

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS



Newsletter

UTAH VALLEY CHAPTER
2001 - 2002

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2002

No. 6

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Upcoming Chapter Activities

Nothing is so constant as change. There have been many changes concerning our upcoming chapter activities, since the Utah Premier Brass/Wasatch Chorale Concert scheduled for April will not be performing then. Instead, the Super Saturday Organ Workshop will be moved from March to Saturday, April 13. This will give us more time to plan and prepare for a truly SUPER Saturday activity. Please invite your friends, church members, family, students, anyone you think would be interested in learning about improving basic and also advanced organ skills. We would like to especially invite pianists.



For our March activity, you are invited to attend Dr. R. Don Cook's organ recital on Friday, March 8, in the Madsen Recital Hall at BYU, at 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Cook's program includes:

Sonata, Op. 65, No. 3, Con moto maestoso, Andante tranquillo, by Félix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Mein junges Leben hat ein End, by Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621)

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, Toccata, Choral and Variations, Chaconne, and Toccata, by Hugo Distler (1908-1942)

Trio on "Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend, BWV 655, by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Prelude, Adagio, and Chorale Variations on "Veni Creator, Op. 4, by Maurice Durufé (1902-1986)



In May, we had planned a joint organ crawl with the Salt Lake and Cache Valley Chapters of the new Conference Center organ. The organ will be undergoing more construction now that the Olympics are over and will not be finished by May. This organ crawl will, therefore, be postponed to another time.

In place of the organ crawl, the Salt Lake Chapter suggested that we have a joint member recital with them on May 18 at the Alpine Tabernacle. This will be an informal recital and sounds like a wonderful opportunity to get to know the folks in the Salt Lake Chapter better.

Super Saturday 2002

The following is a tentative outline of the Super Saturday Workshop for April 13 at the Harris Fine Arts Center at BYU:

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Registration for the workshop begins

9:00 - 9:20 a.m.

Opening Session, Madsen Recital Hall - Keynote Speaker

CLASSES:

9:30 - 10:20 a.m.

Basic Organ Registration, Madsen Recital Hall - Carol Dean

Basic Pedal Technique, Organ Lab - Cindy Wells, Nadine Turner, and Ben Crandall

Organ Keyboard Technique, E-106 - David Pickering

Hymn Playing I, E-208 - Parley Belnap

Hymn Playing II, C-250 - Don Cook

10:30- 11:20 a.m.

Repeat of all 9:30 Classes

11:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.

Basic Organ Registration, Madsen Recital Hall - Carol Dean

Practicing Efficiently, Classroom 3rd level - David Pickering

Working with the Conductor, C-250 - Lella Pomeroy

Computer Resources, Organ Lab - Don Cook

Relaxation and Avoiding Injury, Classroom - Eila D. Cagle

Organ Music for Worship, E-208 - Doug Bush

12:20 - 12:45 a.m.

Light lunch

12:45 - 1:30 p.m.

Progressive Organ Recital

Adapting Piano Music to the Organ, Organ Lab - Lella Pomeroy

Temple Square Concert Series

Friday, March 22, 2002, at 7:30 p.m.

Tabernacle, Salt Lake City

Admission free, but limited to persons eight years of age and older.

Dr. Richard Elliott, organist

PROGRAM:

Trumpet Voluntary, Op. 6, No. 5, by John Stanley

Passacaglia and Fugue in C Minor, BWV 582, by J. S. Bach

From Symphonie VI: Adagio, Intermezzo, by (Charles-Marie Widor)

Improvisation on "Aka tonbo," by Joyce Jones

Scherzo, Op. 2, by Maurice Duruflé

Prelude to Die Meistersinger, by Richard Wagner; arr. Edwin H. Lemare

Richard Elliott

Organist, Mormon Tabernacle, Salt Lake City

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Founders Day Concert

The Choir of the Cathedral of the Madeleine

12th Annual Concert Series

Sunday, March 10, 2002 at 8:00 p.m.

William Byrd

Mass for Five Voices

J.S. Bach

Cantata No. 131 Aus der Tiefen rufe ich, Herr, zu dir

Anton Bruckner

Three Graduals

Leo Nestor

Three American Hymn Tune Settings

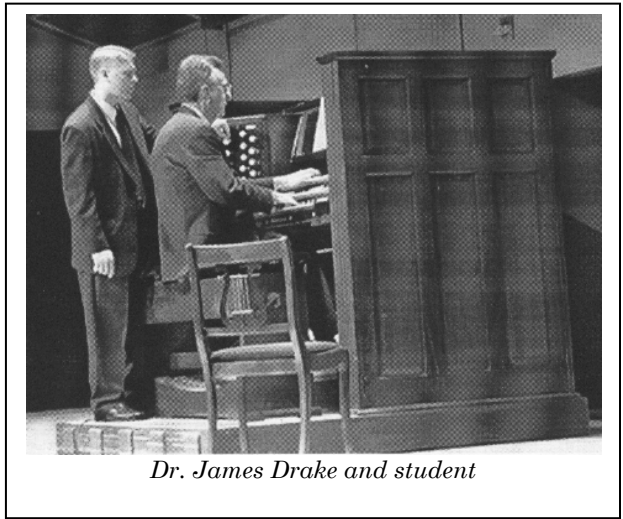
Call 994-4663 for guaranteed seating passes or for additional concert information.

