



BOSTON PIPINGS

news and notes for members of Boston Chapter AGO

December 2019 Pippings - The Newsletter of the Boston Chapter AGO

[Click here to go to the Calendar on our website.](#)

Greetings!

We've had our first snowstorm, so December seems right on track. Each year I remember how much I love my own Christmas traditions as well as traditions not my own, and the ways music can bring those different traditions under one roof. In my little Lutheran church in then-rural Afton, Minnesota we sang all fifteen stanzas of "From heav'n above to earth I come" (Vom himmel hoch) each year at the Christmas Eve pageant. Those fifteen stanzas were translated by the ever-present Catherine Winkworth (did she ever sleep? The list of her hymn translations at Hymnary.org goes on and on). As a kid in the pageant I always found it funny that in the first stanza of "From heav'n above" God swoops down, glad tidings to bring "whereof I now will stay and sing." When you hear those words as an eight year-old knowing there are fourteen more stanzas to go, eternity is entirely believable.



I now play in a much more diverse church and sing "Once in royal David's City," "Go, tell it on the mountain" and "From heav'n above" with equal fervor. Fewer stanzas per hymn, but more variety. The great story keeps getting greater with more and more voices.

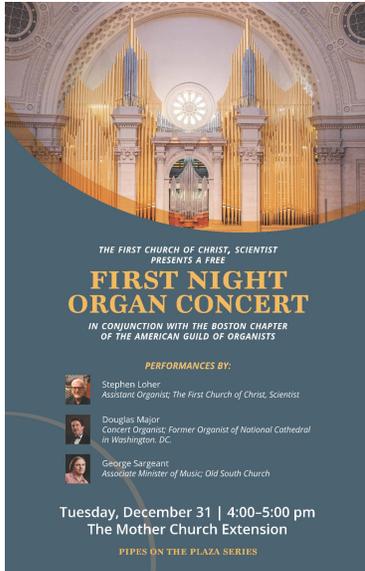
And speaking of more voices, this is an election year for the Boston Chapter. Can you add your voice to the BAGO Executive Committee? The nominating committee is being formed to search for new officers and members at-large. The work of that committee will be made much easier if members come forward to announce their willingness to get more deeply involved with BAGO. Do you have a particular interest to bring?

I wasn't as involved with BAGO for a number of years when my family was young and I worked full-time teaching. What brought me out was my interest in new music and the 2014 convention. I then found new colleagues and that kept me involved after the convention was over.

We have an active chapter with room for you to get involved. If the nominating committee comes calling, please consider their request.

In the meantime, Jeremy Bruns and his Program Committee have put together a wonderful First Night program at The First Church of Christ, Scientist on December 31st at 4 pm. The recital is free. Then in the new year we will have a party on January 5th at my house at 5 pm. Potluck - the real thing. No signups. We'll eat what you bring.

I hope you all get to enjoy lots of music in this joy-filled season. I look forward to seeing you.



First Night Concert

Join us for the First Night Organ Concert on December 31st at the First Church of Christ, Scientist, 250 Massachusetts Ave, Boston, MA 02115. The Concert begins at 4:00 PM and is free of charge.

Recitalists this year are

- Stephen Loher, Assistant Organist; The First Church of Christ, Scientist
- Douglas Major, Concert Organist; Former Organist of National Cathedral in Washington, DC
- George Sargeant, Associate Minister of Music; Old South Church

This event is co-sponsored by The First Church of Christ, Scientist.

For more information, [click here](#)

Boston Organ Library

Looking for some new music, but don't know what to buy? Take a look at the Organ Library Music Sales for inexpensive used scores. Be sure you're looking in our SALES list - menu is on the lower right corner of the home page (not in the library Webcatalogue). To visit the Library page, [click here](#). You may want to come in and browse, but it's much easier to look at the list online, because there is so much sale music that it is overwhelming to look through the many drawers. Carl is at the Library most Sundays, but contact him first. Questions? Email us [here](#)



-Carl Klein



Joan Lippincott named 2019 International Performer of the Year

Boston Chapter member Joan Lippincott has been named the 2019 International Performer of the Year by the New York City Chapter of the AGO. The New York City Chapter's International Performer of the Year Award was created in 1978 to recognize excellence in organ performance and to increase public awareness of the organ and its performers. Robert Noehren was the first recipient (in 1978) of the award, which has continued for most but not all years following. The award is considered by many to be the highest honor given to organists by a professional musicians' guild in

Photo credit: Christian Steiner

the United States. For more information, [click here](#).

