Vol. 37, No. 2 October/octobre 2019

Update (page 4 added) Royal Canadian College of Organists Ottawa Centre

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Collège royal canadien des organistes section d'Ottawa

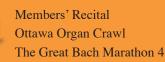


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President's Message

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## **Blessings and Gratitude**

Now it is October and we will celebrate Thanksgiving in one week. The Ottawa Centre has much for which to be thankful. A wonderful afternoon of organ music and hospitality at the Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre. A well- attended organ and flute concert to begin the Pro Organo Series, despite the Elgin St. construction. And many thanks to the organists and Elgin St. churches who opened their doors for our organ crawl.

I'm sure you have begun rehearsing music for Thanksgiving, and perhaps planning dinner. I urge you to register for our organist/clergy dinner to be held on Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. A relaxing evening with friends at the end of the month. Our speaker is Rev. Victoria Scott, an organist who is now an Anglican priest.

The following week on Sunday Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will have a members' recital at St. Luke's Anglican Church. Please come and support your colleagues, perhaps hear some new music, or new ideas for music you know. Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> is the date for the next Pro Organo recital. Kola Owolabi will play music by Howells, Reubke, L. Visser and D. Godfrey. Please come and support him - no one likes to play to an empty church!

UPEUMEE uches et anches

> We are thankful for the organists, choir directors and choir members who built the RCCO Ottawa Centre over the years. Each era has its own strengths - and challenges as we build on the foundation that was made for us. To do this we need to be present at events and to one another. I will close with lines of a hymn I first sang at the Sewanee Conference held each July in Tennessee. The conference ended with the Sunday Eucharist in the university chapel. The church resounded with Jane Borthwick's hymn:

> > Come, labor on. Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain....'

The last line:

and a glad sound comes with the setting sun, Servants, well done.



## Around Town

Sunday, October 8, 2019, 7:30 p.m. Peter Crouch (trumpet) with Nick Rodgerson (piano). Heroic Legends: A selection of heroic and powerful pieces to take you on an epic journey that will fill your imagination. St. Luke's Ottawa (760 Somerset Street West). Admission by donation. music@stlukesottawa.ca

#### Tuesday, October 15, 2019, 12:00 p.m.

Matthew Larkin will play a noon-hour organ recital at Dominion-Chalmers United Church with its newly-rebuilt Casavant console. Corner of O'Connor and Lisgar Streets, entry by the parking-lot door. Free-will offering at the door.

**Sunday, October 20, 2019, 7:30 p.m.** Judy Hung (violin, piano), Wan-Ting

Huang (cello) & Menghua Lin (piano). Come and hear Amy Beach's Violin Sonata and Piano Trio as well as Max Bruch's Kol Nidrei. St. Luke's Ottawa (760 Somerset Street West). Admission by donation. music@stlukesottawa.ca

**Sunday, November 3, 2019, 7:30 p.m.** Adam Cicchillitti (guitar) & Steve

Cowan (guitar). Currently completing

their doctorate degrees at McGill, this duo will celebrate the release of a new album with Analekta, dedicated to modern Canadian music they have commissioned. St. Luke's Ottawa (760 Somerset Street West). Admission by donation. music@ stlukesottawa.ca

#### Sunday, November 17, 2019, 7:30 p.m.

Luke Welch (piano). Toronto-based pianist Luke Welch returns to this concert series for the second time, featuring an exciting program of sonatas by Scarlatti and Mozart, and some Chopin Nocturnes. St. Luke's Ottawa (760 Somerset Street West). Admission by donation. music@ stlukesottawa.ca

#### Sunday, December 1, 2019, 7:30 p.m.

234 Strings: Reiko Lokker (violin), Patrick Kline (cello) & Sylvia Goodeve (piano). Feel the emotionally powerful and tranquil music performed by the 234 Strings piano trio, featuring a variety of classical music from composers around the world including Beethoven, Schumann, Fauré, and Chaminade. St. Luke's Ottawa (760 Somerset Street West). Admission by donation. music@stlukesottawa.ca



#### New and Returning Members:

#### **Roch Brisson**

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613-260-2528 (H), 613-857-2528 (C), Director of Vocal/Choral Activities at Canterbury High School, Minister of Music at Glebe-St. James United Church, Music Director of The Canterbury Trebles Women's Ensemble.

#### Blaine Sack BSc

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Boris and Sophia Shingarov MSc PhD Theor. Phys., "M.V.Lomonosov" University; 21 Aintree Pl., Kanata, ON, K2M 2G5, boris@shingarov.com.

Michele Chauvin-Bourdon 420 South Branch, Cornwall, ON, K6H 0C6 chauvin.bourdon@ gmail.com.





Rev. Christine Piper

In these last weeks, as I have walked by the Ottawa river, I have seen

Michaelmas daisies in the hedges everywhere. Daisies are such an ordinary hedgerow flower! In the UK where I grew up, we tend to see them everywhere. And yet there is something that stands out about michaelmas daisies. They have such a vivid purple colour.

