



UTAH VALLEY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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CHAPTER MEETING

It's fun to get a new AGO year under way. Our opening social will be held on Tuesday, September 17th, at 6:00 p.m. on the Carillon Bell hill at BYU. Don Cook has agreed to play a half-hour recital for us on the Carillon while we eat. We would like to ask everyone to bring their own picnic dinners. (If you wish, you can invite your family and/or friends to come.) AGO will provide the pop and dessert. You may want to bring a blanket or chairs to sit on, too.

Afterwards, we will be privileged to have Doug Bush show us the Festival Organ Exhibit (see details below) at the Museum of Art, just south of the bells.

The meetings for the rest of the year will be held on the third Tuesday of each month (except in December when--because everyone is so busy--we will take the month off).

DUES AND MEMBERSHIP FORMS

This is a BIG reminder to those of you who haven't yet paid your dues. Mary Paz needs to receive your dues by August 15th so National can receive their portion by September 1st.

"FESTIVAL ORGAN: THE KING OF INSTRUMENTS" EXHIBIT

Festival Organ: The King of Instruments is opening August 1 at BYU's Museum of Art. This free exhibit is designed to give museum-goers the chance to experience firsthand the history, repertoire, and construction of the pipe organ.

The exhibit runs from August 1 through October 19 at the Museum of Art at BYU. The Museum is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

According to Lynn Edwards, co-founder and director of the Westfield Center, sponsor of the exhibit: **"Festival Organ: King of Instruments** is broad enough in its appeal to interest music lovers, architects, scientists, history buffs, engineers, and the curious of every age."

"There are four parts to the **Festival Organ** program. The first is the interactive exhibition, the second is a series of organ conversations (informal lectures by experts in the fields of American musical history and organ music). Several discovery concerts, which incorporate performances and lively discussions, plus the addition of recitals and concerts--many by regional performers--school programs, and other outreach activities are also part of the program."

"Visitors can see how an organ works and is built and they can pump bellows, depress keys, watch valves open and close and hear pipes sound."

National Public Radio's Michael Barone, whose popular "Pipedreams" program is devoted to organ music, will be one of the many participants in **Festival Organ**. Other participants include BYU's Douglas Bush, Salt Lake Tabernacle technician Ron Poll, American Fork organ builder Michael Bigelow, University of Texas at Austin architect Richard Cleary, and musical instrument curator Laurence Libin of the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art. Organists Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra, William Kuhlman, James David Christie, Mike Ohman, and Melvin Dunn will give performances. Other recitalists will be Leo Abbott, James O'Donnell, and Diane Meredith Belcher at the Cathedral of the Madeleine, and Richard Elliott, Claire Rogers, and Douglas Bush at the State Hospital Chapel.

Festival Organ is a project of the Westfield Center in Easthampton, Mass., a catalyst in the field of keyboard music, serving the public as well as performers, builders, and scholars since 1979. Festival Organ is supported by a grant to the Westfield Center from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

While the exhibit is free, some of the events will have a charge. Check with the Museum of Art for price details (378-8200). The Museum has prepared a brochure about the festival--including price information. (If you will be attending the Workshop on Church Music next week, you might want to pick one up while you're there.)

For more information about the festival, see the July 28th Daily Herald, p. B7; and the July 28th Deseret News, p. E4.

CALENDAR FOR FESTIVAL ORGAN EVENTS

August 1 (Thursday) - Lecture by Douglas E. Bush, "Festival Organ and the King of Instruments," 7:00 p.m., Museum of Art

September 5 (Thursday) - Lecture, "The Salt Lake Tabernacle Organ: An American Classic." A discussion of one of America's most influential organs by Tabernacle Organ technician Ronald Poll. The presentation will include a video tour of the organ and an overview of this remarkable organ's history. 7:00 p.m., Museum of Art, Study Center.

September 12 (Thursday) - Lecture presentation, "Meet the Organbuilder: A Conversation with Michael Bigelow." 7:00, MoA, Study Center.

September 13 (Friday) - Open House at M. L. Bigelow, Organbuilders. 130 West First South, American Fork, 7:00 until 9:00 p.m. (If you missed our chapter tour last spring, you still have a chance to see Mike's factory.)

September 19-28: FESTIVAL ORGAN WEEK

September 19 (Thursday) - Lecture, "The Organ in Architecture." Richard Cleary, an architectural historian from the University of Texas at Austin, will talk about the intimate relationship the organ has with architecture. He will address the design of organ cases and the organ in its architectural contexts--whether in a theater, a department store, a church, a concert hall, or in a domestic setting such as Captain Nemo's salon, which included a large organ, in Jules Verne's *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*. Questions from the audience are encouraged. Time 7:30 p.m., Room E-400, Harris Fine Arts Center, BYU.

September 20 (Friday) - **First Discovery Concert** "Of Sound and Spirit: Organ Music Through the Ages and How It Moves Us"--Cathedral of the Madeleine, 331 E. South Temple Street, SLC (organ by Kenneth Jones & Associates, IV/60, 1993). Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra, organist; Michael Barone (MPR and producer of "Pipedreams"), moderator. Time 8:00 p.m.

September 21 (Saturday) - **Second Discovery Concert**--"The Original Synthesizer: Sound Tools and Their Creative Application"--Provo Central Stake Center, 500 N. 1200 W., Provo (organ by Michael Bigelow, II/13, 1987). William Kuhlmann, organist; Michael Barone, moderator. Time 8:00 p.m.

