



# Pipelines

## Bouches et anches



### President's Message

ROBERT JONES

## Making Music for Spring

**T**hough February is the shortest month of the year, it can be a busy month and has all sorts of possibilities to help us journey through the depths of winter. February is Black History Month—an observance that first started in 1970 and has grown each year. For several years I have played Richard Billingham's *Seven Reflections on African American Spirituals* that are well received by the congregation. Spirituals tend to be favourites by singers and audiences alike.

In some denominations, the Presentation of Christ in the Temple is observed on or near its feast day, February 2nd, marking the official end to the Christmas season. It is a good reason to choose one of the many choral settings of the *Song of Simeon* (Luke 2: 29-32). I waited over 40 years until, in 2020, I had the right resources to have my St. Luke's Choir sing Johannes Eccard's *When to the Temple Mary Went*.

February 16<sup>th</sup> is the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Healey Willan. From the beginning organ student to the seasoned veteran, Willan's chorale preludes are great liturgical pieces.

Many denominations will observe the Transfiguration on Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. There are some wonderful hymns that capture this mountaintop experience. One of my favourites is *Jesus, On the Mountain Peak*: a hymn created by two giants in hymnody of the last half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century: great text penned

by Brian Wren coupled with the superb tune *Mowsley* by Cyril Taylor.

The last Sunday of February sees us begin our Lenten pilgrimage.

Our Centre has some exciting events planned for February. On Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 we will have the opportunity to hear Timothy Piper, organist and choir director at St. Bartholomew's Church adjacent to Rideau Hall, give a short recital on the 2013 Létourneau organ, followed by a social time where Centre members can visit and renew acquaintances with each other. Three days later, on Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30, we are invited to gather at Notre Dame Basilica to hear Thomas Annand play a recital featuring the music of César Franck in a slightly-belated celebration of the bicentennial of Franck's birth. (It will be well worth the wait!) In a lead-up to this recital, Centre members will receive a link to a video of Donald Russell discussing with Thomas Annand the characteristics of Franck's works, some of the registration complexities, the beautiful melodic lines, and answering the questions that you may have when working on Franck's compositions.

Lastly, as an advance notice, our students will be busy using February to prepare for our annual student recital (which will be held on Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at St-François d'Assise (Fairmont and Wellington) at 1:30.

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## Centre Events

IAN GUENETTE AND SONDRAGOLDSMITH PROCTOR

**The** Ottawa Centre is very fortunate to include in its membership many highly skilled people in a variety of fields relating to the organ. In January, we heard from Sylvain Brisson, a well-respected organ technician. In February, two of our membership will share their skill and knowledge.

**Saturday, February 4 at 2:00pm,**  
St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church  
The Guard's Chapel, 125 MacKay St.  
Timothy Piper, Musical Director of St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church, will present a mini-recital to demonstrate the Létourneau Pipe Organ installed in 2013. The new organ contains some reused pipework from the previous 1894 Warren instrument, which was in the Chapel on the grounds of the Governor General's residence, Rideau Hall, before being moved to St. Bartholomew's in 1914.

At the conclusion of the recital we will share light refreshments. Please wear masks in the Sanctuary and before the Reception.

**Tuesday, February 7 at 7:30pm,**  
Basilique-cathédrale Notre-Dame  
Sussex between Guigues and St. Patrick  
Enter at the front door close to St. Patrick



Thomas Annand will present *An Evening with César Franck*, an educational event in two parts. About one week before the event, each member of the Ottawa Centre will receive a link to a video in which Thomas Annand will be discussing with Donald Russell the characteristics of Franck's works, some of the registration complexities, the beautiful melodic lines, and answering the questions that some of you, the membership, have when working on Franck's works. As we complete the seasons of honoring César Franck's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary and begin the third century of learning and performing his works, please plan to join us for a delightful concert of César Franck's creations.

We thank Jennifer Loveless for hosting this event. Masks are not required. This event is free to members, \$10 for non-members.

