



Pipelines

Bouches et anches



President's Message

ROBERT JONES

Music Fit for a King

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For the first time in almost 70 years, the world will witness a coronation in Westminster Abbey this month. Though I wasn't born until 1955, I do have a book that contains *The Form and Order of Service and the Music Sung* at Queen Elizabeth's coronation. Our College — the oldest association of musicians in Canada — was founded in 1909 as the Canadian Guild of Organists, changing its name to the Canadian College of Organists 11 years later. In 1959, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II granted the use of the *Royal* prefix in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the College and of its significant contribution to the cultural life of Canada.

Regardless of your position on the monarchy, it is still an important musical event. Although some music is sung at each coronation (think Handel's *Zadok the Priest* and Parry's *I was Glad*), contemporary composers are invited to write music for a coronation. Healey Willan — our national president from 1922-23 and 1933-35) composed *O Lord, Our Governour* and Ralph Vaughan Williams's arrangement of *All People That on Earth Do Dwell* were composed for Queen Elizabeth's coronation in 1953. When I studied at the Royal School of Church Music, I recall the director, Lionel Dakers, talking about what

an honour it was getting to sing in the choir for the coronation because he was assistant organist at St. George's Chapel at the time. Twelve pieces have been commissioned for the upcoming coronation: six orchestral pieces (to be played before the service starts), five choral pieces (including mass movements by different composers) and one organ piece (composed by Iain Farrington). One of the big differences between King Charles' coronation and his mother's is that King Charles personally commissioned the music. (I assume that, because of her young age, she relied on others to select the music for her coronation.) For more details about the music for King Charles' coronation, visit <https://www.tatler.com/article/king-charles-iii-coronation-music-details-composers-performers>

Our Centre has a couple of activities planned for May, and both events will be held at Église St-François d'Assise (Wellington and Fairmont). The **Student Recital** is on Sunday, May 7th at 3:00pm. Donations are invited, with proceeds going to our Beginning Organ Student Scholarship Fund. On Monday, May 15th at 7:30pm, Quebec City organist Marc D'Anjou will wrap up the 2022-23 Pro Organo concert series. Another *crowning achievement*.



RCCO Ottawa Centre Executive Slate 2023-24

The following is the proposed slate of candidates for the RCCO Ottawa Centre Executive for 2023-2024 to be presented to the membership for approval at the RCCO Ottawa Centre's Annual General Meeting **on June 5th, 2023** at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church:

President: Alison Kranias
 Vice-President: - Vacant -
 Past President: Robert Jones
 Secretary: (pending)
 Treasurer: Alexander Reicker
 Chaplain: Rev. Canon Christine Piper

National Councillors: Alison Kranias
 Karen Holmes
 Sue Sparks
 Robert Jones (alternate)

Member at Large: - Vacant -

Convenors of Committees:

Archivist	Larry Kempffer
Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Fund	Frances Macdonnell, Elaine Graham
Historic Organs	John Wanless
Membership	Donald Marjerrison
Newsletter Editors	Suzanne and Rick St. Germain
Pro Organo	Gilles Leclerc
Professional Support	Rev. Dr. Dan Hansen
Program & Education	Sondra Goldsmith Proctor, Donald Russell, Heather Rice
Publicity	Ian Guenette
Student Concerns	Sue Sparks, Robert Jones
Social Convenor	Suzanne Marjerrison
Webmaster	Ross Jewell

Thank you so much to all of those who have let their names stand for office for the coming year.

At the time of printing, the positions of Vice-President and Member-at-Large remain open.

If you would like to fill one of these positions or nominate someone, please email Heather Rice at gowans978@gmail.com



A Note from the Treasurer

ALEXANDER REICKER

By now you will have received your membership renewal statements from National Office. The College year begins on June 1st and fees are due by May 31st, 2023.

