

**ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE** OF ORGANISTS **OTTAWA CENTRE** 

**COLLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN** DES ORGANISTES SECTION D'OTTAWA



### **President's Message** DONALD RUSSELL

#### President's Message

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# **Look At All Those Notes!**

read something interesting last week. It is a research article that presented some interesting ideas on how music theory might relate to musical performance, including improvisation. It is entitled "Music Theory and Musical Practice: Dichotomy or Entwining?" by Lieven Strobbe and Hans van Regenmortel. It can be found online if you search for the title (or email me and I can point you to a copy).

It seems like a very common idea today is that one route (perhaps the best route) to better performance and improved focus is through a better understanding of the musical work to be performed based on theoretical analysis. Being able to recognize the next chord as a dominant seventh chord and that as a result the proper fingering can be found may provide some benefit. A solid foundation of musical theory is certainly built into the curriculum at most music conservatories and in most music degree programs. But why? Theory is clearly a useful tool in understanding how composed music works, how it is structured to achieve certain goals and perhaps how to compose similar works. But does theory relate in any way to performance?



UPEUMEE uches et anches

The article discusses a number of interesting ideas, including the differences between learning a language and learning music. There are also some similarities one of the most important being that we all learn our first language as very small children long before we learn grammar. In fact, learning a language based on grammar is almost always not an effective approach. This is why immersion is so important in language acquisition. We gain an effective understanding of how a language actually works not through a theoretical understanding but through doing.

In music, there are many approaches to relating the notes on the page to the intended musical performance. The article I

#### ... continued from page 1

mentioned contrasts two to them - one is based on theory and the other is through audiation (not audition). Audiation is imagined sound - a concept common to language learning and musical learning. In language we link the written word "car" with the imagined sound of the word ("audiation") rather than seeing three letters and reasoning from those letters the proper position of the lips and tongue to pronounce the word.

In the same ways this research suggests that the way we relate all those notes on the page to a performance should not be through theory but through and internal imagining of the sound of the music. Perhaps even more interestingly, in the case of music, is the direct connection that appears to exist by the audiation of music and its actual physical performance. The article states "We all know that when the amateur musician says I feel it in my fingers but I cannot explain, common

sense presumes he does not know what he is doing. An academic might confound this statement with the idea he has no knowledge about what he is doing." Effective musical performance seems to depend on this ability to audiate the sounds we hear in our heads rather than reasoning from the notes on that page which fingers we should move and when we should move them. We don't need a theoretical understanding of what we are doing to do it well (consider an activity like walking as an example). The paper points out that there is a much more direct link between audiated sound and physical action than between theoretical ideas and physical action.

So, the bottom line is that, rather than being a score performer (intentionally used in a negative sense here), spend some time playing around (dare I say improvising) on the keyboard or humming a tune and focus on the sounds you are creating. When you read a piece of music rather than spelling the note names in your head (e.g. a quarter note A filled by an eighth note B flat) imagine the sound of a rising minor second and let your actions flow from the imagined sound. Many young children learn a lot about music and performance by simply playing around on the keyboard. It turns out this approach may be fundamental in a deeper way to all musical performance and that music theory just gets in the way. Similar ideas are also recognized in some approaches to improving sight reading skills.

I found this to be a very interesting and thought provoking article - if these ideas make you think then give the full paper a read. I've tried to do some justice here to the ideas presented by the authors but there is much more to be gained from reading their whole article.





## Around Town

Wednesdays in May, 2015, 12:15 p.m. First Baptist Church will be presenting a series of noon-hour recitals this May. The final concert of the series will feature the church's beautiful 1969 Steinway B, a gift from the Ottawa pianist and teacher, Luba Pope. Take time to enjoy fine music making in the beautiful sanctuary of this historic building. Artists will include:

- May 6 Shawn Potter, organ
- May 13 Capital Chamber Choir
- May 20 Susan Toman, celtic harp
- May 27 Sonya Sweeney and Jonathan Bondoc, piano duo

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

#### Sunday, May 10, 2015, 8:00 p.m.

Thomas Brawn (flute) with Robert Jones (organ). Music written for or dedicated to mothers, featuring music by Bach and Schubert. St. Luke's Church: 760 Somerset Street West). Admission by donation. Info: (613) 235-3416, www. stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recital-series, music@stlukesottawa.ca. This is the final recital in the 2014-15 series. Please note: the recital scheduled for May 24 featuring the Choir of St. Luke's has been cancelled.