**The 2023 Great Bach Marathon** returns on **Saturday, March 25 at 1:30 to 6:00pm**  
**Woodroffe United Church, 207 Woodroffe**



There will be two program tracks during this year's Marathon. Young people will have a separate session from **1:30 – 3:30pm** on construction of the OrgelKidsCan organ. The young people will be in a separate section of the church building experiencing the joy of discovering the organ. Each one will have the opportunity to play the piece that they have prepared on the small organ. At the conclusion of this portion of the young people's program, they will be invited to the sanctuary to hear an organist perform on the Woodroffe United Church organ. The young people will then have to opportunity to perform for the assembled attendees on the piano. While the young people are learning and playing, adults will be in the sanctuary of the church listening to wonderful presentations.

Think about not only compositions by J.S. Bach to play, but also compositions by other composers who use the theme B-A-C-H. We will use these themes throughout the hours of the Marathon to demonstrate the wide respect that other composers had and have for Johann Sebastian Bach. To register your selection, please email [sondragoldsmithproctor@gmail.com](mailto:sondragoldsmithproctor@gmail.com). If you play in an ensemble or with a soloist, instrumental or vocal, who would enjoy sharing Bach with our attendees, please invite the performers to join us and perform with you.

This event continues to be a benefit for the Scholarship Fund for Beginning Organists. We will again be joined by piano performers from the Ottawa Piano Festival.

Masks are not required at Woodroffe United Church. However, please use your good judgment!

**Saturday, April 29 at 10:00am**  
**Kiwanis Music Festival Organ Class**  
First Church of Christ, Scientist  
288 Metcalfe Street (at Gilmour)

Come to encourage two of our young organists who will be participating! The Ottawa Centre provides scholarships for this organ class.



## Student Recital

**O** The Ottawa Centre's annual student recital will be held on Saturday, March 4th at St-François d'Assis (Fairmont and Wellington) at 1:30 pm. Please contact Bob Jones, convenor for Student Affairs at [robertpjones12345@gmail.com](mailto:robertpjones12345@gmail.com) if you plan to play in this recital. For attendees, there is no admission charge, but donations are invited with proceeds going to our Beginning Organ Student Scholarship Fund. Teachers should contact Gilles Leclerc, titular organist at SFA, at [gilles.leclerc7@sympatico.ca](mailto:gilles.leclerc7@sympatico.ca), to arrange practice and lesson times in preparation for this recital.



# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Rev. Christine Piper

## A World in an Organ Pipe

Today, Thursday, I attended our Cafe RCCO with organ technician, Sylvain Brisson, at Woodroffe United Church hosted by its organist Katarina Jovic. It was a joy to actually meet Sylvain having heard so much about him for many years!

In a lively conversation with Deirdre Piper later in the day, we saw how the organ can be a metaphor for different groups, societies and even countries working together.

What I learned from Sylvain is that the organ is a very complex instrument with a community of parts. And these are all vulnerable to external factors such as temperature, the placing of its various parts (the parts can indeed be in different places in the church!), the type of pipes it actually has, and ultimately what works the instrument, from its being purely mechanical to all electric and anything in the between. I like to think that the wind coursing through the pipes is what we experience as the Spirit blowing among us!

