



All the News ...



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Greetings from the Dean:

As we dig ourselves out from the month of Nor'easters, tax documents and church bulletins I'd like to share these thoughts.

Last week someone asked me what I was doing to support my faith journey in this busy time of Lent/Holy Week/Easter. I quickly responded that I had blocked out the entire day of March 17 to celebrate the Music of J. S. Bach with my AGO colleagues at First Lutheran Church in Boston, as I have done now for several years. What a tremendous spiritual boost it was. We heard many levels of playing from those in the youngest formative years to the soaring performance of Lübeck's Arvid Gast, who clearly loves the music and the special organ at First Lutheran. My own kids "Youth pro Musica" participated in Louse Mundinger's "Waiting for Cousin Sebastian", a clever musical play featuring music from the Anna Magdalena Bach Notebook. (BTW The Special Projects Advisory Committee of our Chapter sponsored this production.) Maybe the highlight of the day for me was the Vespers Service at the end of the day with a hugely thoughtful Homily by Pastor Ingo Dutzmann that connected the dots from St. Patrick to Luther to Bach.

At one point there were over 180 people reveling in the music of this genius. Our chapter, and its members, supports/sponsors/organizes events like The Boston Bach Birthday for the public and for our own edification. We are trying to get the message out. We really need you to help us spread news of these events. It was great to see many of you in the course of the day. How many of you have invited your church members, choir members, friends and colleagues to join us at these events?

We have two more Chapter events coming up right after Easter. On Friday night, April 6, at 8:00 pm, Stephen Buzard will be bringing us music from 1930's Europe and America on the magnificent Aeolian Skinner Organ at the Church of the Advent. Now is the time to invite people to join you for this concert; maybe meet somewhere for dinner beforehand?

Also, mark your calendar for the Annual Meeting on Monday evening, June 4, at 6 pm at St. Michaels in Milton, and be sure to look at the calendar on our web site (bostonago.org/info/calendar) for the many other wonderful events taking place in our city and environs, so rich in musical offerings.

Future editions of Pippings will bring information on the election, and look in this edition for information on the operating procedure changes that the Executive Committee has approved.

We need you to get involved in your chapter.

PLEASE BE SURE to check for yourself AND ask your colleagues to see if membership has been renewed! Please Do it NOW! Please make sure that the AGO has your current Email address, and ask your friends if they have seen AND read the latest newsletter – remind them to renew.

Have you renewed your membership yet?

Robert Barney

**Stephen Buzard in concert at
The Church of the Advent April 6th at 8 pm.**

Stephen will conduct a masterclass on Saturday, April 7th at 10 am at The Church of The Advent

This event, co-sponsored by BAGO and Church of the Advent, could easily be called *Glorious musics: the 1930s in Europe and America*. Stephen Buzard will play music by Leo Sowerby, Paul Hindemith, Percy Whitlock, and Maurice Duruflé. Splendid music in a splendid space.



Stephen Buzard is the Director of Music at historic St. James Cathedral in Chicago. As organist and choirmaster, Mr. Buzard provides music for all parish and diocesan services and directs the Cathedral Choir. His predecessors at St. James include Leo Sowerby, Dudley Buck, Clarence Dickinson, and Peter Lutkin.

We had a great turnout for the Boston Bach Birthday. Let's get together again for Stephen Buzard. Maybe you can get a friend to come into Boston with you and you could grab dinner beforehand. Easter will be over and we can rejoice getting over that summit at historic St. James Cathedral in Chicago. As organist and choirmaster, Mr. Buzard provides music for all parish and diocesan services and directs the Cathedral Choir.

Reflections on Boston Bach Birthday 2018.

Jonathan Wessler, artistic director and Minister of Music at First Lutheran Church in Boston

In order:

Colin Lynch brought new meaning to "an early work of Bach" by playing the D Major Prelude and Fugue at 8 am. The rhythm of Colin's repertoire choices moved confidently toward the mighty E Flat Prelude and Fugue. Thrilling playing and thrilling choices.

Denise Fan surprised us all day when she played both as a soloist and ensemble member. She was clear in her musical intentions which she conveyed in various ways. Sometimes she led, sometimes she lifted the ensemble from her bass line.

It was wonderful to work with **Robert Barney's Youth pro Musica** in putting together the play *Waiting for Cousin Sebastian, 1739*. In Anna Magdalena's 1725 notebook there are ink blots, smudges and crooked lines as well as sublime melodies and beautiful autographs. **YpM**, as the Bach children, turned the smudges into down-to-earth boisterousness and sent the chorales heavenward. Thanks to **Youth pro Musica**, soprano **Sarah Bellott** of First Lutheran as Anna Magdalena and actor **Jacob Sherburne** as cousin Elias; with their performances the Bach household came to life in Boston.

Canto Armonico led by **Arvid Gast** sang with just the right amount of fervor after a delicious lunch at the church. *Der Geist Hilft* – The Spirit helps us in our weakness – was sung with joyous enthusiasm. Look forward to hearing them again.

Dolores and Robert August, Rebecca Nelson, Denise Fan and Jonathan Wessler moved us forward in time to CPE Bach and his unorthodox, new ways. CPE learned from his father how to get voices to speak to one another so that the listener gets in on the conversation, but Emmanuel's style was his own. This ensemble brought new tone colors to the day, delivered with panache.

Aaron Larget-Caplan asked composer Vineet Shende to respond to some of the Bach preludes Aaron

arranged for guitar. The radius between composer to arranger to composer offered food for thought.