Saturday, May 30, 2015, 7:30 p.m. Musica Serbica choir presents Song of Our Lands featuring popular selections from Canada and Serbia. Katarina Jovic, director, Djurdja Papazoglu, piano. St. Thomas the Apostle Anglican Church, 2345 Alta Vista Dr. Tickets: \$15 Adults, \$10 Seniors&Students, \$25 Family (children under 12 free). Info: musicaserbica@gmail.com

### **Out of Town**

**Tuesday, May 26, 2015, 7:30 p.m.** Montreal-based concert organist Philip Crozier will give a recital at Saint Lawrence Anglican Church (formerly St. Peter's), 80 Pine Street, in **Brockville** to celebrate the restoration of the 1933 threemanual Casavant. Tickets are \$20, with the proceeds going to the ongoing revoicing project. Beginning at 7 p.m., pipe organ restorer Sylvain Brisson will precede the concert with a brief demonstration of the new console and its recent revoicing.

oin us

Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7:00 pm St. Paul's Presbyterian Church 971 Woodroffe Ave



## **Educational Programme 2015-16**

#### THE CHOIR-TRAINING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

ou may recall that in the academic year 2013-14, I offered a series of six workshops to help students prepare for the Service-Playing and Colleague examinations. In 2015-16, I would like to do the same thing for the RCCO's Choir Training Certificate Examination.

For some years now, the RCCO has offered this examination, aimed at parish church musicians working in real-life situations in small churches, through which they can demonstrate their ability to plan a choir programme in a church, direct a short choir practice, briefly discuss rehearsal and performance techniques, answer some straightforward written questions on choir management and choral planning, and write some simple harmony. The outcome of this examination is a Certificate of Proficiency in Choir Training.

The difficulty is that so far, no member of the College has as yet taken this exam! What is putting people off from attempting it? One possible answer is that the Examination Requirements say that both sections of the exam, practical and written, must be taken at once. Although this exam is in fact not difficult, that requirement may have made it look a little daunting. I have therefore obtained the agreement of the National Examinations Committee that this examination can in the future be tried one session at a time: that is, candidates can do either the written or the practical in one year, and the other half another year. This makes the whole project much more approachable.

Throughout next academic year, therefore, starting in September, I would like to offer a series of six educational workshops to help members look at this exam and to discover that it's not nearly as difficult as

### FRANCES MACDONNELL

it looks on paper! It can very easily be prepared, and I will gladly help members to do that, for either one section or the other, or both.

The first of these workshops will be held on **Saturday September 19, 2015** at St. Stephen's Anglican Church (off Pinecrest Avenue, near the Queensway, lots of parking) from 10 am until noon.

I will schedule the other workshops as soon as we know how many members are interested in participating and what their schedules are like. For further information, please e-mail me at fbmacdonnell@ sympatico.ca, or call me at 613-726-7984.

Or, of course, if you have ideas for other Educational programmes which you would like the Centre to provide, please get in touch with me as well!



## A Note from the Treasurer

**B** y now you will have received your membership renewal statements from National Office. There is no increase of fee this year. The College year ends

on June 1<sup>st</sup> and fees are due by May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015. If your membership category is incorrect on the statement, please correct it and enclose the total fee shown below.

### Ross Jewell

The 2015/2016 fees (without a magazine subscription) are listed below:

Category Adult Institution Joint Student* Senior	HQ Portion \$ 110 \$ 110 \$ 144 \$ 56 \$ 91 \$ 102	Centre Portion \$ 24 \$ 24 \$ 26 \$ 17 \$ 17 \$ 12	<b>Total Fee</b> \$ 134 \$ 134 \$ 170 \$ 73 \$ 108	<ul> <li>* Student rates apply for anyone under 21 or FULL time student. Please send in proof of eligibility with your fee. A photocopy of your student ID will do.</li> <li>** Joint senior rate applies if at least one of the joint members is over 65.</li> </ul>
Joint Senior**	\$ 132	\$ 19	\$ 151	Non-member subscription to <i>Pipelines</i> is \$25 for 10 issues.

Note that you may now renew your membership on line at www.rcco.ca.

The Ottawa Centre is a registered charity. Income tax receipts will be given for all donations. If you would like to make a donation to one of our Centre funds, **you may now do so on our website directly** or by downloading a donation form. Please specify on the form which fund you would like to donate to. A list and description of the scholarship funds can be found on our website at

#### http://www.rcco-ottawa.ca/schol.html

You may now purchase Pro Organo season tickets on line beginning May 12th as well as make donations to the Pro Organo programme. Your financial support is most welcome as it is the generous donations of our patrons that help us to provide these wonderful concerts. It would be marvelous if more members would take advantage of these wonderful concerts and become a patron of Pro Organo. See the bottom of our web page for more details.

