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[Join Our Email List](#)**March 2022****The Newsletter of the Boston Chapter American Guild of Organists**

A Message from the Dean

Greetings Colleagues,

Frankly, it's hard to know what to say these days— we were just starting to see what appeared to be real and concrete improvements in the Covid-19 situation (I realize that another surprise could be lurking around the corner, as has happened several times now), when other events took over the world stage and have now upended our sense of normalcy yet again. It feels to me that there is no longer enough time to get used to a 'new normal' before the rug gets shifted again, and again.

I'm concerned for the human race and the planet in general, as I'm sure you are, too. Instead of dwelling on that, I have been attempting to stay focused on the work ahead, as there are so many blessings and opportunities in the present moment... and there is SO MUCH WORK! Many of you are active church musicians. Am I alone in suddenly feeling very behind in preparations and planning for Holy Week and Easter? In a recent staff meeting, we were each asked to share how we're feeling and coping, and I realized that I feel pinned underneath a boulder that started rolling down the hill a few weeks ago! I poke my hand out, squeeze just a bit in front of it, and it promptly rolls back on top of me again.

Nevertheless, being busy can indeed be a good thing, and I am grateful for the tasks on my plate, for the ability to work alongside great and inspirational colleagues, and often, for the opportunity to brighten someone else's day, or lighten their load just a little bit. And every now and then, there is a moment of rest and reflection— during a worship service, or maybe riding on the 'T' between locations, or perhaps even in the waiting area before a medical appointment (you know you're in trouble when you realize that you're looking forward to sitting in a waiting room).

“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”—Luke 6:38

The next edition of Pippings will go out on Good Friday (April 15). Friends, until then, all best wishes for the remainder of this season of Lent. Let us all be reminded how much good comes out of the many hours of careful attention given now. Many will be blessed by the work that we are facilitating, ourselves included.

Jeremy Bruns, Dean

Boston Bach Birthday 337
The First Lutheran Church of Boston
 presented by The First Lutheran Church of Boston
 and the Boston Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
 Saturday, March 19, 2022

8:30am **Jonathan Wessler, organ**
 The Orgel-Büchlein

10:20am **The Timko Family, violins**

11:00pm **Maren Rothfritz, viola**
 Three cello suites

12:00pm **German Lunch**
 [tickets \$15 at the door]

1:15pm **Andrew Scanlon, organ**

2:30pm **Misuzu Tanaka, piano**
 Bach in the Nineteenth Century

3:30pm **Andrus Madsen & April Sun**
 two pianos/four hands
 The Goldberg Variations, arr. Josef Rheinberger

4:30pm **Prelude to Vespers**

5:00pm **Solemn Vespers**
 Gottes Zeit ist die Allerbeste Zeit, BWV 106

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FRANCK

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METHUEN

SATURDAY, MAY 21
 9:30 to 4:00



**A FREE EVENT,
OPEN TO ALL**

IN CELEBRATION OF César Franck's 2022 bicentennial, concert organist Scott Dettra is undertaking a national tour of Franck's 12 major organ works, performed from memory in two 75-minute recitals.

Franck's organ music—arguably the most significant contribution to the repertoire after that of Bach—broke new ground and charted the course of the French Romantic organ school. Thanks to its mature harmonic language and achingly beautiful melodies, Franck's music has become an enduring foundation of the repertoire.

Praised for clarity, rhythmic intensity, and musical elegance, Mr. Dettra will bring his hallmark poise and suave sense of expression to this beloved music.

Rounding out the day, Christopher Anderson of Southern Methodist University will discuss links between French and German organ cultures of the 19th and 20th centuries.

THE DAY

9:30 Doors open
 10:10 Opening remarks
 10:15 Recital No. 1
 11:30 Lunch
 1:15 Lecture:
 Franck Among the Germans: Ideology and Image
 2:30 Recital No. 2
 4:00 Conclusion

This day is co-sponsored by the Boston and Merrimack Valley Chapters of the American Guild of Organists, with additional support from the Boston Chapter's Special Projects Committee and generous individuals.