For detailed information on how to renew your membership online, please go to the RCCO national website at

<https://www.rcco.ca/Renew-Membership-Information>

If your membership category is in correct on the statement, please correct it and enclose the total fee shown below. The 2023/2024 fees (without a magazine subscription) are listed below:

Category	National	Centre	Total Fee	Notes
Regular	\$ 100	\$ 24	\$ 124	Open to individuals over the age of 35.
Joint	\$ 150	\$ 26	\$ 176	Open to 2-4 members living at the same address.
35 and under	\$ 61	\$ 17	\$ 78	Open to those under 35 OR enrolled full-time in post-secondary education.
18 and under	\$ 20	\$ 0	\$ 20	Open to individuals age 18 or under.
Institution	\$ 100	\$ 24	\$ 124	Open to churches, schools and other organizations.
Dual / Affiliate AGO, FQAO, or RCO	\$ 95	\$ 24	\$ 119	Open to members of affiliate organizations wishing to join the RCCO. ** Non-member subscription to <i>Pipelines</i> is \$25 for 10 issues

The Ottawa Centre is a registered charity. Income tax receipts will be given for all donations. If you wish to make a donation to one of our Centre funds, you may 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>

We encourage you to support Pro Organo by making donations on line on our website or by cheque. Your financial support is most welcome as it is the generous donations of our patrons that make these concerts possible. See the

bottom of our web page for more details about upcoming concerts.

You may also purchase subscriptions to *Pipelines*. 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 31st, 2023.

Alexander Reicker
 Treasurer



Member of the Year: Sue Sparks

DONALD MARJERRISON

The RCCO Ottawa Centre is delighted to announce that this year's Member of the Year is **Sue Sparks**.

Sue has had a lifelong interest in the organ, and has had a number of mentors along the way. Bernard Howard was the organist at the church she grew up in, and was the first to kindle the flames.

She holds a B.A. in Geography and a B.Ed from University of Western Ontario. She also holds the Specialist Certificate in Special Education. She was the Special Education Director at Redeemer Christian High School for many years.

When she moved to Ottawa in 1981, as a young bride, it was Julia Mills who took her under her wing and once more fanned

the flames. After raising 4 children, it was Paul Wharram, the organist at McPhail Memorial Baptist Church, who encouraged and challenged her to once more embrace her love of the organ. After Paul retired from McPhail in 2010, Sue became the organist and choir director of the church, where she still serves.

After she retired from teaching, Sue was able to embrace her passion for the organ by studying with Robert Jones. She has attained the practical part of the RCCO Colleague exam and still hopes to complete the written part.



It was Moira Hayes, who called Sue to ask if she would consider being the vice president of the Ottawa Centre. Sue accepted and went on to serve as President, National Councillor, and currently as secretary.

Thank you Sue. We appreciate the dedication and support that you have given to our Centre.



**Join us at our Annual General Meeting
7:30 pm on Monday, June 5th, 2023
at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church (971 Woodroffe Ave.)**

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 are pleased to announce that Sue Sparks, Past President of the Ottawa Centre, will be recognized as the 2023 Member of the 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.



Thank You For Helping Our Children

Sondra Goldsmith Proctor

Attending an event in person is always enjoyable, especially when some very special people in our Ottawa Centre contribute their volunteer time to assist in the organization of the event. For the 2023 Great Bach Marathon we were given the gift of caring volunteers.

When we entered the space at Woodroffe United Church, everything was prepared for our event. Our host Katarina Jovic had worked with the church staff to guarantee that all would be prepared for our activities. The teachers of the young students had prepared the students beautifully so that they knew what to expect when they assembled the OrgelKidsCAN kit and as they performed for the audience in the sanctuary. Joshua Zentner-Barrett brought his love of teaching and working with young people to guide the young students. One of my favorite moments of the Great Bach Marathon was when Josh brought the children into the sanctuary and transferred the teaching to the Grand Orgue. Did you share my joy as we watched the children climb on the organ bench and shout out their answers? With Rick St. Germain serving as master of ceremonies, I knew that we would stay on track. And his craftsmanship and design of the program and posters is always wonderful.