To avoid missing any publications, please renew promptly. It also saves us much time and money if all renewals are in by the due date, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

Have a wonderful summer.

Ross Jewell Treasurer

## **Montreal Organ Crawl**

### BLAKE HARGREAVES



are in for a treat! On are in for a ..... Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, a bus will take us to Montreal for an organ crawl. There, you'll see, up front and personal, Casavant's magnificent new Grand Orgue Pierre Béique, Opus 3900 inaugurated at the brand new Maison Symphonique just last year. Titular organist, Jean-Willy Kunz, will lead us through this spectacular space and demonstrate the 4-manual organ. This is a not-to-miss opportunity to visit one of the most spectacular organs ever

Capping off our tour will be a visit to another spectacular Casavant, this time at St. James United Church where resident organist Philip Crozier will guide us through this popular venue.

produced by Casavant Frères.

The planned itinerary for this outing is as follows:

7:30 am depart from St Peter's 10:00 am tour at Maison Symphonique (1 hour) 12:30 pm tour at St. James' United 2:00 pm depart from Montreal 4:30 pm dropoff at St Peter's

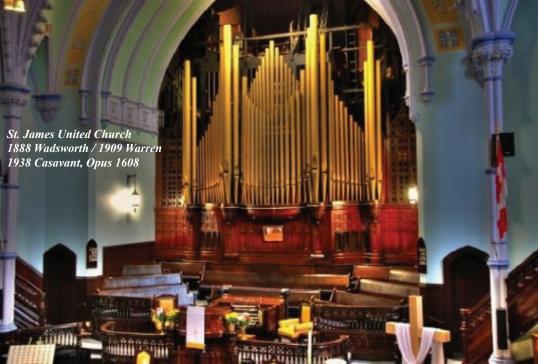
A 20-passenger bus will be our primary mode of transportation. Fees for the day, including bus, are:

> \$60 for members \$75 for non-members \$50 for Students

For those not taking the bus, the fee will be \$10 to cover admission to Maison Symphonique (limit of 20 people for the organ crawl here).

Bookings will be taken on a first-come basis for the first 20 participants, with priority for those taking bus transport. We need a commitment by May 8th so we know if we have enough people for a bus. If not, we can advise





those who wrote cheques for a bus and offer them the registration with car pooling. We need more than just a verbal commitment to hire a bus. For further information or to register, please confirm

with Blake Hargreaves at 613-255-1394, or via email at blakehargreaves@gmail. com. Send cheques payable to RCCO Ottawa Centre to Blake Hargreaves, 2-498 Lyon St. N., Ottawa, ON K1R 5X7



### **St. Lawrence Organ Project**

Casavant organ in the right transept at St. Lawrence Church in Brockville was built by in 1933,replacing a smaller Samuel Warren instrument that was situated in the gallery. The three manual instrument presently has 32 stops in four divisions, following a partial rebuild in 1981 by François Caron. The electro-pneumatic console was replaced with Peterson digital technology in 2012 by Sylvain Brisson Organs.

St. Lawrence Church (formally St. Peter's until amalgamation with Trinity Anglican in 2005) is a medium-sized building with a stunning acoustic, seating 300. It was constructed in 1837. It has a long history of traditional Anglican choral music with both a men and boys choir and a mixed choir. The organ was built to resound with 250 people singing! The Swell division speaks directly into the right transept; one can see the enclosing shutters at eye level. The Great division principals speak directly into the nave from the upper left side of the organ case, with a separate chest over the Swell holding the flutes and chorus trumpet. The Choir division has an eclectic selection, including a Fanfare Trumpet added in the 1981 rebuild. It sits

#### SPECIFICATIONS

#### GREAT

16' Bourdon (PED)
8' Diapason
8' Bourdon
4' Principal
4' SpitzFlute
2' Octave
1-1/3' Mixture IV
8' Trumpet Zimbelstern
4' Super
8 thumb pistons, GT to PED

#### PEDAL

32' Resultant (Bourdon I)
16' Open Principal
16' Bourdon I
16' Bourdon II (SW)
10-2/3 (Bourdon II)
8' Principal
8' Stopped Flute
4' Octave
16' Bassoon (SW)

above the Swell to the far right while the Pedal division is placed underneath the Great in the center. A Zimbelstern was added in 2012.

