



President's Message

MOIRA HAYES

Praise of the Highest Order

President's Message

Pro Organo RCCO Membership Dues

Around Town Orgelfest Update Annual General Meeting

Wesley Warren Concert Review Gilles Leclerc Recital Members' News

Supply List Organ Teachers List

Our Advertisers

6

his month let me tell you about one of my favourite hymn writers. Many of his hymns are found in our "Book of Praise" as the Presbyterians call it, and most are very familiar to our congregations. The themes of these hymns cover morning and evening praise, Christmas, Palm Sunday, Easter, the Church, and Communion of Saints. The hymn writer, an Anglican priest named John Mason Neale, lived only until age 48 and his years are 1818 -1866.

However, as many of you will know, John Mason Neale was not so much a hymn writer as a translator of ancient Latin and Greek texts from the 4th to the 15th century. Some names are unknown, but many others familiar, such as St. Ambrose of Milan, Prudentius, John of Damascus, Peter Abelard, Thomas a Kempis and Bernard of Cluny.

Here is "word magic", poetry of the highest order.

Neale was a Greek and Latin scholar, and was keen to have these ancient texts available to his contemporaries for worship. Neale's gift for languages, coupled with his "natural poetic talent and facility for clear expression" ⁽¹⁾ has resulted in hymn translations that are marked by great English mated to great theology. His hymn translations are rightly praised, and are to be found in both Protestant and Roman Catholic hymnals. Singing these great hymns keeps us in continuity with the Greek and Latin churches of antiquity as well as serving as inspiring vehicles of praise today.

Here is a partial list of some of Neale's best known and loved hymns:

Now that the daylight fills the sky St. Ambrose of Milan (340 – 397)

O come, O come Emmanuel Latin 13th century

All glory, laud and honour Latin, Theodolph of Orleans (750 – 821)

The day of Resurrection Greek, John of Damascus (675 -749)

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain Greek, John of Damascus

Christ is made the sure foundation 7th -8th century

O what their joy and their glory must be Peter Abelard (1079 -1142)

Jerusalem the golden Bernard of Cluny (12th century)

The day is past and over

Greek, ascribed to Anatolius, date uncertain.

... continued from page 1

No doubt, some of these are among your favourites. My favourite is the hymn by Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348 – 413), *Of the Father's love begotten*, sung to the Plainsong melody *Divinum Mysterium (Corde Natus)*. Here is "word magic," poetry of the highest order:

Of the Father's love begotten Ere the worlds began to be, *He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,*

Of the things that are, that have been, And the future years shall see,

Evermore and evermore.

Christ to Thee, with God the Father, And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee.

Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be, Honour, glory and dominion, and eternal victory,

Evermore and evermore. Amen.

¹.Ian Bradley Abide With Me. The World of Victorian Hymns. 1997. SCM Press. Page 26

- Moira Hayes



he last Pro Organo Ottawa concert of the season will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, May 10th at Knox Presbyterian Church (Elgin and Lisgar), and will feature Quebec City organist Danny Belisle.

Danny was born in Rimouski, to a musical family, and began piano and organ studies there with Sr. Pauline Charron (like our colleague Danielle Dubé, who was inspired to take up organ studies after hearing Danny practise a Bach Trio Sonata!). Danny continued his studies in Quebec City, and completed a Masters degree in performance under the direction of Antoine Bouchard at Laval University. He also studied with Antoine Reboulot and Raymond Daveluy.

During summer academies in Europe, Danny Belisle studied with several wellknown organists, including two years in France with Marie-Claire Alain. At the Conservatoire de Rueil-Malmaison, he

KAREN HOLMES

earned the Prix d'Excellence and the Prix de Virtuosité, their highest awards.



Danny Belisle is well-known as a concert performer, with a wide repertoire spanning four centuries, and with special attention to music from the Canadian musical heritage. He is organist of St. Patrick Church in Quebec City and, since 2004, organ teacher at the Conservatoire de musique de Québec.