September 25 (Wednesday) - **Third Discovery Concert**--"Aural Architecture: Composers and Performers Deal with the Organ's Physical Reality"--James David Christie, organist; Michael Barone, moderator. Assembly Hall and Tabernacle, Temple Square, SLC (organ by Robert Sipe, III/49, 1983; 1948 Aeolian-Skinner, renovated by Schoenstein, 1988). Time 7:30 p.m.

September 28 (Saturday) - Lecture, "The Organ in America," presentation by Laurence Libin, Curator of Musical Instruments at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, MOA, 7:00 p.m. Laurence Libin will talk about how various organs have been a part of American life--from instruments imported as early as

1527 in Mexico, to barrel organs, church organs, calliopes, house organs, and great symphony hall organs, to name just a few. Questions from the audience are encouraged.

October 3 (Thursday) - "The Organ and Silent Cinema in the Roaring 20's," a delightful evening of silent movies and community singalong with Mike Ohman. 7:00 p.m., Museum of Art, Leid Gallery.

October 11 (Friday) - "Meet the Organ Builder: A discussion with Ronald Poll concerning the newly rebuilt organ in the Provo Tabernacle"--Provo Tabernacle, 7:30 p.m. Lecture followed by a brief recital on the organ by Melvin Dunn, associate of Ron Poll and technician for the Salt Lake Tabernacle organ for many years.

OTHER FESTIVAL EVENTS

In conjunction with the Festival Organ, the following free recitals are also being incorporated into the activities:

August 11 (Sunday) - Recital, Eccles Organ Festival, Cathedral of the Madeleine, SLC, 8:00 p.m. Performed by Leo Abbott, organist at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston, Mass.

August 25 (Sunday) - Recital, Eccles Organ Festival, Cathedral of the Madeleine, SLC, 8:00 p.m. Performed by James O'Donnell, organist, Westminster Cathedral in London, England

September 8 (Sunday) - Recital, Eccles Organ Festival, Cathedral of the Madeleine, SLC, 8:00 p.m. Performed by Diane Meredith Belcher, organist/choir master at Christ Episcopal Church, Memphis, Tennessee.

September 15 (Sunday) - Recital, State Hospital Chapel, 1300 East Center Street in Provo. Performed by Richard Elliott, Salt Lake Tabernacle Organist at 7:00 p.m. This is the first in a series of recitals commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Hospital Chapel organ's installation.

September 22 (Sunday) - Recital, State Hospital Chapel, 1300 E. Center Street, Provo. Performed by Claire Rogers, State Hospital Chapel organist. The second recital commemorating the 25th anniversary of the organ. Time 7:00 p.m.

September 29 (Sunday) - Recital, State Hospital Chapel, 1300 E. Center Street, Provo. Performed by Douglas Bush, BYU. Third and final recital commemorating the 25th anniversary of the organ. Time 7:00 p.m.

PROVO CENTRAL STAKE CONCERT SERIES

September 8 (Sunday) - Youth Concert, 8:00 p.m., 500 N. 1200 W.

In the June 28th Deseret News (Today Section) was an article written by Jerry Johnston, which featured former Utah Valley Chapter member and now Salt Lake Tabernacle organist, Richard Elliott. The article is quoted below:

TRANSPLANTED ORGANIST: Richard Elliott is an organist with the Tabernacle Choir. And for Rick, getting to that point from his band days in Baltimore has been a long and winding road.

"I played with rock groups in high school and college," he says, "but little by little I sensed that the music was leading me in one direction and I wanted to go another. So I began to pursue classical organ. In 1980 I joined the LDS Church."

Elliott not only brings talent and a spiritual temperament to his task, but also a husky baritone voice and winking sense of humor. At a private choir get-together not long ago, Elliott performed his latest creation--a wry parody to the tune of the old chestnut, "The Lost Chord." He calls it "The Last Chord." Listeners left the party with tears in their eyes.

When Rick Elliott sits down at the keyboard, people really do laugh.

I offer the lyrics to his saucy send-up here,

THE LAST CHORD

By Richard Elliott

(with apologies to Arthur Sullivan)

Seated all day at the organ
I was cranky and tired and hot,
Then the choir rehearsal started,
but my poor brain did not.

I knew not what I was playing,
or what I was dreaming then;
But I struck one note of discord
like the sound of a screeching hen--
Like the music of Messiaen.

It cut through the choir's sweet voices
like a knife that is sharp and keen,
And it brought to my mind the sound
of a pile-up on I-15.
The basses began to snicker,
the altos joined in with glee,
'Til all eight parts were laughing--
it was S.S.A.A.T.T.B.B.

I turned five shades of crimson
and looked for a place to hide,
But trapped I was with the choir at my left,
and the audience at my right side!
I have sought to forget, but vainly,
that rumble much maligned,
Which came from the bowels of the organ,
but sounded like it came from mine.

It may be that soon I'll live down
my feelings of guilt and shame;
It may be that early retirement
would ease my sense of pain;
It may be--that note will haunt me
the rest of my mortal life;
It may be that only in heaven
I shall hear that note played right.

CHAPTER OFFICERS' MEETING

Just a reminder to those officers' of the chapter who were planning to go to the meeting in Salt Lake at Janet Griffin's house. It will be on August 24 from noon until 3:30 p.m. at 1367 S. 1800 E., SLC.

Also, keep in mind our next planning meeting on October 22. Be sure to keep this date open.

PIPEDREAMS - KBYU-FM 89, Tues., 9:00 p.m.

INFORMATION FOR NEWSLETTER

Please contact DeeAnn Stone at 377-4728, or mail to 1510 W. 500 N., Provo, UT 84601.

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

By Mike Peters



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