Congratulations Joan!

Worcester Chapter January Jubilee

Saturday January 25th, 2020 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
First Baptist Church 111 Park Ave. Worcester, MA 01609

Join colleagues for a day of fun and learning! Sessions include: Organ Design, Hymn Playing, Handbells and much more. For a full schedule, [click here](#)



Substitute List



Our chapter's list of organists available to substitute has been updated. To view the current list, please [click here](#)

AGO National Convention – Atlanta 2020

To read about early registration dates and pricing, [click here](#)

ATLANTA IS PROUD to host the American Guild of Organists National Convention in the summer of 2020. With “A Kaleidoscope of Color and Sound,” we celebrate the diversity of experiences, races, ages, and cultures in Atlanta.

As the center of the Civil Rights movement, Atlanta made an impact on the world of culture and music. In this spirit, we are featuring historically significant venues, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s place of baptism and ordination, Ebenezer Baptist Church, as well as America’s oldest private historically black liberal arts college for women, Spelman College.



Celebrating the Atlanta interfaith community’s long and significant role as leaders for justice confronting issues of civil and human rights, the worship services will be held in historic spaces along the Peachtree Street corridor. We begin at Ebenezer Baptist Church, in the neighborhood still echoing the voice of Martin Luther King Jr., moving up the street to The Temple, bombed at the height of the Civil Rights Movement but rebuilt and standing witness for social justice in the city. From there we move on to Peachtree Christian Church, the Catholic Cathedral of Christ the King, and the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Philip. Traditional musical styles and new voices and songs will both reflect the dynamic religious life of the city and inspire our ministry.

To read about all the concerts, venues, and workshops, [click here](#)

THE DIAPASON

**Special Offer from *The Diapason* through
December 31st**

As you may know, *The Diapason* is the oldest continuous journal devoted to the organ, harpsichord, and carillon. In fact, we are celebrating our 110th anniversary in 2019! To carry on this tradition of excellence, we would like to share our wonderful journal with new subscribers. To read all about the special offer, [click here](#).

For new subscriptions and gift subscriptions, we are pleased to offer the following:

- One free Raven CD with a one-year regular subscription (\$43)
- Two free CDs with a two-year subscription (\$77)
- Three CDs with a three-year subscription (\$106)
- One free CD with a one-year digital edition subscription (\$35)
- One free CD with our student rate subscription, which remains an incredible deal at only \$20 per year

All levels of subscription include full access to our recently updated website: thediapason.com. There, subscribers can read timely information regarding recitals and upcoming events, and read full issues of the magazine going all the way back to 1966, with more to come.

Sir Elton John raises funds for new Orgelbau Kuhn Organ at Royal Academy of Music (2013)

In our 'continuing series' (?) of rock stars funding organs, here is a link to the organ at the Royal Academy of Music in London. Elton John contributed to fundraising efforts for this organ; he studied classical music at the Royal Academy beginning in 1958.

To read about the organ from "Choir and Organ" magazine, [click here](#)

To view the YouTube interview with Elton about this project, [click here](#)



"There's no doubt that in the activity of singing and taking part in a choir, and perhaps learning some of what might be thought to be old fashioned values now – teamwork, loyalty, punctuality – you learn a lot of life skills. So I would just say, 'Get out there and sing!'"

-Sir Stephen Cleobury (1948 - 2019)



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Click the image to link to AGO HQ website

Boston Chapter, American Guild of Organists | bostonago@verizon.net

See what's happening on our Facebook Page:

