



# American Guild of Organists

Chartered 1896

## European Chapter

Chartered 1979

*Newsletter July 2015*

1. *The Dean's Corner*
2. *The Secretary's Voice; News from the Board*
4. *Introducing our Members*
5. *Members' News*
8. *European News; News from HQ*
9. *Recitals Past & Present*
11. *Appendix*

### *The Dean's Corner*

Dear European Chapter Members,

Here we are in the middle of summer already! What a treat to be reading about the absolutely wonderful AGO Regional Conventions all over the USA. Many of our members have been participating actively in these events as organizers or concert artists, for example, or have been lucky enough to be able to be one of the hundreds of AGO members in attendance. Glowing reports have been reaching me by phone or mail, making me extremely envious and eager to make plans to attend a future convention. But in the meantime, here in Europe in the European Chapter, plans for our first **FALL MEETING** in Ingelheim, Germany, 25-27 September 2015 and our annual **SPRING MEETING**, 28 March-2 April 2016 are in full swing. Please **don't miss the details for these exciting Chapter Meetings** in this newsletter and please try not to miss these opportunities to meet your fellow European Chapter members. I can't say this often enough: You won't be sorry that you made the effort to make new friends and new contacts in the organ world by attending a European Chapter meeting. Trust me. These meetings are simply very special gatherings of very special people. And everyone there will be SO happy to be able to put a face to one more name on our membership list!

May I also take this opportunity to thank our many members for renewing their membership in AGO and the European Chapter for the new AGO year 2015-2016! And an EXTRA thank you to John Falkingham for taking the time to drop you a number of reminders this Spring to let you know how much we look forward to receiving word that you will be renewing your membership. We truly value your support of AGO and the European Chapter. Fantastic that our European Chapter continues to grow! A huge welcome to our newest European Chapter members from Austria, England and the USA. Michael König lives in Innsbruck, travels often to the USA and is our very first Austrian member. Dan Smith has recently returned to the U.K. from the USA and has taken a new job in London. Katelyn Emerson has just finished two Bachelor's degrees in Organ Performance and French from Oberlin College/Conservatory in Ohio and is on her way to France for further studies this Fall. We look forward to being introduced to all three of these new members in our quarterly newsletters and to meeting them in person at an upcoming European Chapter event.

Have a lovely summer!

*Judy*

## *The Secretary's Voice*

Dear Members,

This issue is so full of news and information that I certainly don't want to hold you up at this point. Be sure to have your calendar at hand and take notes as you go along, then you don't have to go back and try to find the spot later. With the tally at about 21 participants at this point, it looks like the Fall Meeting in Ingelheim is going to be another great success. Don't miss it! And . . . have a good read!

*Bernard*

bernard.sanders(at)web.de

**Please submit your items for the next  
Newsletter before September 30<sup>th</sup> !**

## *News from the Board*

### **Mission Statement**

*The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music. To achieve this, we:*

- Encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music;
- Inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors;
- Provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support;
- Nurture future generations of organists;
- Promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and
- Engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

### **Fall Meeting 2015**

In the January and April Newsletters you have already heard about the 1930 E. M. Skinner Organ relocated to Ingelheim, Germany, and also the announcement of the "**Fall Meeting**" the European Chapter of the AGO is hosting there on the weekend of the 25<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2015. In the meantime all members have received a separate invitation with details about the event and accommodations. (Just in case you have misplaced it, it is included as an Appendix to this Newsletter after the Recitals Past and Present column!)

As we mentioned, the weekend will have many similarities with our "Spring Meeting" but it especially will give our members who are not free the week after Easter the opportunity to attend!

**Reserve the date in your calendars NOW ! and reserve your room!**

Hope to see a lot of new faces there!

*Bernard Sanders*

### **European Chapter AGO**

#### **Address changes**

*Please note that the e-mail addresses are formulated with (at) in place of @. This is to foil the efforts of electronic "phishing" for such information on-line. In order to use the addresses please insert the @ before adding them to your address book. Thank you !*

### **Spring Meeting 2016**

Dear fellow-members and friends of the European Chapter of the American Guild of Organists,

It is with great pleasure I announce that our annual **Spring Meeting 2016** will be held in **Scotland!** If you thought that there are only bagpipes there be prepared for an eye- and ear-opening experience!

