



American Guild of Organists

Chartered 1896

European Chapter

Chartered 1979

Newsletter January 2008

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The Dean's Corner

Dear Members,

Happy New Year! My wish for all of you is to enjoy the very best of health and happiness possible in 2008!

Among so many others, there are two special things that have happened and will happen in the European Chapter to which I want to call your attention in this first newsletter of the year:

- 1) Our very own BERNARD SANDERS has recently won 1st Place in the AGO Organ and C Instrument Composition Competition. His composition was selected from a group of 36 submitted compositions by the distinguished panel of judges, Mary Beth Bennett, Mark Sedio and Emma Lou Diemer. I've asked Bernard to tell you more about it in this newsletter. The official announcement will appear in the February issue of *The American Organist* and will be on the AGO website, as well. Watch for them. Congratulations, Bernard!!

- 2) The planning for our European Chapter's 2008 Spring Meeting/Tour during the week after Easter, March 24-29, is in full swing. It's now time for you to make your reservations to attend and to let us know you are coming! One tip if you are still hesitating: Please take our word for it that there are wonderfully interesting organs on the island of Mallorca. Get ready for another great Spring Meeting

with your colleagues and friends of the European Chapter. More details and helpful hints are to be found in this newsletter. Best wishes,

Judy

The Secretary's Voice

Dear Members,

As you are about to see, our members are very active around the world in the music scene. Everything from debuts in Vienna, concerts in New York, honors in London, and prize-winning compositions, it's all there.

As your newsletter editor I do miss somewhat the little bit of activity it would take for you to send me the information. We have no one to introduce and a very small concert calendar this time. Please help me to make the next issue even more informative.

In the meantime just sit right down and have a good read!

Bernard

**Please submit your items for the next
Newsletter before March 31st !
Look ahead and inform your friends and
colleagues about important events!**

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GERMANY

Members' News

Mr. Hywel Duck no longer lives in Northampton. His new address is:

"Tara." 56 Granville Road
Wigston Fields, Leicester
LE18 1JP Great Britain

Please correct your Membership List!

Joseph Olefirowicz made his premier at the Vienna Volksoper as conductor of ANATEVKA (Fiddler on the Roof) on Sunday, Jan. 13th, 2008 with a cast of 90 onstage and 52 in the pit. Congratulations!!

Bernard Sanders and his wife Regina recently completed a CD-Recording of his compositions for Recorder and Organ. The recording was done on the Jehmlich organ (1989) in the church of St. Mary's in Tuttlingen where he is music director. The CD "Cavatina" includes his Sonata in f, Fantasie-Ricercar, Melodie, Three Pieces and Suite, all for Recorder and Organ. The title is taken from the third of the Three Pieces: Dialogue, Elegy and Cavatina. The program also includes the Eclogues & Fugues in A-flat, F-sharp, and B for organ solo. The final track is a recording of his "Rhapsody on Two Southern Harmonies" played by Mary Joy Rieder-Peroz on the Gabriel Kney organ at the St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel in St. Paul, Minn. "Cavatina" was released by ambitus Musikproduktion of Hamburg, Germany (amb 96 921).

Bernard Sanders' composition "Ornament of Grace" for Violin or Oboe and Organ won First Place in the AGO Organ and C Instrument Composition Competition. The piece was to be for organ and C instrument, of easy to moderate difficulty, unpublished, and of no more than 5 minutes in length. The first prize composition will be published by Concordia and will be discussed and analyzed on the BinAural Collaborative Hypertext (B.A.C.H.) site at www.bach.nau.edu website. The Guild hopes that most of the Organ Spectacular concerts on Oct. 19th will include this piece. The prize will officially be

presented to him at the AGO National Convention in Minneapolis this Summer.

In a concert on Nov. 18th, 2007, **Sanders'** cantata on the German chorale "Ach wie flüchtig, ach wie nichtig" was premiered in the church of St. Gallus in Tuttlingen with the composer conducting. It sets each of the 8 verses individually, lasts approx. 16 minutes, and is scored for mixed choir, soprano, baritone, oboe, bassoon, tympani and strings.