Suzanne St. Germain greeted all of the performers and supported them as they prepared for their moment. Karen Holmes and Sheila Stratilo-Fleischhaker were 'on task' as they suggested donations and greeted audience members. Suzanne Marjerrison photographed part of the event so we have an accurate record.

monies, Ian Guenette worked on publicity, and Ross Jewell kept the ever changing program up to date on the website. And our wonderful performers rehearsed many hours to prepare their repertoire.

Thank you to all of you who attended and supported this benefit for Beginning Organist Students, a program that offers



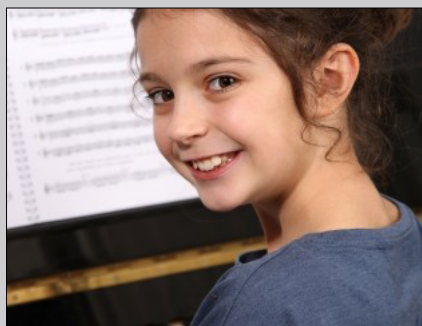
Donald Marjerrison made certain that attendees learned about the Royal Canadian College of Organists with visual aids. Robert LeBlanc served the very important task making certain that doors opening and closing did not disturb the performers. Mark Moss assisted Robert Jones and Elaine Graham with the music sale. Mai-Yu Chan photographed the Orgelkids portion and part of the main session, and as a result we have an excellent record of the events of the day. Alexander Reicker took charge of the

free introductory organ lessons for young students. Your support is invaluable to the continuation of The Great Bach Marathon. At the conclusion of the event, the weekend custodian remained until everything was in perfect shape for the next morning's service. The weekday custodian was supportive of all of us as the rehearsals began on Wednesday late afternoon. We are so fortunate to have many people who are supportive and caring of The Great Bach Marathon.



Student Recital

The Ottawa Centre's annual student recital will be held on Saturday, May 7th at St-François d'Assise (Fairmont and Wellington) at 1:30 pm. Contact Bob Jones, Student Affairs convenor at 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, to arrange practice and lesson times in preparation for this recital.



Members News

Sincerest Condolences

Members of the Ottawa Centre offer our sincerest condolences to the family of **Patricia Sample**, organist and former Ottawa Centre member, who passed away in Richmond on April 20th. You remain in our prayers.

Email Address Correction:

Stratilo-Fleischhaker, Shirley,
pianoaqueuefun@gmail.com



Sarah Svendsen Concert Review

DONALD RUSSELL

The last organ recital I heard at Notre Dame was the Franck programme offered by Tom Annand about a month or so ago. This concert, on the same organ, promised to be something different — possibly very different — and I was unfamiliar with most of the repertoire on the programme.

The event started with two arrangements of pieces written by Aaron Copland that demonstrated the wide variety of registrations available on the large organ at Notre Dame, and Sarah Svendsen's technical prowess which continued to be apparent throughout the remainder of the programme.

Following these two pieces we were treated to a performance of Nadia Boulanger's only composition for organ: *Trois Improvisations*. I was familiar with these short pieces but was impressed with their skilled presentation which clearly demonstrated the compositional skill and craft of Nadia Boulanger — perhaps this was more apparent as they followed a set of arrangements of pieces written for different instrument(s).

The first half concluded with Rachel Lauren's *Toccata* from her *Symphonie No. 1, Op 36*. I have heard this piece before and was once again impressed by its sonorities and the virtuosity required of the performer. This was a fitting climax to the first half of the programme.

The second half contained three pieces that are less well known (they were all new to me.) The first was a *Prélude and Fugue* by Elsa Barraine. These pieces were very well played and the influence of jazz idioms, both melodic and rhythmic, was more obvious here than in the first



half of the programme. This work had a unique and enjoyable character and also required significant skill to play as we could see on the video projection that Sarah Svendsen was able to seamlessly play on two manuals at once with one hand, "thumbing down" as we organists say, to take some notes that otherwise would be unplayable.

