



VOL. 33, No. 5
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Pipelines

Bouches et anches



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As the twelve days of Christmas draw to a close, we can relax from the busy round of music-making and socializing that marks the holiday season. New Year's is a traditional time to review the past and make plans for the coming year. What opportunities and challenges will we meet in 2016?

One special part of Christmas this year was meeting many old and new acquaintances at parties in Ottawa, Hamilton and Belleville, cementing friendships with recollections and stories. Of these, one stands out in my mind. A man of 64, who had sung in church choir many years ago, decided to try out for the Bach-Elgar Choir.

Uncertain and a little embarrassed at this whim, he didn't breathe a word to friends or family until he knew that he had been accepted. He was introduced to a whole new world of music, and the pleasure it brought him was worth every bit of the tremendous effort of learning to follow, listen and read.

His is just one example of how music is such a profound source of joy for so many, an activity with a purpose beyond ourselves that can lift us out of our daily rut.

Whether we are performers, leaders, teachers or simply enthusiasts, as members of our Centre we all share a love of music. We have the means to create opportunities for others to participate in music, and to help

them overcome the challenges of doing so, even if it's only a word of encouragement, helping at events or supporting facilities.

As we consider our plans for the coming year, let us seek opportunities to create musical experiences for others.



Centre Events

DONALD MARJERRISON

Monday, January 25th at 7 pm



Wellington Gastropub
1325 Wellington Ave.

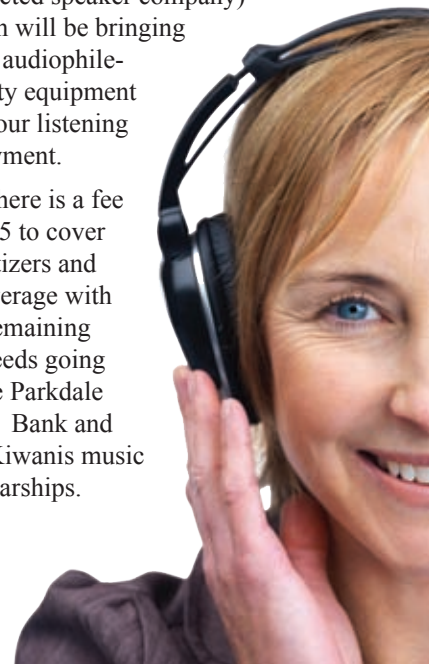
Tetra Speakers is also offering a **15% discount** on purchases made by RCCO members of any Tetra Speaker from www.tetraspeakersonlinestore.com. Also, a portion of the proceeds (5%) from the sale

will be donated back to the RCCO. The discount code to be entered upon checkout is "**RCCO Ottawa**". The code will remain in effect until April 30, 2016. The owner, Adrian Butts, is available to RCCO

Join us on Monday January 25th at the Wellington Gastropub in Hintonberg for a listening party of significant organ performances on vinyl.

This event is being co-presented by Tetra Speakers (a locally based but internationally respected speaker company) which will be bringing in its audiophile-quality equipment for your listening enjoyment.

There is a fee of \$25 to cover appetizers and a beverage with the remaining proceeds going to the Parkdale Food Bank and our Kiwanis music scholarships.



members to answer any questions and offer advice on the best Tetra speakers for them. His direct number is 888-909-3705 Extension 101.

Choir Training Workshop

FRANCES MACDONNELL

The fourth of these preparatory workshops will be held on Saturday February 20th from 10 am until noon at my apartment, 303 - 3099 Carling Avenue. I live just west of the corner of Bayshore Drive, and there is a parking lot directly in front of my building. Please ring my name at the entrance to the building, and then come up in the elevator.

In this workshop, we will continue to look in detail at the examination requirements, both practical and written, and also the ear tests. Please bring the written test questions you have been working on.

For those who may be interested in coming but who have not yet attended any of these workshops, please contact



me before the next workshop so that I can arrange to bring you up to speed.

For further information, please e-mail me at fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca, or call me at 613-726-7984.