GIA Publications of Chicago has taken more of **Sanders'** organ music under contract. They will be printing "A Wreath of Carols for Christmastide", which includes:

- 1) Prelude on "Rorate caeli"
- 2) Berceuse on "Away in a Manger"
- 3) Sarabande on "Good King Wenzeslaus"
- 4) Fugue on "We Three Kings"

Wayne Leupold Editions has accepted his "Jesus Calms the Storm", a Biblical Suite for Organ and optional Narrator, for publication. After "The Good Samaritan" and "The Prodigal Son" this is the third composition of **Sanders'** to appear in the Organ Demonstrator Series.

The **Jäger & Brommer Organ Company** received the Prize of the German Foreign Trade 2007 („Preis der Deutschen Außenwirtschaft“) at the 7th German Foreign Trade Convention in Bremen on November 13th, 2007.

The European Chapter of the American Guild of Organists congratulates their members Heinz Jäger & Wolfgang Brommer on their achievement and recognition!

Waldkircher Orgelbau Jäger & Brommer
Gewerbekanal 3
79183 Waldkirch
Tel. 07681/3927
Fax 07681/ 9370

Dr John Bertalot, Director of Music Emeritus of Trinity Church, Princeton NJ and Organist Emeritus of Blackburn Cathedral UK, was honored by the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster at a special service in Westminster Cathedral

on 7th November 2007, with the award of an honorary Fellowship of the Guild of Church Musicians, 'in recognition of [his] work for many years as a Church Musician of Distinction'. Among other honorees were three current British Cathedral Directors of Music, a former Chaplain to The Queen, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Heather Hernandez has been the Director of Parish Music at Lutheran Church of the Master in Phoenix for three and a half years now. She writes, „I enjoy directing the choir and bell choir and playing the organ for all services, weddings, and funerals. The choir has quadrupled in size since I started and the bell choir has enough members now that I don't have to ring bells except as a sub. I'm secretary, nominations chair, and awards chair for the Sigma Alpha Iota Phoenix Alumnae chapter and continue as the secretary for the Central AZ chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

I've been a Phoenix Girls Chorus accompanist for a little over two years. We have two tours in the summer, choir camp the end of July, and a series of six concerts throughout the year plus additional hired performances. I joined the Cantabile Choir of the PGC on their Eastern Tour with participation in the Vermont International Choir Festival and an extension in New York City from June 10th to 18th. The Festival included rehearsals and a concert with Robert De Cormier. I also accompanied the Tour Choir on their Colorado Tour from June 20th to 28th. This tour included participation in the Sing a Mile High Choral Festival in Denver under the direction of David Brunner and visits to Mesa Verde, Four Corners, and Durango.

I will play for the SAI Silver Musicale and the 17th annual CAZAGO organ marathon in February. The 2008 PGC tours will be to Toronto/Niagara Falls with Tour choir and the International Choral Kathaumixw Festival in Powell River,

British Columbia, Canada with Cantabile choir.

Wishing you a Happy New Year!"

Heather and Robert Hernandez
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hmharrington@hotmail.com

Martyn Cole has a question: "I spend time looking for free organ sheet music to download on the internet - do you know of any good sites? I know of several university sites in the US but am unable to get into them. Perhaps one of our members has the key.

I'm quite happy to pass on the ones that I've found - they are good for finding new composers and it only costs the paper

Thanks!

Go onto the various search engines and request "free organ music" – you will get several thousand hits.

Do not be put off by the headings. I have just found a very good starter at www.pianopassion.com. This contains a list of about seventy sites which includes many organ and organ instrumental combinations to say nothing of choral music etc.

You will also find all of JSB's music free on line

Rowy.net is another good site to start with.

You can sometimes get access to university sites but often when downloading the music (pdf files) when it comes to printing it, you get a message saying that it is not possible to print it! Fear not, simply use the right mouse button and print from that menu!!!

It will take absolutely ages to go through the list so happy hunting

Here are a few from Wim Riefel:
www.icking-music-archive.org/
www.abrahamespinosa.com/
www.sheetmusicarchive.net
www.bh2000.net/score/
www.free-score.com

www.classical-scores.com
www.google:siloti
www.youtube
www.cpd.org
www.adobe.com
www.chopin.inter-server.net
www.freemusicguide.com
www.cipoo-net

Here are a few especially for early music:

<http://cpdl.snaptel.com/>
<http://www.lysator.liu.se/>
<http://plato.acadiau.ca/courses/musi/callon/2273/scores.htm>
<http://www.laymusic.org/music/sp/html/bycomposer.html>
<http://sca.uwaterloo.ca/dances-list.html>
<http://www.andrewcrookall.com/scorch%20editions/confitemini.htm> (here you can even transpose them yourself)
<http://www.dulcians.org/repertoire.htm>

News from the Board

Support your Board! Be an active member!