Finally Cousin Sebastian arrived at 3 pm. Featured performer **Arvid Gast** from Lübeck made the notes leap from the pages to our ears. From the *Fantasia in g* to the *Prelude and Fugue in F*, Arvid played some of the most cherished pieces in the Bach repertoire with bite and polish. The good news is that Arvid will be back in the fall with the Bach competition.

The Vespers that Robert talked about in his message concluded the day. The Prelude played and sung by **Heather Kirkconnell**, organ and **Joshua Garvey**, countertenor brought musical moments. The Vespers was sung with zeal by the congregation. The Lutherans at First Lutheran know their chorales and sing them with full voices.

A wonderful day; now on to March 23, 2019!

Balint Karosi and **Joyce Painter-Rice** started this tradition ten years ago. **Jonathan Wessler** has continued it. Many thanks to them and all the volunteers who made it happen.

Coming up: June 4th Annual Meeting and Members' Recital at St. Michael's in Milton. Mark your calendars!

Louise Munding

2018

ORGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY • JULY 29–AUGUST 3
||: ROCHESTER • NEW YORK :||



HOPE-JONES ORGAN COMPANY, OP. 2 (1908)



GOART/YOKOTA (2008)



HOOK & HASTINGS COMPANY, OP. 1573 (1893)



THE RUDOLPH WURLITZER COMPANY (1929)



PHOTOS: LER LEVASSEUR

PAUL FRITTS & COMPANY, OP. 26 (2008)

OUR FEATURED ARTISTS

DAVID BASKEYFIELD	NATHAN LAUBE	DAVID PECKHAM
EDOARDO BELLOTTI	ANNIE LAVER	ROBERT POOVEY
IVAN BOSNAR	THATCHER LYMAN	WILLIAM PORTER
KEN COWAN	COLIN LYNCH	CAROLINE ROBINSON
PETER DuBOIS	COLIN MacKNIGHT	DARYL ROBINSON
KATELYN EMERSON	CHRISTOPHER MARKS	JONATHAN RYAN
DAVID HIGGS	MALCOLM MATTHEWS	NICOLE SIMENTAL
RICHARD HILLS	AMANDA MOLE	JOEL SPEERSTRA
FRED HOHMAN	ALAN MORRISON	BRUCE STEVENS
WILMA JENSEN	JONATHAN MOYER	MICHAEL UNGER
PETER KRASINSKI	SEAN O'DONNELL	JORIS VERDIN
CHRISTIAN LANE	JONATHAN ORTLOFF	BRADLEY HUNTER WELCH



AEOLIAN COMPANY, NO. 947 AND NO. 1345

JOIN THE OHS IN ROCHESTER

IN COLLABORATION WITH THE EASTMAN ROCHESTER ORGAN INITIATIVE FESTIVAL IN OCTOBER

THE 2018 CONVENTION of the Organ Historical Society will celebrate the rich array of instruments in Rochester, New York. Home to an expansive collection of organs representing diverse musical styles and performance practices, Rochester is a hub for organ performance and education. Convention attendees will experience an eighteenth-century Italian Baroque organ housed in the beautiful Memorial Art Gallery, a tour of the George Eastman Museum—home of the world's largest residence organ—and everything in between. Visit the website below for the latest updates!

WWW.ORGANHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG/2018

Update to Chapter Operating Procedures

The Boston Chapter has updated its Operating Procedures in 2018. These procedures had last been updated in 2006, and many changes in technology and membership had created the need for revision. These procedures were approved by AGO HQ and the BAGO EC in January 2018.

The most significant change is the switch to

biennial elections. Beginning in 2018, office holders will be elected for a two year term, and Members at Large will be elected for a four year term. Over time, the number of Members at Large serving at any one time will be reduced to six members. In addition to these changes, the BAGO committees and the responsibilities of their chairs has also been updated.

Members may view a summary of changes and a full copy of the Operating Procedures document at [this link](#).

Operating Procedures

Boston Chapter American Guild of Organists

02/04/2018

Amy Beach at the Jamaica Plain Historical Society

Amy Beach rose to fame in the late 19th-century, and was widely praised as among the most important American composers. But after her death, she fell into obscurity, and for decades her music was completely unknown. A rediscovery began in the 1970s, becoming a crescendo that reached a notable peak in 2017, the 150th anniversary of her birth. Dr. Liane Curtis considers Beach's remarkable musical legacy, with special attention to the many groundbreaking works she composed while living in Boston. After the talk a quartet of members from the BSO will perform several of her pieces!

Sunday, March 25, 2:00pm at the Forsyth Chapel, Forest Hills Cemetery.

A JPHS event, co-sponsored with Forest Hills Cemetery and the Boston Women's Heritage Trail.



Word has been received from Robert August, music director at First Unitarian Church in Boston, that **Leo Collins** passed away recently. Leo was Director of Music at First Unitarian Church from 1964-1997. Leo Collins acted as conducting assistant to Robert Shaw in New York City, where he had a teaching fellowship at Juilliard. He was also a teaching fellow at Boston University where he received his DMA. He was the founder of The Spokane Symphonic Chorale, as well as The Cantata Singers and Ensemble, Music Director, 1964-8. President and founder, U U Musicians Network, 1985-7; Editor, Signature Series [U U anthems, 1983—]. Member, UUA Hymnbook Advisory Committee, 'Singing the Living Tradition.' (1993). Organized Hymn Writers Workshop (1988-1997). Provided hymn books for the congregation: Celebrating Christmas in Song, (1987), Spiritual Harmony, (2000), Fifteen New Poems in Song, John Burt, text leader, (2002) An Emerson Garland, (2003). Revived the Singing Society, originally formed in 1785.