Because of his special interest in Canadian music, Danny has chosen to play a complete programme of Canadian pieces, mostly from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, but also including some older and some newer works. Here is his programme: Herbert Fricker - Concert Overture; Anonymous Quebec manuscript - Cornett in d minor; William Reed -Triumphal March; Arthur Bernier - Prière; Willan - Prelude and Fugue in C minor; Rachel Laurin - Toccata (Suite brève); Raymond Daveluy - Liebster Jesu; Arthur Letondal - Offertoire, Toccata; pieces from the Livre d'orgue de Montréal; and Thomas Crawford - Toccata in F.

Those who come to the May 10th concert will be the first to see the flyer for the next season - the 25th - of Pro Organo Ottawa!



RCCO Membership Dues

KAREN HOLMES

By now you have all received your membership renewal statement. There is a place where you can donate to the Centre, the College Development Fund, or the Endowment Fund. These are the funds that hold the donations, but you CAN also donate to specific scholarships. For instance, we would like to be able to award more than \$1,000 for the Lorna and Murray Holmes Scholarship each year,



but there is not enough money in the fund. Also, the Muriel Stafford memorial fund does not yet cover the second prize for the National Organ-playing Competition every other year. It has to be topped up by the College, or an individual. I always include a donation specifically for those funds under "Other" on the membership form. I encourage you to also consider such a gift to support younger organists.



Sunday, May 5, 2013, 7:30 p.m. Norman E. Brown (bass-baritone) with Peter Crouch (trumpet) and Frédéric Lacroix (piano). A tribute to the music of George Frederic Handel featuring arias from his operas and oratorios, solo for trumpet, as well as solo works for piano to round out the 2012-13 recital series at St. Luke's. St. Luke's Church: 760 Somerset Street West (3 blocks west of Bronson Ave). Admission by donation. Info: www.stlukesottawa.ca, music@stlukesottawa.ca, Tel (613) 235-3416.

Wednesdays in May, 12:15-1:00

First Baptist Church will be presenting a series of noon-hour recitals this May.

Take time to enjoy fine music making in the beautiful sanctuary of this historic building. Artists will include:

- May 1 Kimberley Shields, trombone
- May 8 Shawn Potter, organ
- May 15 Norman Brown, bass-baritone & Frédéric Lacroix, piano
- May 22 Sonya Sweeney, mezzo-soprano & Jonathan Bondoc, piano
- May 29 Laura McLean, soprano & Evan Mounce, piano

First Baptist Church, 140 Laurier Ave West. Admission by donation. Further info at: www.firstbaptistottawa.ca



Orgelfest Update

This is the last time I will write about early registration for the August convention. The Early Bird rate ends on May 15th!

If you are an RCCO member or a nonmember, a senior member or a senior nonmember, you can save \$50 by registering before May 15th. If you are a student, you only save \$25, but then students pay only \$175, with or without the Orgelfest Academy.

There are still spaces left for the Academy, so do tell any young organists you know about it. Lessons and Master Students have classes in the mornings, then participate in afternoon and evening Orgelfest activities, including all concerts. You can all sign up for an organ crawl to Montreal on Friday, August 16th - and then stay there for the weekend, if you want to! (The Montreal part is not included in your registration fee, unfortunately, but the \$75 fee will cover your trip there - and back, if you don't want to stay - and travel around the city to visit the organs.)

KAREN HOLMES

Rick St. Germain has been working hard on designing tickets, signs, advertisements, and of course, the programme booklet, which is looking very special worth the price of admission!

If you have any questions, please email them to Orgelfest2013@rcco-ottawa. ca, or ask any member of the planning committee.





... at our Annual General Meeting

on Monday June 17th, 2013 at

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. (971 Woodroffe Ave.)

Refreshments at 7:00 p.m.

with meeting to follow at 7:30 p.m.

This is your Centre. Our executive values your feedback. Come out and voice your opinions and ideas on what you'd like to have your Centre do.

The Annual General Meeting of the Ottawa Centre is our opportunity to conduct the necessary business of the College, but also to celebrate the year past and look forward to the coming year. We will honour Bob Jones as our "Member of the Year" and will also hear the latest on our upcoming "Orgelfest" convention this summer.