Current Board Members

Dean and Membership Coordinator:

Judy Riefel-Lindel

Secretary and Newsletter Editor:

Bernard Sanders

Sub-Dean:

Johan Hermans

Treasurer:

Elmar Jahn

Members at large:

Charles Baer
Giorgio Parolini
Joseph R. Olefirowicz

Web-Master:

Tanja Hermans

The chapter web page has been updated. Have a look and write to Tania Hermans at tania.hermans@skynet.be if you'd like to add information to it!

Spring Tour 2008

Hello Dear Friends and Colleagues in Europe!

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you again when we all meet up this March on the beautiful organ paradise island of Mallorca, in the Mediterranean Sea! The planning is proceeding wonderfully and although we don't have a minute-by-

minute plan yet, you can look forward to the tour beginning with dinner on **Easter Monday** evening, **March 24th** and ending with a concert and dinner on **Friday** evening, **March 28th**. In between there will be lots of time for visitations to Mallorca's magnificent organs. My Mallorcan friend and colleague Arnau Reynés, professor of organ at the University of the Balearic Islands, and I will take you to see, among others, the organs of Banyalbufar, Inca, Sa Pobla, Palma de Mallorca, and the famous Jordi Bosch organ of Santanyí, a European landmark of inestimable significance. Our grand finale is scheduled to take place in the Basílica de Sant Francesc where Arnau is organist. As we speak, a new three-manual pipe organ by Gerhardt Grenzing is being voiced. It promises to be a wonderful evening featuring works by Mallorcan composers! I hope this little tidbit will wet your appetite and get you booking your hotel and flight as soon as possible. And of course, you'll want to let us know that you are coming!

SEE YOU THERE!

Matthew Provost

2008 Spring Meeting/Tour to Mallorca Reservation Tips

Elmar Jahn, our European Chapter Treasurer who is working with Matthew Provost to make our Meeting the best ever, suggests that the Hotel, "Isla Mallorca" in Palma would be ideal for our stay from 24-29 March. He has found out that the Isla Mallorca (www.islamallorca.com) is in the winter season under contract with the travel agency, Thomas Cook. This means that it should be easy for our European members to book the hotel in combination with their flight at their local travel agency because Thomas Cook is present in all EU countries. Our non-European members can book by direct contact, for example, by internet. But for everyone, it is suggested that you do some hunting around on the internet (Google everything... cheap flight + hotel to Mallorca, vacation package deals, cheap flights, cheap hotels, whatever) and/or talk this over with your

travel agency and you are bound to come up with a package that fits your budget. If you can't find the package with the Isla de Mallorca hotel, but you find one with another hotel nearby in the heart of Palma, don't hesitate to do it. For our members in America, if you're not finding what you are looking for direct from the states to Mallorca, you might consider trying to find a fantastic flight to Europe and then combining that with the Thomas Cook (or some other.... there are more agency's out there, of course... Mallorca draws tons of tourists) package flight+hotel from here. Whatever you do, try to do it as soon as possible and if you find you need more help..... Write to me, judith.riefel-lindel@wanadoo.nl, and I will do my best to help you get to our Spring Meeting!

Introducing Our Members

In each issue we'd like to introduce another member. Send us your resumé for inclusion!

News from HQ

TAO: President's Column, February 2008

Organ Spectacular: An International Celebration of the Organ

We will kick off the **International Celebration of the Organ, 2008-09** in Minneapolis at our national convention. The celebratory year will end at our regional conventions in 2009. As part of this year-long celebration, **October 19, 2008** has been designated as the official date for our **Organ Spectacular** concert. Every chapter, along with various musical friends and groups from around the world, is encouraged to participate in this event. We hope that the winning composition from our composition competition for this event will be played on this concert.

The Professional Networking and Public Relations Committee is pleased to report that the composition competition was a wonderful success, with 36 entrants from around the world. Compositions were received from: California, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan,

Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, as well as from Canada, England, and Germany. The piece was to be for organ and C instrument, of easy to moderate difficulty, unpublished, and of no more than 5 minutes in length. We owe special thanks to Dr. Larry Schou, who chaired the competition, to all those who competed, and to our three judges: Mary Beth Bennett, Emma Lou Diemer, and Mark Sedio. It was a blind competition--the judges had no idea of who the composers were.