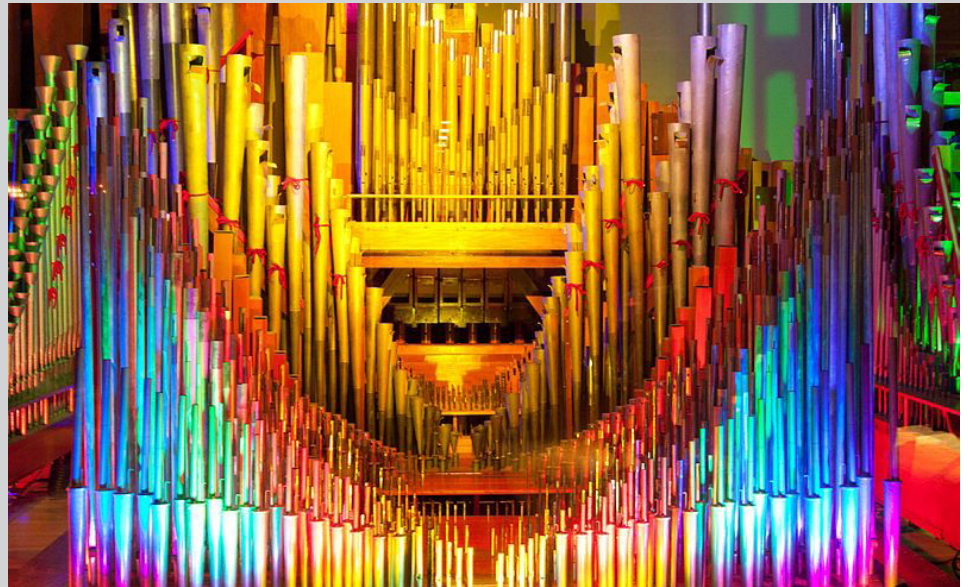
The workshop helped me to see that an organ can be a metaphor for society, that is, any community of people living harmoniously together. The constituent parts belonging to each rank of pipes need to work together to ultimately produce a certain unified sonic colour. Each rank is like a different country in the world, with its own individual colours: for example, language, institutions, traditions and activities that need to work together to produce a political harmony.

Members of any community need to similarly work together. Combining the ranks of pipes is like the reality in any one country with different bodies of people working together and creating the kind of society that gives that country its colour. Equally, each rank of pipes can be understood to be a different country. As we add

or mix these different ranks of pipes, it's like we are given a diversity of countries, differing in their politics, their languages, cultures, and histories, working together. And they can be combined in different ways, producing an amazing variety of colours. Ultimately it's like each country of the world contributes its own character to the universal body politic.

Similarly, within the RCCO we see diversity of ranks of pipes, that is the coming together of a variety of ecclesiastical traditions. And our organization faithfully works on combining all of these in such a way that the music issuing from this diversity can ultimately be experienced as one glorious, diverse, yet harmonious whole.

Thanks be to God!



## Members News

### Membership List Updates:

Welcome to returning members:

**Mark & Lori Moss**

mark.moss@hpmcgarry.ca

604-1100 Ambleside Drive,

Ottawa, ON K2B 8G6

613.913.6615(H) , 613.639.8945(W)

**Sack, Blaine.** Remove work phone: 613.587.4251(H), Remaining number 343.369.8700 (cell) is still valid.

**White, Keith.** Remove work phone: 613.462.5800 x6881(W). Remainder is still valid.





## Café RCCO with Sylvain Brisson

DONALD MARJERRISON

On Saturday, January 28, at 11:00am, several members and others gathered at Woodroffe United Church to hear Sylvain Brisson, the Eastern Ontario tuner/technician of pipe organs, give an interesting talk and demonstration into the intricacies of maintaining a pipe organ.

Sylvain began by describing the five types of organs:

- the fully tracker,
- tracker with electrified stop action,
- tubular-pneumatic action,
- electro-pneumatic action, and
- direct electric action.

He gave examples of these types of pipe organs in the Ottawa area. As you can see from the photo, Sylvain devised a wind chest with examples of pipes from the four families of pipes. He demonstrated their respective sounds by using his lungs to blow through a tube connected to one pipe at a time.

Sylvain then demonstrated how to tune these pipes. There were six types on display here:

1. Wooden pipes with a stopper which alters the pitch as it is moved up and down,
2. The open flute pipe that can be tuned with an adjustable metal flap on top,

3. The roller type which has a small opening and it is very delicate and easily broken as it is moved. This type is found in many European organs and they are not tuned as often because these rollers are so fragile.
4. Cones on top of the pipe that can be tuned by hitting the flange at the top,
5. Sleeve pipes where an aluminum or steel sleeve is moved up and down to tune it, and
6. Tuning wires in reed pipes which can be moved to adjust the pitch.

Sylvain gave some important suggestions that help the tuner/technician in tuning and fixing the organ of the church:

1. Have one person that communicates with the tuner – most likely the organist but some parishes have several organists.
2. Make sure the church is open and heated as it would be on Sunday – remember it takes about eight hours to stabilize the temperature around the organ chambers.
3. Make sure there is no noise in the Church such as vacuuming or talking

and ceiling fans can be turned off.