Similarly, we tend to see strangers everywhere...We can be so used to seeing them that we do not see them. And yet when we take the trouble to approach and talk with a stranger, we can be deeply touched by discovering the specialness within that person. I am reminded of that biblical phrase, *Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, because through so doing you may entertain an angel unawares (Heb 13:2).* It's like they are clothed in a vivid purple!

A Blessed Thanksgiving to all,

- Christine





## **Pro Organo**

next concert in the Pro Organo Ottawa series will be on Sunday, November 17 at 3 p.m., at the Maison Mère des Sœurs de la Charité d'Ottawa, at 25 rue Bruvère. The featured artist will be Kola Owolabi.

A native of Toronto, Kola Owolabi is Associate Professor of Organ at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. There he teaches courses in organ, improvisation and church music. From

#### KAREN HOLMES

2007 to 2013, he taught at Syracuse University and served as University Organist. He also held positions as Sub Dean and Dean of the Syracuse Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

He holds degrees in organ performance and choral conducting from McGill University, Yale University and Eastman School of Music. His former teachers have included Bruce Wheatcroft, John Grew, Martin Jean, Thomas Murray, Hans

Davidsson and William Porter.

Dr. Owolabi is a published composer and has received commissions from the Royal Canadian College of Organists and the Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto. His solo organ composition Dance was selected for the RCCO National Competition in August 2013.

Kola Owolabi performs regularly throughout North America. Details of his program will appear on our website.



PREPARATION FOR THE CHOIR-TRAINING CERTIFICATE **EXAMINATION** 

A series of six workshops from September 2019 to May 2020

ontinue with the series of workshops to prepare for the Choir Training Certificate exam which

will be offered next spring by the RCCO. The second of these workshops will be held on Saturday October 26 at my apartment, 303-3099 Carling Avenue, from 10 am until noon. This location is on Carling Avenue just west of Bayshore Drive; there is a large visitors' parking lot directly in front of the building.

#### FRANCES MACDONNELL

The first workshop has already taken place, but it is not too late to join in! For further information, please contact fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca, or call 613-726-7984, if you would like to prepare for this exam.

I look forward to seeing prospective candidates on October 26!





Monday October 28th, 2019 6:00 pm gather, 6:30 pm dinner

KS on the Keys Restaurant 1029 Dazé St. (NW Bank & Hunt Club)

Cost: \$41.00 (includes tip)

**Guest speaker: Rev. Victoria Scott** (St. Luke's Anglican Church)

Please register by October 21st by sending a cheque payable to RCCO, Ottawa Centre and mailing it to:

**Suzanne Marjerrison 476 Evered Avenue** Ottawa ON K1Z 5K8 613-724-3793

or register and pay on line at www.rcco-ottawa.ca/index.html **#DinnerPay** 

#### **Members' Recital**

At 3.00 p.m. on Sunday November 3<sup>rd</sup> in St. Luke's Anglican Church (corner of Somerset and Bell Streets), eight members of the Ottawa Centre are going to play in this year's Members' Recital. The performers will be Elaine Graham, Catherine Helferty, Karen Holmes, Robert Jones, Matthew Larkin, Donald Marjerrison, Leora Nauta, and Donald Russell, and the repertoire to be played will vary widely!

Please come and enjoy this year's performers, and see all your old friends. There will be an offering box at the door in support of the Pro Organo recital series.





#### DON MARJERRISON

Undaunted by major road work outside, a number of local members set out on our annual Organ Crawl on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> to explore the many beautiful organs on Elgin Street.

Many thanks to David Lafranchise and Gilles Leclerc for setting up the logistics. As you can see, there are so many hidden gems to enjoy at First Baptist Church, St. John's Anglican Church and Eglise Unie St-Marc.



David Lafranchise at Eglise Unie St-Marc



Gordon Johnston at St. John's Anglican



Gilles Leclerc and Shawn Potter at First Baptist

#### **The Great Bach Bach Marathon 4**

he Great Bach Marathon 4 is coming on Saturday, May 2, 2020. Have you volunteered

to play and/or assist with 'backstage' responsibilities? Did you check the Ottawa Centre website to learn what you might play? For the fourth foray into Bach we are focusing on The Great Eighteen Chorale Preludes, the Schübler Chorales and the Orgelbüchlein. To discover what is not taken, please check the Ottawa Centre website. The website will be updated every few days during October so that each person will know what is available to perform.

An exciting part of this year's Great Bach Marathon 4 will be the two children's sessions on constructing an organ. The children will construct the OrgelKids Can organ and have the opportunity to play it. The two sessions will be led by Joshua Zentner-Barrett. At the conclusion of the sessions, the children will present their work by Bach on the grand piano at Woodroffe United Church. Audience – parents, friends and interested listeners –will sit in the front rows of the sanctuary to enjoy the excitement of discovery by the young people.