All members are encouraged to attend and participate in decisionmaking of your Centre and to hear reports of the various convenors and National Council representatives.

There is plenty of parking and the room is air-conditioned.



Wesley Warren Concert Review

he third recital of the season for Ottawa's Pro Organo series was given by Wesley Warren on May 10th at St. Barnabas Anglican Church. Wesley Warren has been organist at St. Barnabas for the last twenty-five years, and holds degrees in organ performance from the University of Toronto and the University of Michigan. An award winning organist and choral conductor, Wesley is active as a performer, teacher, and church musician in the Ottawa region.

While we all undoubtedly look forward to hearing artists brought in from the far reaches of the world, Wesley's concert served as a reminder that often the best recitals are given by organists who know intimately the instrument being played. There is no replacement for spending many years with an instrument, crafting a relationship with the subtle beauties each instrument has to offer!

After opening with the fantastical *Praeludium in e* by Bruhns, we were treated to a chorale partita by Böhm, *Ach, wie*

nichtig, ach wie flüchtig. These variations on the given chorale provide the organist with ample opportunity for colourful registrations and changes of mood, and Wesley did not disappoint. The majestic final variation, somber in tone, was particularly appreciated. It was in the last piece of the first half, though, the first sonata by Hindemith, that we heard the finest synergy of performer, instrument and music. The *Phantasie* was played, as all fantasias should, in the manner of an improvisation, with much flexibility and flair. In the final



SHAWN POTTER

section, *Ruhig bewegt*, Wesley's playing allowed music and instrument alike to breathe, ending the first half in a rare sense of tranquility. Throughout, the registrations were well chosen, and well suited to Wesley's playing.

The second half of the program was composed of music in the Romantic tradition, ranging from Widor and Franck to Willan. Wesley's intimate knowledge and love of this music was clear, and his choice of lush registrations appropriate. Particularly fine was his performance of Marco Enrico Bossi's Scherzo in G minor, which, despite its technical difficulties, Wesley managed with seeming ease. Following the Bossi was the Andante sostenuto from Widor's Symphonie gothique. This, at times, felt rushed, and lacked the ethereal peacefulness and sense of breadth that Wesley conveyed so convincingly in the Hindemith. The concert ended with a rousing rendition of Henri Mulet's Caril*lon – Sortie*, brilliantly executed, bringing the audience to their feet.

Gilles Leclerc Recital

celebrate the 25th anniversary of the installation of Guilbault-Thérien, op. 28 (1988) and to mark the 80th anniversary of the inauguration of the Karn-Warren organ (21 April 1933), Gilles Leclerc, organist at Église Saint-François-d'Assise, gave a recital to an enthusiastic and appreciative audience.

The very diverse programme (Bach, Sweelinck, Buxtehude, Franck and Leclerc) showed off the versatility of the organ. Every stop was utilized from the solo oboe in Bach's O Mensch bewein dein sunde gross (BWV 622) to the three 16' pedal stops in Buxtehude's Prelude, Fugue et Chaconne (BuxWV 137). Of course, full organ comes at the end of Gilles' last offering: an improvisation of a seven-note theme. We are fully aware that he is the master of improvisation!

Mai-Yu Chan





New members:

Brown, Sthephen and Elizabeth # 4 Maurya Ct., Ottawa Ontario K1G 5S2 (613) 739.0675(H), (613) 608-1210 (Cell) lizbrown2007@hotmail.com

Email change:

Cathy Giles has changed her email from gilespiano@AOL.com to gilespiano@gmail.com

OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE 2012-2013

OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE

CONVENORS OF COMMITTEES

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Royal Canadian College of OrganistsCollège royal canadien des organistesNext Executive Meeting:Ottawa CentreSection d'OttawaP.O. Box 2270, Station DC.P. 2270, Succursale DOttawa, ON KIP 5W4www.rcco-ottawa.caOttawa, ON KIP 5W4www.rcco-ottawa.caOttawa, ON KIP 5W4www.rcco-ottawa.ca