4. If there are any renovations to occur, let the technician know so that the organ pipes can be covered to prevent dust and dirt from clogging pipes.
5. And most important, keep a log of all problems as they occur including the date it happened. Even if the problem goes away, it is useful to the technician to know the history and pattern of issues because that can save time diagnosing and fixing the organ.

Normally, Sylvain will visit churches twice a year, before Christmas and before Easter to tune and adjust the pipe organ if the church has a contract with him.

A special thank you to Sylvain for this comprehensive and interesting talk and demonstration of the many complicated parts of an organ. Thanks to Sylvain and his wife/assistant, Dominique, for bringing all the bits and pieces that comprise a pipe organ. Thanks to Woodroffe United Church and Katarina Jovic for hosting this event. Also, thanks to Sondra Goldsmith Proctor for organizing the morning for us.





## OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE 2022-2023

OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE			CONVENORS OF COMMITTEES		
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VICE-PRESIDENT	ALISON KRANIAS	613-761-6516	GOFREY HEWITT FUND	FRANCES MACDONNELL	613-726-7984
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<b>ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS</b> <b>OTTAWA CENTRE</b> P.O. Box 2270, STATION D OTTAWA, ON K1P 5W4 <a href="http://www.rcco-ottawa.ca">www.rcco-ottawa.ca</a>	<b>COLLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN DES ORGANISTES</b> <b>SECTION D'OTTAWA</b> C.P. 2270, SUCCURSALE D OTTAWA, ON K1P 5W4
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<b>NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING:</b> <b>MONDAY, 13 FEBRUARY / 7:30 P.M.</b> WEB MEETING
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## Supply List

### Sunday Supply Organists:

Amy Andonian	613 224-8117	Sundays, weddings, funerals. Organ and piano. All denominations.
Elizabeth Brown	613-608-1210	lizbrown2007@hotmail.com Sundays, weddings, funerals, any denomination
Glenn Keefe	289-830-6607	gkeefe78@gmail.com United and Anglican services.
Matthew Larkin	613-862-4106	matthewlarkin1963@gmail.com Weddings, funerals, Sunday services, all denominations
Frances Macdonnell	613-726-7984	fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca

### Wedding and Funeral Organists:

Nadia Behmann	613-723-8601	nadia@behmann.ca Weddings and Funerals.
Gilles Leclerc	613-798-0264	gilles.leclerc7@sympatico.ca
Simon Pinsonneault	613-299-1886	simon.pinsonneault@tc.gc.ca
Donald Russell	613-738-9223	russell.kimberwick@me.com
Wesley R. Warren	613 726-6341	Weddings and Funerals

## Organ Teachers List

**Thomas Annand**, MMus, BMus (Hons), FRCCO Teaches at all levels, also theory, history  
Info: t.annand50@gmail.com or 613-261-0376

**Robert P. Jones**, M.Mus., ARCCO (ChM). All levels of students (teenager or adult).  
Lessons at St. Stephen's Church (930 Watson Street) 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, Ottawa. Info: 613-726-6341

## Next Deadline



## Our Advertisers

### *Orgues S. Brisson Pipe Organs*



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<p><b>Full Page</b> 7¼"x8¾" \$80</p>	<p><b>Half Page</b> 7¼"x3½" or 4¼"x8¾" \$40</p>	<p><b>Quarter Page</b> 4¼"x3½" or 2¼"x7¼" \$20</p>	<p><b>Eighth Page</b> (business card size) 2¼"x3½" \$15</p>
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## Disclaimer

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## 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 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.



THE ROYAL CANADIAN  
COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS  
LE COLLÈGE ROYAL  
CANADIEN DES ORGANISTES

# National Organ Competition

## Deadline Extended!



## Apply Now for the 2023 National Organ Competition

Applications are still being accepted. Apply below:

[Application](#)

**Application Deadline: ~~February 1, 2023~~ February 15, 2023**

The competition will take place July 1 and 5, 2023 in conjunction with [Organ Festival Canada](#). A maximum of six competitors will be chosen from the preliminary round to advance to the live rounds, where they will compete for \$8500 in prizes.