"Each new thing we learn helps complete a picture of understanding." *Dr. Douglas E. Bush*

January's Activity

We appreciate the masterclass on the Alexander Technique and organ recital that Dr. James Drake gave at BYU in January. Some of his tips on relaxation were:

- Play like these are the last chords of your life.
- Set in at the bottom of the keybed and pedalboard. Think of them as old friends.
- Be the observer while playing the organ--be aware of how you are playing.
- Have a slight slope downward from the bench to your knee.
- Keep your head aligned up from your spine. Point yourself up. Think yourself up.
- Widen your back.
- The body is fluid and alive--not a Greek statue.
- When we go into action, we usually collapse. Need to think upward.
- When we lock our head, we quit breathing properly.
- Drop wrist to relax. Push into keys.
- Melt the armpits. Think of cooked spaghetti.
- Keep thumb well over the keys.
- When the musical line changes, we will choke if we have tension.
- Using a chair, stand up with feet apart and head up. Feel the flow of energy. Hold hands out with palms up. The head should be leading with the body following. You don't know that you've been sitting wrong for a long time until you start feeling aches and pains.
- The thumb is the biggest cause of tension.
- Soften the chest. Let it go.
- Watch you ankle motion. Avoid overplaying. Look for minimum muscular motion. Soften the thighs.
- Drop heel into pedal.
- Lead the life of a millionaire--don't worry.
- Arms should hang loosely. Drop shoulders. Pull fingers from keys.
- Center the fingers over the note being played. Have a bread and butter hand. If your hand is tight, the tension will go up the entire arm to the shoulder and neck. Curve the first joint of the finger.
- Speed doesn't exist. Instead think of notes as being closer together. Disengage every note.



Dr. James Drake and student

Dr. Drake's repertoire at his recital the next evening included:

Sonata No. 1 in D Minor, Op. 42, Allegro assai by Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659a and *Trio Sonata No. 5 in C Major, BWV 529* by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 - 1750)

Prelude and Fugue in E Minor by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) arr W. T. Best

Communion, Op. 58 and *Symphony No. 6, Op. 59, Scherzo* by Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

A Franciscan Patorale by Franklin D. Ashdown (b. 1942)

Symphony No. 1, Regina Pacis, Mater Dolorosa, Stella Maris by Guy Weitz (1883-1970)

BYU Student Recitals

March 19 (Tuesday) - Andy Jenson, Sophomore Recital, Assembly Hall on Temple Square, at 7:30 p.m.

April 3 (Wednesday) - Alena Hicken, Sophomore Organ and Piano Recital, Madsen Recital Hall, BYU, 7:30 p.m.

April 13 (Saturday) - Neil Thornock, Composition Recital (including organ and carillon compositions), Madsen Recital Hall, 3:00 p.m.

Upcoming Chapter Events

MINNESOTA PUBLIC RADIO PRESENTS

Pipedreams

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

March 8 (Friday) - Dr. Don Cook recital,
Madsen Recital Hall, HFAC, BYU, 7:30 p.m.

April 13 (Saturday) - Super Saturday Organ
Workshop, HFAC, BYU. 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

May 18 (Saturday) - Joint member recital with
Salt Lake Chapter, Alpine Tabernacle, American
Fork.

March 3 - *Alain On Alain (Part 2)* . . . the famous
French recitalist, recording artist and teacher Marie-
Claire Alain talks about the uniquely powerful music
of her older brother and first teacher, Jehan Alain
(1911-1940).

March 10- *Cherchez les Femmes* . . . Joan Lippincott,
Katharine Pardee, Kathleen Scheidt, Dorothy
Papadakos and other women of exceptional
musicianship lead us through a treasury of organ
repertoire.

March 17- *Vive la France!* . . . recitalist, composer, and
improviser, Marie-Bernadette Dufourcet presents a
cross-section of French music from the past century.

March 24- *Chips Off the Old Bach* . . . Robert Clark,
Anthony Newman, Catharine Crozier and others play
transcriptions and rearrangements of, early works by,
and homages to the greatest of all organist-composers,
Johann Sebastian Bach.

March 31- *He is Risen!* . . . involving everything from
Gregorian chant to electric guitar, the organ provides
provocative and inspiring music for the Christian
Resurrection Festival (Easter).

Please contact DeeAnn Stone if you have any information
for the newsletter--e.g. recitals, concerts, musical items
for sale, inspirational or humorous stories or quotes (music
related), recipes, member news, helpful musical hints or
ideas, etc.--377-4728, ddstone@softhome.net, 1510 W.
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Resources for LDS Organists

www.geocities.com/ddstone48

American Guild of Organists



Utah Valley Chapter

Dr. Parley Belnap, Dean

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