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# BOSTON PIPINGS

news and notes for members of Boston Chapter AGO

## NEWS:

Marie-Claire Alain died. Check out the New York Times obit [here](#). Reply to this e-mail with your personal story about this great lady and we'll publish it in the future.



Are you a music/organ/vocal teacher?

We'll be listing people soon on our website, and please send a short paragraph (100 words max) and photo (optional) as well as contact info and website.

**Christine Hogan** recently hosted a **round table discussion** at her church in Belmont. There were 10 of us, from points north of Boston (near Gloucester) as far south as near the cape. We had a lively and spirited discussion mainly around leading the volunteer choirs, and general employment concerns and solutions. Having **Charlene Higbe** there as part of professional development was quite helpful in this area. Our choirs and churches range from small groups of 6-8 to ones as large as 20, congregation sizes of less than 100 to Catholic churches to well over 1000. We touched lightly on the funeral/wedding topic but will need another time slot to explore more fully.

March 24 ROUND TABLE 12:30–3:30 pm: Organ Improvisation in Liturgy and the Realm of Dramatic Accompaniment: Practical examples for every musician.

12:30 pm LUNCH with discussion: "What is improvisation?"

ROUND TABLE Examples of improvisation in liturgy and dramatic accompaniment: how close are these two realms in practice? Hands on time. SESSION ENDS AT 3:30 Chef Chows

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Make Plans to attend the Region 1 & 2 AGO Regional Convention in [Hartford](#) June 30–July 3.

[Early registration](#) discount ends Friday,

House and The United Parish in Brookline, 210 Harvard Street Brookline, MA.

March 15. Now is the time!

See the many opportunities below:

### Appointment of New Librarian at the Organ Library

When Barbara Owen, founding Librarian of The Organ Library, announced her intention to retire from the position at the end of 2012, a search was begun for a successor. With the assistance of a group of Boston University librarians and faculty a list of skills and capabilities that the new librarian should possess was drawn up. The Organ Library Committee decided on a 20-hour-per week appointment. Members of the search committee for the new librarian were Holly Mockovak (Mugar music librarian), Janet Russell (School of Theology librarian), and Joseph Dyer (chairman). Twenty-one applications were received, and five candidates were interviewed by the search committee. The unanimous choice of the committee was Simonne Ronk. She was then interviewed by the Organ Library Committee and was again the unanimous choice. The Committee also named Barbara Owen "Librarian Emerita" in recognition of her long service to the Library (since 1984).

Simonne Ronk, a native of Ohio, received her bachelor's and master's degrees in saxophone, followed by a master's in Library Science and Information Service from Kent State University (2011). She will receive a master's in Music History and Literature from the same institution later this year. Simonne brings varied library experience to her new role, having worked in several academic settings. She also brings tremendous enthusiasm to her new responsibilities and has already made strides in reorganizing the Library space and developing liaisons with Boston University librarians. She has ambitious plans for the future of the Organ Library, which today is one of the largest collections of its type in the world with approximately 50,000 titles in a database searchable via the Library [website](#). Chapter members are invited to visit Simonne at the Library, whose hours of opening are posted on the website.

**Computer Needed.** The level of activity at the Organ Library having increased there is need for a second computer to be used by volunteers for add entries to the Web Catalog and managing the sales of used music, etc. Has anyone in the Chapter recently made a technological upgrade and would be willing to donate a recently retired PC? If so, please [contact](#) the Library.

### March 16: BACH AROUND THE CLOCK - from Sunrise to Sundown

The Boston AGO has teamed up with [WGBH Classical New England](#) and [First Lutheran Church](#) to expand our popular annual celebration of Bach's

birthday. On Saturday, March 16, for fully twelve hours (6am to 6pm!), free programs will celebrate the diversity of the master's compositional output. Included are four organ recitals, an organ introduction for children, concert programs by Boston Baroque, Handel and Haydn Society, and New England Conservatory, and many more! There's even an option for a German lunch (reservations required).

More information is here: <http://www.flc-bostonmusic.org/> or the schedule [here](#).

Boston based soprano Emily Hindrichs, reports that her home town recently took a pretty serious hit from a massive tornado. "It took out many homes and businesses, but hardest hit were the music school at Southern Miss – one building flattened, and the other two with pretty serious structural and water damage – and my church, Westminster Presbyterian (see photo) The good people at the Methodist church have taken in the congregation, the local Baptist college has put their pianos into storage, and the organ builders from Jackson came to disassemble their organ, but their music library was in the part of the building where the sky opened up and came in." If you have any extra copies of choral music and are

willing to donate them, check this [spreadsheet](#), and contact Emily with your donations, and she'll coordinate the details of a shipment. Donations will be accepted on a rolling basis through the summertime. We hope to coordinate the first shipment after Easter. WPC is a 15–20 strong mixed choir of enthusiastic volunteers and university students. They love Tudor anthems, Moses Hogan spirituals, and most everything between.

#### HARVARD MASTER-CLASS March 13 HARVARD RECITALS March 5, 12 & 26

All members of the Boston AGO are warmly invited to attend two master classes in the Memorial Church, Harvard University. The first, featuring guest artist Nathan Laube, is Sunday evening, March 3rd at 7:30pm. Recently appointed to the faculty of the Eastman School of Music, Mr. Laube will coach several Harvard organ students on the new Fisk organ prior to his recital in the church on Tuesday, March 5th.

The following week, and coinciding with his March 14–16 BSO appearances, Olivier Latry will coach students in open session on Wednesday, March 13th at 5:00pm.

In addition, the Harvard Tuesday Recital Series continues with Worcester-native Amanda Mole on March 12th, and Peter Sykes on March 26th.

All are invited, and each event is free! Contact [Chris Lane](#) for more information.

#### Save the Dates:

March 24 Noon–3:30 Organ Improv Round Table Brookline

April 5 Marilyn Keiser in NYC, recital and gala [tribute](#) by AGO National

April 6 AGO Competition for Organ Performances Details TBA

April 13 1 pm Wilhelm Middelschulte Sesquicentennial Church of the Advent, Boston with Brink Bush and Heinrich Christensen

April 20 9:30 am – 2 pm In Search of Searles, Methuen Memorial Music Hall, Methuen MA

May 14 Faxon 100 Details TBA

#### Check out performances on our BAGO calendar page [here](#).

March 8--Deplorations in Cambridge, March 9--in Boston

March 9--Bach in Dresden--in Boston

March 9--Hunchback in Gloucester

March 10--Harpsichord in Lincoln

March 10--Lenten Organ music in Boston

March 10--Latry in Providence

March 10--Rikkyo U in Gloucester

March 12--Evensong & Brahms in Boston

March 12--Harvard recital

March 13--Masterclass at Harvard

March 13--Brahms in West Roxbury  
March 16--Bach in Boston  
March 16--Cecilia in Brookline  
March 17--Seraphim in Cambridge

Boston Chapter American Guild of Organists, Timothy Hughes, Membership Secretary,  
247 Washington St #24, Winchester, MA 01890

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