Supply List

| Amy Andonian Carl Bear | 613 224-8117 | Sundays, weddings, funerals. Lutheran, Anglican, Presbyterian, United carl.f.bear@gmail.com |
|---------------------------|--------------|---|
| | | Experience in Protestant and Catholic contexts. Especially interested in a long term position |
| Nadia Behmann | 613-723-8601 | nadia@behmann.ca Weddings and Funerals. |
| Elizabeth Brown | 613-608-1210 | lizvrown2007@hotmail.com Weddings, funerals, Sunday services, any denomination |
| Mai-Yu Chan | 613-726-0818 | fosterg@rogers.com |
| Robert Dunlop | 613-235-3778 | |
| Joash Fang | 613-853-0877 | jfang057@uottawa.ca Sundays, weddings, funerals |
| Janice Gray | 613-276-3172 | janicenlpegypt@hotmail.com |
| Frances Macdonnell | 613-726-7984 | fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca |
| Simon Pinsonneault | 613 299-1886 | simon.pinsonneault@tc.gc.ca |
| Gavan Quinn | 613-792-1492 | gavanquinn@gmail.com, Weddings, funerals |
| Donald Russell | 613-738-9223 | russell.kimberwick@me.com |
| Blaine Sack | 613-206-1179 | blainesack@yahoo.ca, Weddings, funerals, and other special services |
| Wesley R. Warren | 613 726-6341 | Weddings and Funerals |
| | | |

Please note: Supply list can also be found on the RCCO Ottawa web site at http://www.rcco-ottawa.ca Anyone interested in adding their names to the Supply List, please contact Suzanne St-Germain at 613-841-0246 or via email at newsletter@rcco-ottawa.ca

Organ Teachers List

D. Mervyn Games, B.Mus., FRCO, ARCM. Students in piano, organ, and theory at all levels. Info: mervyn.games@gmail.com or 613-729-2515.

Robert P. Jones, M.Mus., ARCCO (ChM). All levels of students (teenager or adult). Lessons at St. Luke's Church (760 Somerset Street W.) Info:pentland@hotmail.com

Heather Rice, ARCT, BMus, ARCCO (ChM). Welcomes students in piano, organ, voice and theory, Beginner - Intermediate, Children - Adult. Call 613-563-1409

Wesley R. Warren, M.Mus., FRCO, (ChM), ARCT. Beginning to advanced organ students, piano and theory. St. Barnabas Anglican Church, (Kent St. at James), Ottawa. Info: 613-726-6341













Advertising Policy

1. Any Ottawa Centre member may announce his/her event on the Around Town section of the newsletter free of charge if **he/she is** the coordinator, conductor, **soloist**, or organist/accompanist of the event.

2. If a member wishes to place a free announcement in Around Town for an event of another organization he/she is a member of (not covered by Policy 1), the member must make a written request to the RCCO Centre Executive for approval of that one specific event. Approval may be granted on the basis that this **extraordinary** event would be of specific interest to our members: e.g., church/choral, and/or organ/bells, **and/ or the** encouragement of young organists and pianists.

3. If a non-member wishes to announce an event of his/ her organization in Around Town **free of charge**, he/she must make a written request to the RCCO Centre Executive for approval of that one specific event. Approval may be granted as per Policy 2; in most circumstances, however, we would expect the Organization to pay as per the rates set out by the Centre for advertising.



ORGAN RECITAL D'ORGUE

DANNY BELISLE (ville de Québec)



Friday May 10, 2013 7:30 pm le vendredi 10 mai 2013 à 19h30

Knox Presbyterian Church (Elgin/Lisgar)

Willan, Wm. Reid, H. Fricker, R. Laurin, D. Bédard, R. Daveluy

www.rcco-ottawa.ca

Adult / Adulte \$20 (\$15 senior /âge d'or - \$10 student /étudiant)

This series is presented by the Royal Canadian College of Organists – Ottawa Centre Une présentation du Collège royal canadien des organistes – section d'Ottawa

We thank the City of Ottawa for its assistance in this series of organ recitals. Nous remercions la Ville d'Ottawa pour l'aide apportée à la tenue de cette série de concerts.