When I arrived in 1998, it was clear that the instrument needed TLC, but the motivation from the congregation was



lacking at that time. In addition, there was a great deal of infrastructure work to be done in the sanctuary, which, of course, caused further deterioration. Finally, in

> 8' Trumpet (GT) 4 thumb/toe pistons

#### COUPLERS

GT, SW, CH to PED at 8', 4' SW, CH to GT at 16',8',4' GT, SW, CH unison off (8') SW to CH at 16',8',4' MIDI to GT, SW, CH, PED 8 General thumb/toe pistons

#### SWELL (enclosed)

16' Bourdon 8' Open Diapason 8' Rohr Flute 8' Voix Celeste 4' Principal 4' ChimneyFlute 2-2/3Twelfth (8' flute) 2' Fifteenth 2' Mixture III 16' Bassoon 8' Oboe 4' Clarion

### JEFF REUSING

2009, we decided to go ahead with a restoration project, which had near unanimous support.

A number of ongoing problems needed resolving. The organ sits in a corner with two outside walls and we suffered frequent ciphers along with humidity issues from the unfinished crawlspace basement. The console was awkwardly placed in the transept, 30 feet from the choir in the chancel centre, which necessitated having an assistant to direct the ensemble! From 2010-12, we were able to raise more than 100,000\$ from hundreds of donors to complete phase I of the project: replacing the console. We now have a movable console with the choir immediately adjacent, and the organist has the added benefit of being able to hear the organ sound from a more balanced perspective. As well, we have resolved most of the insulation problems, also improving the lighting and raising the floor level across the transepts. Looking ahead, we are now well into phase II: repairs and revoicing (by Alain Gagnon); which has been completed on the reeds and some flutes. Further work to be done includes continued revoicing and replacement of the swell expression motor.

Tremulant

 $8 \ thumb \ pistons \ SW$  to PED, SW to GT

#### CHOIR (enclosed)

8' Stopped Diapason
4' Principal
4' Flute (prepared for future install)
2' Piccolo
2-2/3 Cornet II
2/3 Cymbal III
8' Clarinet
8' Fanfare Trumpet Tremulant
8 thumb pistons
ADJUST, CANCEL

CRESCENDO Pedal FULL ORGAN toe piston 8 General thumb/toe pistons

Console: 50 level memory; transposer; multiple crescendo patterns; separable organist folders; record/playback function; USB and MIDI access.



## **Nominating Committee**

he Annual General Meeting is to be held on Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on Woodroffe Avenue. See page 2 for details.

In accordance with our rules, the proposed Executive for 2015-2016 for the Ottawa RCCO Centre will be presented to the membership for approval.

The following have agreed to serve for the 2015-2016 season.

President	David LaFranchise
Vice-President	Sue Sparks
Past President	Donald Russell
Secretary	Shawn Potter
Treasurer	Ross Jewell
Chaplain	Rev. Dr. Mervin Saunders

#### **Convenors of Committees**

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#### **Members at Large**

Heather Rice

#### **National Councillors**

MOIBA HAYES

David LaFranchise Donald Russell Frances Macdonnell Donald Marjerrison

The Executive would be pleased to receive nominations for Member(s) at large. Moira Hayes will be accepting nominations in writing for this position, duly seconded and with the consent of the nominee. The deadline for nominations is **Friday, May 22nd 2015**. Moira may be reached by email at hayes2198@yahoo.ca or by telephone at 613-422-8091. The list to be tabled at the AGM will be published in the June Pipelines.



## Members' Recital



Friday April 12, 2015, our annual Members' recital was held at Woodroffe United Church. An enthusiastic group contributed a wide variety of music to an appreciative crowd. Participants (shown left to right) were:

Donald Russell, Vija Kluchert, Don Marjerrison, Dianne Smith, Samuel Lee, Sondra Goldsmith Proctor.

Many thanks to our talented contributing photographer, Suzanne Marjerrison who captured this event.



The Pub night scheduled for this Monday evening, May 4<sup>th</sup>, is cancelled due to a recent unexpected problem with the Black Rose room at the Heart & Crown Pub in the Byward market.

We hope to reschedule with them for another time in the fall.

### Join us at our Annual General Meeting on Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church (971 Woodroffe Ave.)

#### Refreshments at 7:00 pm with meeting to follow at 7:30 pm.

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. All members are encouraged to attend and participate in decision-making 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.