The first prize composition will be published by Concordia and will be discussed and analyzed on the BinAural Collaborative Hypertext (B.A.C.H.) site at www.bach.nau.edu website. We hope that most of the Organ Spectacular concerts on Oct. 19 will include this piece. The three prize winners received monetary prizes from Hal Hinkle, a benefactor to and patron of the arts, who has particular interests in the organ, Bach, and the environment.

The winners are:

1st prize: "Ornament of Grace" for organ and violin or oboe written by Bernard Wayne Sanders of Muehlheim, Germany

2nd prize: "Tocatta Duo" for organ and trumpet, flute or violin written by Paul Ayres of Greenford, UK

3rd prize: "Reach for the Stars" for organ and oboe written by Jon Naples of Carlsbad, California

National Convention 2008

Dear Friends,

The **early registration deadline of January 31** is rapidly approaching for the 2008 AGO National Convention, June 22-26, in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota. You can take full advantage of the discounted early registration rates and get all the details about the convention at

<http://www.ago2008.org/>.

Here are a few convention events you may find particularly interesting:

1. An evening concert, choral matins, and evensong with the St. Paul's Cathedral Choir of London.
2. A special, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to attend a presentation of Pipedreams Live! hosted by American Public Media's Michael Barone. This will mark the official start of the International Year of the Organ.
3. Major new works from internationally renowned composers, plus the U.S. premiere of the *Te Deum* by Siegfried Matthus at the St. Paul Cathedral with massed choirs and orchestra, a performance that is NOT TO BE MISSED.
4. Great instruments including organs by Dobson, Casavant, Fisk, Blackington, Lively-Fulcher, and Schantz among many others in great spaces including St. Paul Cathedral, Basilica of St. Mary, Central Lutheran Church, St. Mark's Cathedral, Bethel College, St. Andrew's Lutheran, and Wooddale Church.
5. More than sixty diverse workshops including a special pedagogy track focusing on the organ music of Olivier Messiaen and a gala evening concert of Messiaen's instrumental music at Orchestra Hall.

The convention headquarters hotel, The Hilton Minneapolis, is an elegant facility with high-speed wireless internet in all rooms. The convention room rate is \$138 per night. For reservations call 888-933-5353 or use the link on the convention Web site.

Register now at <http://www.ago2008.org/> and make sure you don't miss the most important AGO event of the biennium. See you there!

James Thomashower
Executive Director



American Guild of Organists

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Frederick Swann to be Honoured at AGO Recital and Gala Benefit Reception in Los Angeles

New York City. The AGO will sponsor a Recital and Gala Benefit Reception honoring organist FREDERICK SWANN on Sunday, April 13, 2008, at 4 p.m., at the First Congregational Church of Los Angeles. Founded in 1867, First Congregational Church is the oldest protestant church in Los Angeles. The Recital will feature Mr. Swann performing on the church's Great Organ, which is celebrated as one of the largest, most complete church organs in the world. The Gala Benefit Reception will follow. The gala is sponsored by the AGO National Council and its Development Committee, Bruce P. Bengtson, aago, director. All proceeds will go to the AGO Endowment Fund in Fred Swann's honor.

For Recital only, \$20 (by April 11) \$25 (at the door) Contact: 213-385-1345 or e-mail musicadministrator@fcla.org

Frederick Swann is president of the American Guild of Organists, organist emeritus of the Crystal Cathedral and of the First Congregational Church of Los Angeles, and organ artist-in-residence at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Palm Desert, Calif. In addition to his prominent church positions, [Riverside Church, New York City (1957–1982), Crystal Cathedral (1982–1998) and First Congregational Church of Los Angeles (1998–2001)], he was for ten years chairman of the organ department at the Manhattan School of Music and served on the faculties of the School of Sacred Music at Union Theological Seminary and Teacher's College of Columbia University.

In addition to solo recitals in churches, cathedrals, and concert halls throughout North America and many foreign countries, Mr. Swann performs frequently with symphony orchestras and choral groups. His numerous published works and recordings, and his wide experience as an

organ consultant have added to his visibility in the organ and choral worlds. Although in semi-retirement since 2001, Mr. Swann remains active in all aspects of his long and illustrious career. Recently he was named Performer of the Year by the New York City Chapter of the American Guild of Organists; in the fall of 2004 he was selected to play the Inaugural Recital on the spectacular new organ in the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles.