The *Tableaux for Organ* by Neil Weisensel (and commissioned by Sarah Svendsen) was a performance I found particularly enjoyable. The three pieces showed some influence of jazz and they had independent characters but were well integrated as a set. I found myself wondering if I could find an appropriate use in a liturgical setting for these works and concluding that pieces named *Strange* or *Snark* might not be well appreciated in response to a sermon!!

The final piece presented something unexpected, even though we all knew it was on the programme. This was a

medley of jazz classics arranged for organ by George Faxon (edited by Sarah Svendsen) called *Tribute to Duke Ellington*. The pieces are well known jazz standards. What I did not expect was how much Sarah's careful registration choices could make the organ at Notre-Dame (basically a french romantic organ) sound like a theatre organ.

Congratulations to Sarah Svendsen for her performance of the technically challenging works and for opening the audience to a wide variety of uncommon works. I believe it was an evening enjoyed by all.



On the day following her concert, Sarah gave a workshop on posture and positioning at the keyboard



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Rev. Christine Piper

A Walk in Springtime

Last year in our May issue of Pipelines, I celebrated, after the long Winter season, being back to walking my regular pathway Eastwards along the side of the Ottawa River, from Westboro Beach towards the Island Park Bridge. What a sense of coming home, indeed, of 'being back' that was for me after those still rocky Winter days of living through the Pandemic! This current year, even as the overall threat of the Pandemic has lessened, I must sadly report that this same pathway that offered me a welcome return to my old haunts, is now undergoing structural change and, for now, is closed to hikers!

It is indeed possible to walk the other way beside the river, but this path runs very close to the road, and there is not the same peace as in my walk Eastwards towards the bridge. Even as I walk by those same river waters, and even as the road is fenced off from the path, the sight of the nearby traffic is ever present, with its ongoing noise and disturbance just a few feet away... This unwelcome change within my walking pattern, especially

with the Westward pathway being so close to the disturbance of cars going along the road nearby, reminds me of the news of change that appears to be unfolding around me in 'Churchland.' For example, I recently read that in the U.S.A. church attendance has, in general, through the Pandemic, declined significantly with the result that many churches are having to close. People speak of closures – or threats of closure – which they are experiencing within my own Anglican Diocese of Ottawa. Indeed, I personally experienced my own church of St Luke's on Somerset closing; and the congregation dispersing broadly, some going to All Saints Westboro, others to St John the Evangelist downtown, some even electing to stay home to continue to attend church via Zoom which was how many people attended during the Pandemic. The choir at St Luke's, run so beautifully by our current President Bob Jones, became similarly dispersed... And I wonder if similar closures are being experienced in other denominations. And, of course, as your chaplain, I wonder how such changes are affecting organists and choir directors?

Change is afoot. And many of us ask where this may be taking us? Our walk of faith can indeed feel under threat. As I expressed last May, however, within the midst of the Pandemic, the act of sharing our thoughts and feelings, and to deeply listen one with the other, can surely only help. We are in this as a community, indeed as people and ministers together. The call to talk one with the other, and to reach out to our leadership as we



participate hopefully in these changes that are affecting us, is huge. And while this article cannot solve these issues of change, we do well to remind ourselves that we are not alone. Indeed, we are in a community, one with the other. Through organizations like the RCCO which crosses the boundaries of individual denominations, our sense of community can be strengthened. Also, Our Creator who loves us walks besides us, you, me, and everyone. And will bless us through the gift of the coming days of Spring with new leaves budding on the trees around us; thanks be to God. Amen



Annual General Meeting
Monday, June 5th, 2023
7:00 for 7:30 pm
St. Paul's Presbyterian Church
(971 Woodroffe Ave.)

See you there!

OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE 2022-2023

OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE

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MONDAY, 29 MAY / 7:30 P.M.
WEB MEETING



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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

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Gilles Leclerc	613-798-0264	gilles.leclerc7@sympatico.ca
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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

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. 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

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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.

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