Members' News

Welcome to returning member

Graham, Andrew, B.A.Sc. 10 Emily Lauren Cr. RR5, Kemptville, ON K0G 1J0
613-258-2325 (H), 613-248-7153 (W)
andrew.graham@navcanada.ca

Around Town

Sunday, January 10, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Christian Vachon (violin) with Frédéric Lacroix (piano). Come in out of the cold and enjoy an evening of Gabriel Fauré's music for violin and piano that is sure to warm you up! St. Luke's Church, 760 Somerset Street West. Info: (613) 235-3416 or www.stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recital-series. Admission by donation.

Sunday, January 24, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

John Dapaah (piano). Come and enjoy an evening of the Romantic greats from Brahms, Schubert and Chopin. St. Luke's Church, 760 Somerset Street West. Info: (613) 235-3416 or www.stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recital-series. Admission by donation.

Sunday, February 7, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Ronée Boyce (piano). By popular demand, Toronto pianist Ronée Boyce returns to St. Luke's to perform music by Beethoven, Janáček and Albeniz. St. Luke's Church, 760 Somerset Street West. Info: (613) 235-3416 or www.stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recital-series. Admission by donation.

Sunday, February 21, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Garry Elliott (guitar) with Steve Boudreau (piano). An evening of original compositions and jazz standards. St. Luke's Church, 760 Somerset Street West. Further info at (613) 235-3416 or www.stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recital-series.

stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recital-series. Admission by donation.

Sunday, March 6, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Duo Rideau: Catherine Donkin and Amélie Langlois (piano duets). Duo Rideau returns for an exciting evening of piano duets by Schubert and other great composers. St. Luke's Church, 760 Somerset Street West. Info: (613) 235-3416 or www.stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recital-series. Admission by donation.

Sunday, March 20, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Martin Söderberg (pianist from New York City). New York City pianist Martin Söderberg returns to perform four towering masterpieces by Bach, Beethoven, Ravel, and Ginastera. St. Luke's Church, 760 Somerset Street West. Info: (613) 235-3416 or www.stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recital-series. Admission by donation.

Sunday, April 3, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Norman E. Brown (baritone) with Frédéric Lacroix (piano). *Cycling Around Britain*: Performing song cycles and piano solos by British composers including Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Songs of Travel* and Gerald Finzi's *Let Us Garlands Bring*. St. Luke's Church, 760 Somerset Street West. Info: (613) 235-3416 or www.stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recital-series. Admission by donation.

Sunday, April 17, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Mary Muckle (harp), Julie Leduc (harp), Marilyn Jenkins (soprano), the Welsh chorus Cantorion Cerdd Dant and the Ottawa Youth Harp Ensemble. *The Carpenters of Song* – a concert celebrating the musicians and poets of Wales. St. Luke's Church, 760 Somerset Street West. Info: (613) 235-3416 or www.stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recital-series. Admission by donation.

Sunday, May 1, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Thomas Brawn (flute) and Jonathan Bayley (flute) with Robert Jones (organ). We celebrate *May Day* with music by composers whose names begin with "M" including Mozart, Marcello, Massenet. St. Luke's Church, 760 Somerset Street West. Info: (613) 235-3416 or www.stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recital-series. Admission by donation.

Sunday, May 15, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Trio Champêtre: Gertrude Létourneau (flute) and Guy Edrington (French horn) with Catherine Donkin (piano). Are flute, French horn and piano an unusual combination? Come and find out as we conclude the 2015-16 series. St. Luke's Church, 760 Somerset Street West. Info: (613) 235-3416 or www.stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recital-series. Admission by donation.

Student Recital

JENNIFER LOVELESS

Mark your calendars now for our annual student recital coming up on March 5th, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. This event will be held at St Barnabas Anglican Church, 70 James Street (at Kent).

This a great opportunity to show your support of our student organists who have worked hard throughout the year to hone their skills as musicians and leaders in congregational worship.

Further details on this event will be published right here in the pages of future issues of *Pipelines*.



The Life-Changing Possibilities of Real Education

REV. DR. DAN HANSEN

This article was first published in the Pembroke Daily Observer. Reproduced by permission of the author.

I have to wait on the Spirit when I write. I have to go where my energy leads me. When I create this weekly column, not just any topic will do.

