



# Friends of the Organ

1999-2000 Newsletter of the  
Utah Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

OCTOBER 1999

No. 2

## Preludes, Postludes, and Hymns

On Friday, October 15, at 7:30 p.m., our chapter will have a "potluck" evening of sharing prelude, postlude, and hymn playing ideas. It is refreshing to encounter new music to play for our worship services, especially something that is uplifting and meaningful. Have you run across an exciting or inspirational piece lately that you'd recommend for playing at church? Do you have access to music publishers' catalogs or other sources of information about church music? If so, we invite you to share these things with us at our next meeting at the Sunset Stake Center, 1560 S. 1100 W., Provo. To get there from 500 West, go south to 920 South and turn right. Head west, go under the freeway overpass, and keep on the main road until you reach 1100 West, then turn left to 1560 South. Hope these directions aren't too confusing. If you need to clarify these directions, please call Mary Paz, who we thank for arranging for our use of her church building.

The music you bring and play could be new arrangements of hymns or an effective way you have found to use the hymns for prelude or postlude or congregational singing—free accompaniments, etc. If you've written your own arrangement, we would love to hear you play it for us! We hope you and your friends can come, whether or not you plan to play. This should be a very informative evening. We not only want to share these ideas with chapter members and friends, but we are also inviting interested church musicians in the community to come, too.

### Recitals

**October 22 (Friday)** Students of Carol Dean recital, 7:30 p.m., Provo Central Stake Center, 450 N. 1200 W., Provo. This will be a program full of variety and surprises. Be sure to mark it on your calendar.

## CONCERTS

**October 19 (Tuesday)**--Concert by Swiss organist Esther Sialm and her husband Hans Martin Ulbrich (oboist for the Zurich Tonhalle Orchestra) at 7:30 p.m., in the Provo Central Stake Center, 450 N. 1200 W, Provo. This will be their initial concert debut in the United States, and their program is subtitled *A Musical Journey through Europe, 1500-1750*, which includes music by Hans Kotter and Johannes Weck (Switzerland); Marco Facoli, Girolamo Frescobaldi, and Francesco Geminiani (Italy); Francisco Correa de Arauxo (Spain); William Byrd (England); Francois Couperin (France); and Georg Muffat, George Frideric Handel, Georg Boehm, and Johann Sebastian Bach (Germany). The concert is free to the public.

Esther Sialm grew up in a musical family in Chur, Switzerland. She studied at the Musikhochschule in Zurich, and her teachers have included some of Europe's most famous concert organists: Hans Vollenweider, Anton Heiller, Marie-Claire Alain, and Michael Radulescu. She has also had training with Luigi Tagliavini, Harald Vogel, Montserrat Torrent and Jean-Claude Zehnder. She serves as an organist for a parish in Zurich and has concertized extensively in many countries: Holland, Belgium, England, Poland, Spain, Italy and Austria. She has also recorded several CDs.

Hans Martin Ulbrich has studied at the Basel Conservatory and at the Paris Conservatory and has been very active as a soloist and chamber player in many countries. He is a founder of the Zurich Wind Octet, "La Gran Partita," and has recorded several CDs with them. Additionally, he served as the artistic director of the Swiss Festspiel Orchestra for the International Music Festival in Luzern, Switzerland. He presently organizes the cycle of Chamber Music Matinees for the Zurich Tonhalle Orchestra and teaches at the Musikhochschule of Zurich.

## NEWS FROM NATIONAL



*The purpose of the American Guild of Organists is to promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles, to encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of Guild members.*

### NEWS ON THE INTERNET FROM

**James E. Thomashower**  
**AGO Executive Director**

*September 29, 1999*

#### **American Guild of Organists Names First and Second Place Winners in Regional Competitions for Young Organists New York City**

*See the AGO web site for more detailed information: <[www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org)>*

See also the September 1999 issue of *TAO*. Pages 96-97 list the official competitors for 1999-2000 National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance. Former member of our chapter, David Pickering, is listed among those who will be competing. He is currently studying at the University of Kansas for his masters of music degree under James Higdon.

*September 16, 1999*

#### **Marie-Claire Alain to Receive Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Guild of Organists**



NEW YORK CITY — The National Council of the AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS (AGO), Philip Hahn, President, will present its Lifetime Achievement Award to MARIE-CLAIRE ALAIN for her outstanding contributions to the organ. Mme. Alain will also be

given an honorary membership in the AGO. The award presentation will occur during her only New York City performance this season on Friday, October 29, 1999 at 8:00 p.m. at the Church of the Holy Trinity (Episcopal), 316 East 88th Street, New York City. (She will also be giving recitals, master classes, and lectures on November 4–6, 1999 at the University of Kansas. See p. 77, September 1999 *TAO*.)

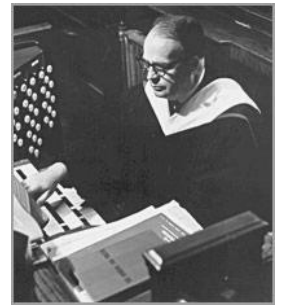
Marie-Claire Alain is one of the great legends of the organ-playing profession. She has performed more than

2,000 concerts throughout the world. Critics are unanimous in praising the luminous clarity of her playing, her exquisite style, the intense and lively musicality of her interpretations, and her outstanding skill in the art of registration. A very sought after pedagogue, she has based her teaching on in-depth musicological studies that she continues to pursue. Mme. Alain has made more than 200 recordings, including two series of the complete works of Bach. Her recordings have been awarded 15 Grands Prix du Disque. Mme. Alain has received honorary doctorates from Boston Conservatory, Colorado State University, and from Southern Methodist University, as well as numerous awards from Germany, Denmark, and Hungary. She was given an Honorary Fellowship from the Royal College of Organists, and the titles of Commander of the Légion d'Honneur and Commander of the Ordre National du Mérites from the French Government.