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# OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE 2014-2015

#### **OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE**

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ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS COLLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN			N DES ORGANISTES	NEXT EXECUTIVE MEE	TING:	

ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF OR	GANISTS COLLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN DES ORGANISTES	NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING:
Ottawa Centre	SECTION D'OTTAWA	SUNDAY, MAY 24 <sup>th</sup> , 1:00 pm,
P.O. Box 2270, Station D Ottawa, ON K1P 5W4	C.P. 2270, SUCCURSALE D www.rcco-ottawa.ca Ottawa. ON K1P 5W4	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
OTTAMA, OTT MIT 5 WT		



## **Supply List**

Amy Andonian	613 224-8117	Sundays, weddings, funerals. Lutheran, Anglican, Presbyterian, United.
Nadia Behmann	613-723-8601	nadia@behmann.ca Weddings and Funerals.
James Brough	613-733-2972	Piano & organ, all styles of music. Any denomination. Sundays, weddings, funerals.
Mai-Yu Chan	613-726-0818	fosterg@rogers.com
Janice Gray	613-276-3172	janicenlpegypt@hotmail.com
Frances Macdonnell	613-726-7984	fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca
Daniel Morel	613-228-8331	danmorel@rogers.com Sundays, weddings, funerals.
Simon Pinsonneault	613-299-1886	simon.pinsonneault@tc.gc.ca
Gavan Quinn	613-792-1492	gavanquinn@gmail.com, Weddings and funerals
Donald Russell	613-738-9223	russell.kimberwick@me.com
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



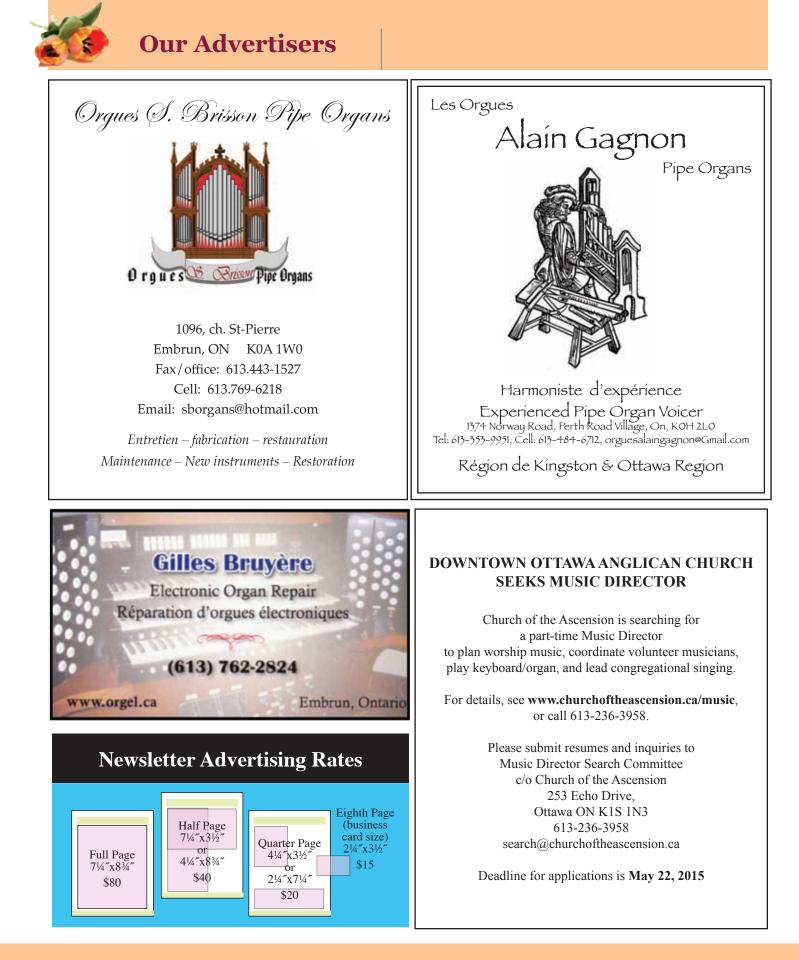
**D. Mervyn Games**, B.Mus., FRCO, ARCM. Students in piano, organ, and theory at all levels. Info: mervyn.games@gmail.com or 613-729-2515.

**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







# **Organ Recital - Récital D' Orgue**

**MICHEL BOUVARD (Organiste, Toulouse, France)** 



Monday May 11, 2015 7:30 pm le lundi 11 mai 2015 à 19h30

Église St-François-d'Assise (Wellington / Fairmont)

Bach, J. Bouvard, Franck, Vierne, F. Couperin, L. Couperin

Une co-présentation avec l'église Saint-François-d'Assise à l'occasion du 125e anniversaire de la fondation de la paroisse par les Capucins de Toulouse, France.

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Adult / Adulte \$25 (\$20 senior /âge d'or - \$15 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.

