM

9th Annual BACHANALIA

Michael Velting, Canon for Music, Jon Johnson, Associate Organist and Choirmaster Nashville Community Guest Musicians Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville 900 Broadway, Nashville 37203

APRIL

4/3 (Friday) — 7:00 PM

Tenebrae: A Service of Darkness First Presbyterian Church 4815 Franklin Road, Nashville 37220 Featuring FPC Sanctuary Choir

4/15 (Wednesday) — 9:15 PM

Compline

St. George's Episcopal Church 4715 Harding Road, Nashville, 37205

4/19 — 3:00 PM

Nashville Chamber Singers MTSU Wright Music Building 1439 Faulkinberry Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37130

4/19-3:00 PM

St. George's Choir and Orchestra Concert St. George's Episcopal Church 4715 Harding Road, Nashville, 37205

4/19—4:30 PM

Brahms *A German Requiem*Chancel Choir and Orchestra
Matthew Phelps, director
Pre-Concert talk at 3:30 by Tucker Biddlecombe
West End United Methodist Church
2200 West End Avenue, Nashville 37203

4/26 - 3:00 PM

Spring Concert Nashville Chamber Singers, Angela Tipps, director First Presbyterian Church 4815 Franklin Road, Nashville 37220

The complete arts calendar is available at our chapter website, <Nashvilleago.org>