Although the theme is always “faith meets life,” what I actually write and submit has to resonate deeply in me, as if I had no choice.

Teachers can help us to do that. Even the most challenging ones can provide us with a lifetime of reflection. As I say to my boys when they are negative about a teacher, “Every teacher has something to offer. There is always something to learn.”

This week, it wasn’t until something caught my attention at our local Wal-Mart, that I was inspired, and something was triggered inside of me.

Out of the corner of my eye, I spied a DVD of a film that I saw last year with a good friend in Toronto, but had resisted purchasing thus far, even though it was just newly available. It was a film called *Boychoir*, starring Dustin Hoffman and Kathy Bates (Mongrel Media, 2014, 103 minutes), and rated PG. Not being able to hold back, and knowing how superb it was, I purchased the DVD.

The movie is directed by François Girard (*The Red Violin* and *Thirty Two Short Films about Glenn Gould*), and written by Ben Ripley. The choir starring in the film is actually the American Boychoir.

Boychoir is an amazing film. All of the actors in the film are great. It is a film that every church musician, singer, and music teacher should see. The music is superb, as well as the arrangements of sections of traditional pieces, such as Faure’s *Pie Jesu* from his *Requiem*, and Handel’s *Hallelujah Chorus* from his *Messiah*.

Boychoir is also a good movie for music students, but especially young

folks who are learning to play musical instruments and/or singing in choirs. It shows what is behind choral singing and what can be obtained by hard work and perseverance. The film encourages us to consider the increased usage of graded choir programs in our schools and churches, and how important this type of music education and performance is.

In the story, a teacher (Ms. Steele played by Debra Winger) notices the talent of a young student, the 12-year-old Stet (played by Garrett Wareing). She encourages him to hear the visiting National Boychoir perform at his school. With the assistance of his father (played



by Josh Lucas of *A Beautiful Mind*), the boy is able to attend a private New England boys’ school that provides the singers for the touring National Boychoir.

As Stet adjusts to his new life and the subsequent musical and relational demands, he reaches new heights. Yet these developments are not without their challenges, which are shown throughout the film. But there are people who believe in the boy, even though he is problematic at times, and encourage him to continue and face his challenges. Kathy Bates, who plays the Headmistress of the school, is pivotal in this regard, and offers a stirring performance.

An opportunity arises for Stet to fill in for the lead soloist. He faces this transition using his blossoming musical and memory skills.

But Stet’s relationship with Maestro Carvelle, the choir’s main conductor, is one that gives the movie its greatest strength and depth. What is evoked in their relationship is stirring. This involves Stet coming to terms with the fact that he does have talent and he should not squander it. However, this is a difficult lesson for Stet to learn.

Think about the teachers you have had in your life. What was your experience like? How did they encourage you?

Sometimes, the most challenging educational experiences can produce the most incredible learnings, even years after the fact.

In my day, choir conductors would yell at their singers, and get all worked up. Shaming was thought to be a positive way to get results.

While I was training in the early 1980s, I attended a rehearsal at a well-known church in Toronto where the conductor smoked cigarettes and cursed at the boys using the Lord’s name when they made mistakes.

Once, I worked with one very well-known American choral conductor who would isolate the singers in the 200-voice symphonic choir by narrowing down the group and finding the voice that was not blending well. By then, they would either stop singing, correct themselves, or the conductor would single them out.

Further, years ago, if you were “tone-deaf” you may not have been allowed to perform publicly with your class choir at music festivals. Poor music students who couldn’t match tones properly were misfits and often eliminated.

Today, fortunately, there is much more support for people of all walks of life. Thankfully, the times have changed, and such manipulation and control is no longer put up with, even though it was a large

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part of many people's upbringing. Our sense of education and how we go about it has expanded in many positive ways.

What makes for a good teacher? What makes for positive learning and personal growth? What is real education about?

Real education is much more than matters about going to school, what the curriculum is and how people support it or not, teacher's contracts, the number of working or school days in the year, or administrative issues.

Real education requires hard work and involves personal transformation. It is a life-long process that requires commitment to the development of the person.

Through their own perception of life's possibilities and life-changing experiences, our teachers, musical or otherwise, can lead that way.