Rachel Laurin will present "Bach Paraphrase" by the Swedish composer Anders Bjorjeson. This music is written especially for the small organ. We offer an opportunity for the young students to learn about the construction of an organ – what makes it sound – and the opportunity to hear master organists who are willing to share their life-long passion with all the attendees.

We will welcome competition winners from the Ottawa Piano Festival. We also welcome all of you to participate by being

#### SONDRA GOLDSMITH PROCTOR

present, by performing, and by donating for the Scholarship Fund of the Ottawa Centre. For those of you with students, you are able to offer them another performance opportunity. For all of us, it is an opportunity to share in the musicmaking of a master composer.

By November 1 we hope to have all performance slots filled. Be one of the first to make your repertoire selection. To enter your selection into the program, please email sondragoldsmithproctor@ gmail.com. You may also telephone 202.841.8712 for quick conversations about repertoire. Every day I begin my practice with one of the chorale preludes. It helps me to focus on the tasks at hand. Share with us the joy of performing and listening to the fabulous music of Johann Sebastian Bach.

### Laurin - Marchand Concert Review

#### ALISON KRANIAS

audience at the first Pro 'he Organo recital of the season on September 13th were treated to a wonderful program. The concert featured a variety of works for organ and flute, played by Rachel Laurin and Claire Marchand respectively, that demonstrated not only the colours of Knox Presbyterian's five division organ (Casavant 1933/Raudsepp 2001), but also the full range and several special effects possible on the flute. Baroque and modern composers were featured throughout the evening, and the premiere of Rachel Laurin's Création Sonate pour Flûte et Orgue took place at the end.

The first few pieces were Baroque works for flute and organ, *Sonate en sol mineur*, BWV 1020, by J.S. Bach and *Sonate No. 7 en Fa majeur*, by G.F. Handel. These pieces demonstrated the fine ensemble playing of the duo, as they brought out all the grace and rhythm of this repertoire.

Also, Claire played a solo on some variations of *Les Folies d'Espagne* by Marin Marais which had lovely melodic lines. After these more delicate works, Rachel Laurin pulled out all the stops for Max Reger's *Toccata et Fugue en la mineur*, with its opening pedal solo and tremendous cascades on the manuals. This piece was an opportunity to feature the Gallery pipes – so delightful to hear sound coming from both ahead and behind.

The second half opened with a very modern Sonata de Chiesa by Frank Martin, an expressive piece that began very mysteriously with the highest notes of flute and organ, and moved on to become very playful in places. This work was followed by a wonderful suite of organ and flute solos put together just for this concert. The suite called *Hommage* aux Oiseaux consisted of several pieces that use the types of bird sounds that can be produced so well on flute and organ, for example Louis Claude Daquin's Le Coucou. For this suite Claire Marchand played from the gallery, so there was a dialogue back and forth as organist and flutist took turns playing their pieces.

Surely the highlight of the evening, however, was saved for the last – Rachel Laurin's new piece, *Création Op. 84 for organ and flute*, commissioned by Karen Holmes for this concert – a true delight. The opening Allegro moderato featured the beautiful sound of the flute, starting out very calm and picking up at the end. The second movement, *Hommage a l'Aurore*, sounded the most modern of the three as it used special effects on the flute, like blowing without any pitch, to represent a painting by Gisèle Benoit of the forest at dawn, and the birds and animals that dwell there. The music was truly picturesque. For the final movement, *Mouvement perpétuel*, one might expect there would be lots of passage work without much compositional interest, but that was not the case. Instead we heard again some of the motives that depicted the forest in the second movement, only now it seemed the day had begun and the forest was a much busier place! This piece, and indeed the whole concert, was enjoyed by all.



#### **OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE** 2019-2020

#### **OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE**

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A AMARA		Next Deadline

## **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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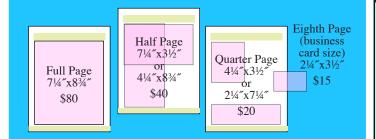


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1. Any Ottawa Centre member may announce his/her event on the Around Town section of the newsletter free of charge if **he/she is** the coordinator, conductor, **soloist**, or organist/ accompanist of the event.

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 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.

Amours et délices de l'orgue The finest organists on the finest organs

## Pro Organo Season / Saison 31 2019-20

A series presented by the Royal Canadian College of Organists, Ottawa Centre Une présentation du

Collège royal canadien des organistes, Section d'Ottawa

Info: 613-728-8041 or 613-798-0264 www.rcco-ottawa.ca/pro\_organo.html

# **KOLA OLOWABI**

Sunday dimanche November novembre

3:00 pm **17** 15h00

Chapelle de la Maison Mère des Soeurs de la Charité d'Ottawa (25, rue Bruyère St)

> Tickets at the door/Billets individuels à la porte: Adult/Adulte: \$25 Senior/Âge d'or: \$20 Student/Étudiant: \$15