*August 30, 1999*

#### **Gordon Young Bequeaths \$500,000 to AGO**

NEW YORK CITY — The AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS (AGO) is pleased to announce a generous bequest from the estate of GORDON YOUNG. The attorneys for Gordon Young's estate have notified the AGO that the Guild is to be the recipient of a bequest in the amount of \$500,000 — the largest single gift ever to be received in the AGO's 103-year history.



Gordon Young, one of the Guild's great friends and long-time members, passed away at his home in St. Clair Shores, Michigan, in October of 1998 at the age of 78. Mr. Young was a prolific composer of nearly 1,000 compositions for organ, chamber ensemble, symphony orchestra, and solo voice, including the Prelude in Classic Style for organ. "The music of Gordon Young, both choral and organ, is performed regularly in churches all across our nation. His music is appreciated by musicians and listeners alike." remarked Philip Hahn, President of the AGO, in his address to the AGO regional conventions this summer. President Hahn continued, "We are grateful for Gordon Young's magnanimous inclusion of the American Guild of Organists in his will. We are thankful for his life which overflowed with joy — joy for music, joy in music." The AGO National Council will determine ways to place this bequest so that it will, in perpetuity, enable the continuation of Gordon Young's love for the glory of music.

Born in Kansas, the son of a minister, Gordon Young received his Bachelor of Music degree from Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas, and later received an honorary doctorate there for his contributions to church music.

During the course of his career, he was a radio organist in Tulsa, a music critic and columnist for daily newspapers in Oklahoma and Pennsylvania, and choirmaster in churches in Philadelphia and Kansas City. Since coming to Michigan in 1952, Mr. Young taught organ in conjunction with Wayne State University and for 15 years was organist and choir director at the First Presbyterian Church in Detroit.

MINNESOTA PUBLIC RADIO PRESENTS

**Pipedreams**

**Sundays, 9:00 p.m.  
on KBYU-FM**

**October 3—*Pomp and Pipes!*** - Paul Reido, Frederick Fennell, and the Dallas Wind Symphony present powerful music for organ and instruments in concert at the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas, Texas. No. 9939

**October 10—*Out of Africa*** - An innovative collection of unusual music inspired by the African continent and the African experience, as created by composers both black and white, African and African-American. No. 9940

**October 17—*Sculptor of Sound*** - A tribute to the famous French organbuilder Aristide Cavaill-Coll (1811-1899) whose vision created a new style of instrument and whose generosity encouraged the artists who maximized its potential. No. 9941

**October 24—*Motette Moments*** - Intriguing highlights from imported recordings issued by organ-focused German label Motette Verlag from Dusseldorf. No. 9942

**October 31—*Georgia On My Mind*** - Recital performances by Cherry Rhodes, Todd Wilson, Karel Paukert, Margaret Mueller and Alan Morrison of colorful new repertoire taped in Atlanta during a national convention of the American Guild of Organists. No. 9943

Please contact DeeAnn Stone (phone: 801-377-4728; e-mail: <ddstone.mark@aros.net>; mail: 1510 W. 500 N., Provo, UT 84601) with any items you would like to have printed in the newsletter—letters to the editor, news of upcoming musical events, humorous music-related stories, helps and ideas for service playing, music items for sale, new music, etc. The purpose of our chapter is to share and help each other and members of the community. What each of us individually contributes helps everyone!

*Resources for LDS Organists*  
<http://members.xoom.com/dadstone>

DeeAnn Stone has finished compiling a list of organ and piano arrangements of songs found in the *LDS Children's Songbook*.

This new list is not yet available on the internet; so, if you want your own copy now, please send \$5.00 to cover copying and mailing costs, to DeeAnn and she'll mail one to you.



Also, she is in the process of making major additions and corrections to the list of hymn arrangements and free accompaniments, which will eventually be available as a hard copy and on the internet.

## HUMORESQUE

Brenda Durden of Washington tells two humorous stories on the *Frantic Organist* web site (<<http://www.franticorganist.com>>).

One time when she was going to play for a wedding at a church she had never been to before, she arrived early and went into the sanctuary. The pastor was there getting things ready for the wedding when she sat down at the organ, slid across the organ bench, and landed on the floor on the opposite side. Someone had waxed the bench! The pastor acted like he didn't notice anything, but you know he must have been chuckling inside.

Another time when she was playing Guillou's Toccata for her master's recital, she had her friend turn pages for her. In one section, her piston change didn't work. She pressed it, but the SW to GT didn't come on. Since the music was loud, she yelled, "Swell to Great!" Her friend thought she was commenting on the piece—everything was going "swell and great."



## SCHEDULE FOR 1999-2000 MEETINGS

- **October 15 (Friday)** *Preludes, Postludes, and Hymns*
- **November**—Parley Belnap will speak on his experience at the Jerusalem Center.
- **December**—no meeting
- **January**—Cathedral of Madeleine tour. Also, Kimberly Marshall, Associate Professor of Organ at Arizona State University, has been invited to come and give a master class on January 27 (Thursday) and play a recital on January 28 (Friday).
- **February**—Hymn Sing: Doug Bush, Provo Central Stake
- **March 17**—AGO/BYU Organ Students Award Recital, Provo Central Stake
- **April**—Workshop—*Give us your ideas on what kind of workshop would be helpful to you or other organists you know; i.e.—hymn playing, registration, literature, historical perspectives, etc.*
- **May**—Organ Crawl at BYU

### Editor's Note

Mary Paz has sent the National dues in, so if you still want to get *TAO* magazine and join the National organization, you will need to send your dues directly to them now. We invite you to send your chapter portion to Mary at any time.

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