At its core, real education always involves a spiritual or soul element. Religion can never be taken out of the schools.

Boychoir is a film about people working and maturing together. As one gets to know who one is, even the most challenging aspects, and is supported in positive ways in that journey, one is able to become one's fullest potential. The main characters in the movie grow spiritually from their experiences.

It is amazing how the natural process of life, through the energy of God's Spirit in it, can draw people to new places and help them to become full persons. The film is about personal individuation and growth. It models how relationships and

increased awareness can bring people into wholeness. Opposites are connected when shadow aspects are addressed and worked on.

Boychoir is a film about redemption and new life. It points us in that direction.

The film underscores the importance of choral singing, church and school choir work, and all musical programs. It is an invitation to promote that. As the musical results of the film show, more money and time are needed for such musical programs and opportunities. The importance of the musical arts in today's institutions is uplifted by the fact that the Boychoir film was made, the uniqueness of the film, and all that it stands for.

The learnings for the characters in the film, and for viewers alike, are as manifold as the film's beautiful musical moments, due to the meticulous rehearsing of the American Boychoir by its real conductor.



We are indebted to Fernando Malvar-Ruiz, and his support staff, volunteer and otherwise, and all who work to keep the American Boychoir School going.

We are also indebted to all of the choral conductors and music teachers who work daily with young people, and encourage them to move to new heights in

their musical education and experience.

The power of music to engage the emotions and one's whole being is its connecting force with personal growth and wholeness. Music is an integrating factor that goes beyond persons and cultures. It has primordial qualities that draw all of life into fullness.

In the end, because of a physical change, Stet makes a decision to move in a new direction, one supported in a profound way by Maestro Carvelle. But Stet's recent life-adventure shows how he has reached a new grounding in his life, ranging from the depths of despair in his family and social life, to the experiences of triumph and musical profundity regarding the development of his own voice and the building of relationships based on love and trust, with a prophetic edge.

Stet is forever changed because of the energy of life, however you want to name it, which invites him into new territory. That encourages us all—students, teachers, performers and listeners alike—to become more conscious of who we are, what our fullest possibilities are for finding the depths of life, and how we can work together towards them.

Overall, real education has to do with positive, personal mentoring. It calls for a deep commitment to all students, and wherever they are on their life's journey.

In that process, we have to go with our passion, our creative possibilities and energy, and encourage that in others. When we do that, not just anything will do!

The Rev. Dr. Daniel Hansen is pastor at Zion-Mt. Zion Pastoral Charge (Zion Evangelical United Church and Mount Zion United Church), Pembroke, a spiritual director, and lives in Renfrew



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2015-2016

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NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING:
SUNDAY, JANUARY 17TH, 1:30 PM,
ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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.
Elizabeth Brown	613-608-1210	lizbrown2007@hotmail.com Sundays, weddings, funerals, any denomination
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
Carolyn Whitley	613-599-8229	c-whitley@rogers.com

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: pentland1212@eastlink.ca

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



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VILLAGE VOICES WOMEN'S CHOIR, Vernon, Ontario

is seeking an **experienced accompanist** to work closely with our director to provide musical leadership for our choir. Responsibilities include accompaniment of music selected by our director for weekly practices, concerts and dress rehearsals, and collaboration with the director to achieve our goals,

Village Voices Women's Choir is a 30-voice community choir from across the southern Ottawa region. It is a non-auditioned SSAA women's choir which performs two main concerts in December and late April/early May. We offer additional outreach performances at seniors' residences, fundraisers, museums plus musical leadership for the Greely Legion Remembrance Day Service in November.

Our choir offers a dynamic program that balances singing a variety of musical styles with the capabilities of the singers. Repertoire includes diverse musical styles and genres: sacred, folk, pop, jazz, musical theatre, spirituals and classical.

We are an inclusive choir and we support each other in the learning of new music, work at good singing habits and value a relaxed atmosphere for an enjoyable practice.

To apply, please send a letter of interest and a resume by **January 31, 2016** to the choir's President, Linda Price at linda_price@rogers.com, telephone no.: 613-699-3245.



*Monday, January 25th, 7 pm at the
Wellington Gastropub, 1325 Wellington Ave.*

Join us!