Each One Reach One

New York City. The AGO and its Committee on Membership Development and Chapter Support announce the third and final year of the "Each One—Reach One" membership campaign. The 2007–2008 challenge is designed to stimulate membership retention and recruitment activities at all levels of the Guild—from the local to the national level—and to award those who excel at recruitment.

Each One—Reach One is designed to be a grass-roots effort to strengthen Guild membership nationwide by inspiring and empowering local chapter members and officers to focus on membership recruitment and retention. Leading membership recruiters will be awarded expense-paid registrations to the 2008 AGO National Convention in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minn. Expenses include convention registration with the transportation package, and five nights in the convention hotel—a \$1,400 value. Up to five prizes will be awarded. Some restrictions apply. Complete information, guidelines, and forms are available online at <www.agohq.org/eachone-reachone>.

European News

The International Organ Festival Haarlem 2008

The **International Organ Festival in Haarlem**, The Netherlands, will open on 12th July 2008 with a performance of a special arrangement of *Ein Deutsches Requiem* in the Grote of St-Bavokerk.

The festival will continue with the **International Organ Improvisation Competition** which will take place from 15th - 18th July, concluding with a concert given by members of the jury. In 2008, for the first time in the competition's 50 year history, the 1875 Cavallé-Coll organ (III/P/43) in the Philharmonie Haarlem will be featured. The second round will be held on this instrument, while the first and final rounds will take place in the Grote of St Bavokerk. The jury for the competition will consist of Peter Planyavsky, Ansgar Wallenhorst, Thierry Escaich, Bert van den Brink and Jan Welmers. A first prize of €4.500,- will be awarded. Applications for the competition must be received before, 9th February 2008. The participating candidates will be selected on the basis of a recorded improvisation, submitted on either CD or MD. Potential candidates are invited to visit www.organfestival.nl where (from December on) an application form can be found, including the theme on which applicants should improvise on their submitted recordings. The jury for the preliminary round will consist of Bernard Bartelink, Anton Pauw and Cor Ardesch.

Between 21st July and 2nd August, the **International Summer Academy** for organists will take place. Courses, lasting between 4 and 12 days, will be given by Olivier Latty (complete organ works of Messiaen), Ludger Lohmann (Reger and Mendelssohn), Leo van Doeselaar (Liszt and Reubke), Jean-Baptiste Robin (Alain), Bernard Winsemius (Sweelinck, among others), Ben van Oosten (Vierne, Franck and Widor), Bas de Vroome (Distler) and Lorenzo Ghielmi, Ewald Kooiman and Christoph Wolff (Bach). Courses on improvisation for both beginners and advanced students will be given by Jos van der Kooy and Thomasz Nowak. In addition, Zsigmond Szathmáry will give a course on newly composed organ works. The Summer Academy is open to both professional organists and organ students finishing their studies. It offers an excellent opportunity for improving artistic

skills and knowledge, and is an ideal place to make international contacts (over 100 students from 20 countries!) The Festival programme also offers a wide range of concerts and lectures, all of which can be attended by the academy students at no extra cost.

All further information, a repertoire list, and an application form can be found on www.organfestival.nl. Applications will be taken from December 1st; we strongly

advise to book quickly as certain courses will be fully booked.

Christa Hijink, general manager
Internationaal Orgelfestival Haarlem
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e: organfestivalhaarlem@klankwerk.nl
skype: organfestivalhaarlem
www.organfestival.nl

Recitals Past and Present

*You can advertise here for your concert engagements to come as well as report those past.
Please submit items for the next Newsletter !*

Feb. 17th 4:30 PM Bernard Sanders, Organ St. Mary's, Tuttlingen (D)
Dr. Martin Weidner, Trumpet; Works by Bach, Scarlatti, Handel, Langlais, Verhaalen
Feb. 24th, 4:30 PM Giorgio Parolini, Organ St. Gallus, Tuttlingen (D)
Works by Buxtehude, Bach, Brahms, Dupré, Demessieux, Sanders

Every Saturday (11:30) Organ Music at Market Time Marktkirche, Wiesbaden (D)
Hans Uwe Hielscher and guest organists from around the world