Mr. Dettra is represented in North America by Karen McFarlane, Artist, Inc.

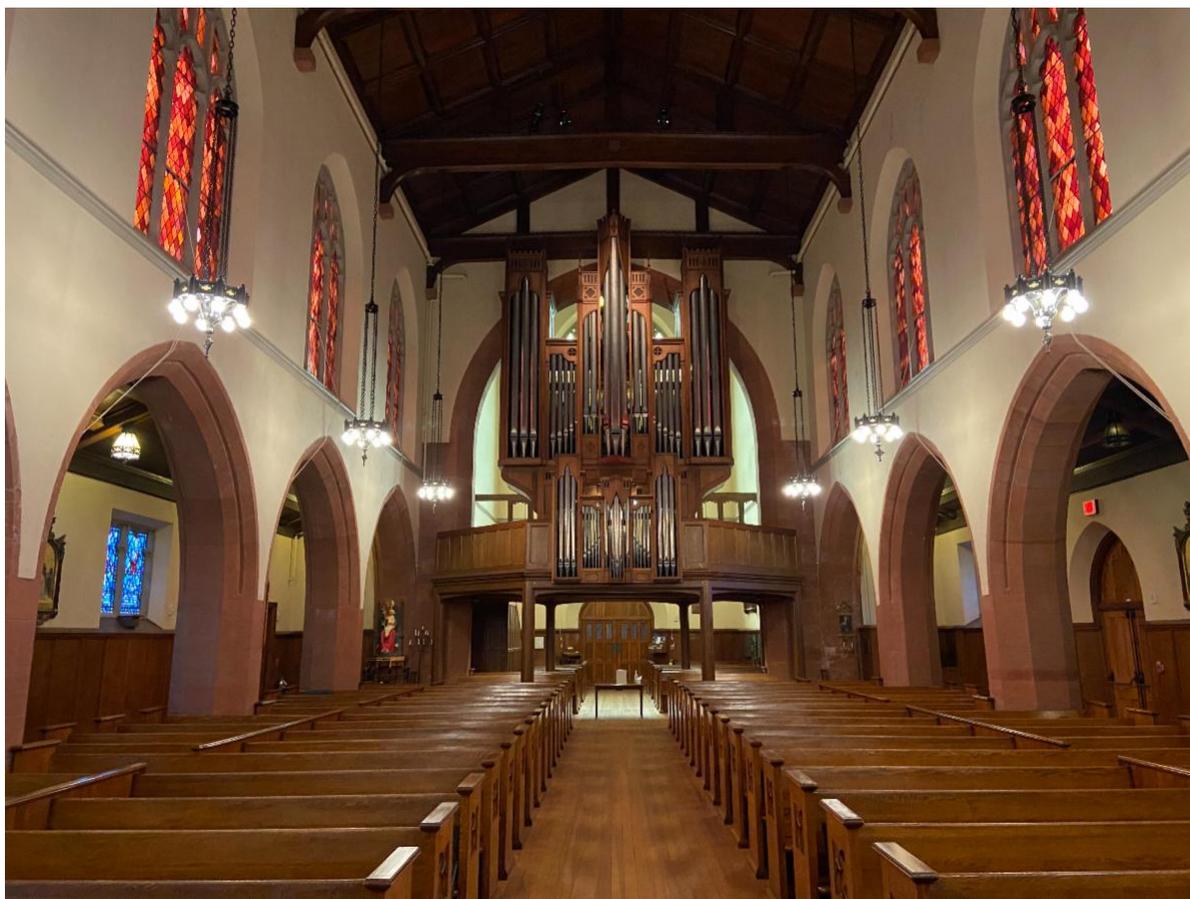
**SOUVENIR
BOOKLET**

Support this festive event with an advertisement in the full-color Program Booklet. Costs have been kept low to incline your participation.

