



# BOSTON PIPINGS

*news and notes for members of Boston Chapter AGO*

September 19 2013  
AGO Program season overview.

Coming up!

Service and Recital for  
Installation of AGO Officers

3:00 PM Sunday, September 29, 2013

Harvard Memorial Church  
Harvard Yard, Cambridge Massachusetts

Service of installation played by Harry Huff on the E. M. Skinner  
Recital by young artists, Karen Christianson, Christian Haigh (Harvard Class of 2017)  
and Alex Pattavina (Second Prize winner of the Albert Schweitzer Organ Competition  
and the AGO/Quimby Competition) played on the Fisk organ.

All members warmly invited to attend this event!

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Events to come...

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- A Dinner and Convention Excitement presentation for chapter members will be presented the evening of Monday, November 4. (Save the date, more information coming soon!)
- On the horizon: Our famous First Night Tradition of offering an organ recital will continue on New Years Eve at the Arlington Street Church, Boston.
- Two recitals, one in January and one in May will feature contemporary music by composers commissioned for the AGO Boston Convention.
- Don't miss the Bach Birthday 328 on Saturday, March 22 at First Lutheran Church, Boston. A full day of incredible events celebrating "the greatest navigator of all sound!"
- An event titled "What Works, examples of successful working conditions between Musicians and Clergy" presented by the Boston Chapter, AGO. Date, Time and Place TBD.
- On Friday, May 30th an evening program entitled "A Choir School Family of Organists" will be presented jointly with and at St. Paul's Church, Harvard Square.
- Family Organ Encounter Day, June 21, from 10 Am - 3 PM at Old South. That evening a silent movie event at Church of the Covenant in Boston will feature a short comedy and one feature film. As a prelude to the 2014 National

Convention in Boston the public is invited to this outreach event for children and the young at heart to discover the wonder that is the pipe organ.

- On July 1st at King's Chapel, Boston at 12:15 the Young Organist Initiative Scholars' Recital will feature the Scholars organ playing skills.

Please keep looking at PIPINGS for the latest Chapter News. Have a great year everyone and get excited about the Convention!

Peter Edwin Krasinski, Sub Dean.

*Sub-Dean Peter Krasinski writes:* It was a pleasure to see so many of you at the Max Miller Memorial Service at Marsh Chapel on the 8th of September. It was a great afternoon of remembrances, friendships and music. Thanks to event committee members Scott Jarrett and Barbara Owen with special support from Betty Miller for the success of this festive and heart-felt remembrance.

The Boston Chapter in conjunction with Boston University Marsh Chapel presented a service in Celebration and Remembrance of Max Burdorf Miller (1927 - 2013) on Sunday, September 8, 2013.

Max Miller served on the faculties of the School of Music and the School of Theology at Boston University for forty-two years until his retirement in 1991. He was simultaneously University Organist, Director of Music at Marsh Chapel, Director of the Master of Sacred Music Program, Conductor of the Seminary Singer, and the Professor of Organ in the School of Music. He also wrote the "Ask Uncle Max" column for The American Organist for many years.

Dr. Joel Sheveloff, Professor Emeritus of the College of Fine Arts, offered spoken remembrances. Organists from

Max's four decades at Marsh Chapel - Mary Kay Burton, Michelle Graveline, Glenn Goda, Marian Ruhl Metson, Nancy Granert, Raymond Nagem, Peter Sykes, Associate Professor, BU School of Music and Justin Thomas Blackwell, Associate Director of Music, Marsh Chapel - presented musical tributes.

The Marsh Chapel Choir performed several of Max's compositions, and was augmented by former students, friends, and colleagues in the singing of Max's setting of 'Set me as a seal'

After the service a number of performers were asked about Max.

"I found Max to be unfailingly wonderful," Sykes said. "He was so nice and always very supportive. . . He was always someone that I looked up to as a model of how someone should lead a musical community."



Photo: Betty Miller with Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett, Director of Music at Boston University's Marsh Chapel. Photo by Peter Krasinski

Nancy Granert, who assisted Miller in teaching the Master of Sacred Music Organ Concentrators in the 1990s said Miller played a large role in her life and in her career at BU. "This [service] reminded me of all the moments of hospitality that Max and his wife Betty gave to everyone," Granert said. "The same feeling of closeness that you felt here in the Chapel today is what you would always feel in their home."

Peter Krasinski, Sub-Dean and former student said Miller was a dedicated musician whose passion resonated with his students beyond the classroom. "He and his wife Betty were very much interested in what people were doing long after they had graduated. He instilled a curiosity in his students to discover what the composer had in mind. He was able to let each performer or student of organ find his or her own voice while respecting the intentions of the composer. A small sign in his office said a lot about Max. It stated 'It's nice to be important, but more important to be nice'"

The service was officiated by Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean of Marsh Chapel, and directed by Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett, Director of Music at Marsh Chapel. The event was planned by a committee comprised of Boston Sub-Dean Peter Krasinski, Organ Historian Barbara Owen and Dr. Jarrett with guidance from Max's wife, Betty Miller. A reception followed featuring a display from the Organ Library.

Claire DeCusati

#### Upcoming Concerts:

Sept 21 Joyce Painter Rice at Methuen  
Sept 22 Stevens restoration recital in Northborough  
Sept 22 John Robinson in Cambridge  
Sept 29 Stevens restoration recital in Northborough  
Oct 1 Luca Massaglia at Harvard (Series in Memorial Church)  
Oct 3 Christian Lane at Busch Hall, Cambridge  
Oct 6 Stevens restoration recital in Northborough  
Oct 6 Jonathan Wessler in Cambridge  
Oct 8 Diane Meredith Belcher in Worcester  
Oct 10 Nahri Ahn at Busch Hall, Cambridge  
Details and more concerts are listed [here](#).

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

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