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1. Make checks payable to: Boston Chapter, American Guild of Organists
2. Mail your check and this form to: Dettra Souvenir Booklet, c/o Ambrosino 61 Florence Ave., Arlington, Mass. 02476-5909
3. Email your ad PDF (preferably in color) to: jonathanambrosino@gmail.com to which you may direct any questions by email or calling (617) 251-8288
4. Advertising submission deadline: **April 21, 2022**



Chapter Instrument Feature: All Saints C. B. Fisk

C. B. Fisk, Inc. (Opus 103, 1995) - All Saints Episcopal Church, Ashmont

The Fisk instrument at All Saints, Ashmont is a mechanical action instrument of 50 ranks and 2,571 pipes spread across 3 manuals and 4 divisions. It was built in 1995 and is located in the gallery. The church is also home to Skinner Organ Co. Opus 708, 1929 located in the chancel.

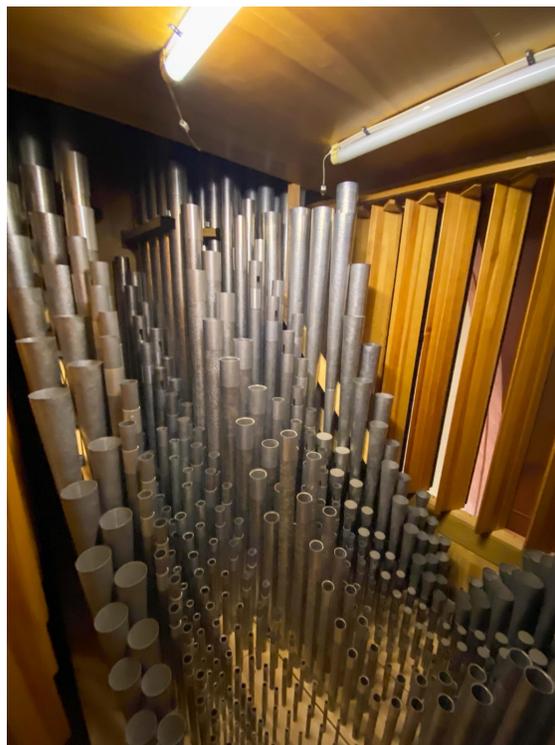
"In the mid-1980s Organist and Choirmaster Joseph Payne initiated conversations with C.B. Fisk about new instruments. In October 1987, the parish signed a contract for a four-manual nave-organ and a two-manual chancel instrument. As events unfolded, the project re-focused around a single, three-manual nave organ, placed on a gallery designed by architect and longtime parishioner William Buckingham. Except for certain bass pipes, the key action, couplers, and shutter control are direct mechanical; the electric stop action is paired to a multilevel combination action. Op. 103 was completed in 1995.

In 2015, a team from Fisk returned for a 20-year checkup: adjusting the action, cleaning reeds, and reviewing certain stops for speech and tone. Thus refreshed, the instrument stands ready for many more decades of vigorous and colorful leadership in hymns and voluntaries."

- Boston AGO Organs of Boston website

"A singular feature is the rear façade rank, facing the great tower window. The Tower Diapason supports the singing of those seated in the tower and provides an echo effect for the listeners in the nave. Instruments facing two sides are not uncommon in England, Italy and Spain; the unique architectural setting at All Saints' provides the ideal opportunity to achieve this arrangement in America."

- Parish of All Saints, Ashmont website



Learn More About the Instrument



2022 Summer Series

Wednesdays 7:30 pm

May 25 – August 31

Pipedreams Live with Michael Barone (5/25)

Featuring 6 Young Artists from the Area

Angela Kraft Cross (6/1)

Wesley Hall (6/8)

James Kealey (6/15)

Robert Parkins (6/22)

Boston Organists: Leo Abbott, Richard Clark, Mark Dwyer, Ross Wood (6/29)

Sarah Johnson (7/6)

Carolyn Craig (7/13)

Clara Gerdes Bartz (7/20)

Stefan Donner (7/27)

Raymond Nagem (8/3)

Jennifer Shin (8/10)

Justin Murphy-Mancini (8/17) Craig Williams (8/24) Timothy Olsen (8/31)

Tickets \$15 (adult) \$5 (child) at door or online <https://MMMh.brownpapertickets.com>

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View The Chapter Calendar



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