The Spring Meeting will start on Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, (arrival and dinner) and will finish on the evening of Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, with our traditional Final Dinner. We will be generally in the East of Scotland and visiting historic instruments in Dundee, Fife, Edinburgh and Glasgow. Instruments will include well-preserved examples of organs by Arther Harrison, Thomas Hill, Wordsworth & Manskell, Henry Willis and Forster & Andrews. Special events will include a visit to St. Andrews to hear the University choir sing Evensong and a piano recital by Ronald Brautigam.

Hopefully this will have whet your appetite sufficiently. **Reserve the dates in your calendars NOW !** Stay tuned and watch the next newsletters for further developments and details!

*Chris Bragg*

## The European Chapter Web Site

can be visited at: [www.agoeurope.eu](http://www.agoeurope.eu)  
See Newsletters from 2000 until present  
and pictures from the Spring Meeting !

---

### *Dean and Membership Coordinator:*

Judy Riefel-Lindel  
[judith.riefellindel@upcmail.nl](mailto:judith.riefellindel@upcmail.nl)

*Sub-Dean:* Johan Hermans  
[j.h.o@skynet.be](mailto:j.h.o@skynet.be)

*Secretary and Newsletter Editor:*  
Bernard Sanders  
[bernard.sanders@web.de](mailto:bernard.sanders@web.de)

*Treasurer:* Charles Baer  
[charlesbayer2000@yahoo.com](mailto:charlesbayer2000@yahoo.com)

*Registrar:* John Falkingham  
[john.falk24@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:john.falk24@tiscali.co.uk)

*Web-Master:* Barry Jordan  
[Principal8@barryjordan.de](mailto:Principal8@barryjordan.de)

*Educational Coordinator:* Ruth Ahrend  
[Ruthahrend@aol.com](mailto:Ruthahrend@aol.com)

*Professional Development:*  
Giorgio Parolini  
[Info@giorgioparolini.com](mailto:Info@giorgioparolini.com)

*ONCARD Assistant:*  
Betsy Mixon-Stemmler  
[Betsymixon@web.de](mailto:Betsymixon@web.de)

Support your Board, be an active Member!

---

## **Spring Meeting 2015 Echo from Turin**

The Vice-President of the Organ Academy in Pinerolo, and in this capacity the assistant of Silvio Sorrentino, was very briefly present at the **Spring Meeting**. Unfortunately she was not able to stay long and there was no opportunity to introduce her to the AGO participants. Afterwards she wrote 2 wonderful e-mails to our Dean Judy Riefel-Lindel who would like to share them with the Chapter:

Sunday, April 12, 2015 11:42 AM  
Dear Ms. Riefel-Lindel,

It was a great pleasure to have you and the AGO members in Pinerolo. I was surprised by the enthusiasm and the curiosity of your group for the historic organs. It was nice and interesting talking

to you. I hope you enjoyed your stay in Turin and Pinerolo!

Best wishes,

*Vjera Sostarec*  
Vice-presidente  
Accademia Organistica Pinerolese  
Via del Pino, 67  
10064 Pinerolo (TO)

[www.accademiaorganisticapinerolese.org](http://www.accademiaorganisticapinerolese.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/AccademiaOrganisticaPinerolese>

After Judy's response with an invitation to join our Chapter she received the following warm invitation.

Saturday, April 18, 2015 10:27 AM

Dear Judy,

I am glad you enjoyed your stay in Italy. Besides the organs, there are beautiful landscapes, interesting architecture . . . and good food.

I am sure Giorgio and Edgardo were good organizers and guides. Edgardo Pocerobba has been doing a great job promoting organ music for the last 20 years, not just to Turin, but also in the towns and villages around. I didn't know Giorgio before, I heard him play in Turin last fall, his Psalm 94 by Reubke was passionate and overwhelming.

Thank you for proposing me to become a member of the European Chapter of AGO, I will consider it!

Silvio Sorrentino sends his greetings. He wonders if you could send us a photo of your group in Pinerolo - he said somebody took it in Madonna di Fatima Church. He would like to put it on our web site.

We also wanted to let you know that our doors are open - if the members of AGO wish, they can come for a visit or organize a masterclass in Pinerolo. There are several instruments which can be used for practicing and the accommodation at the Visitazione monastery (where we dropped the keys) is nice and not expensive. Of course, we would enjoy having a final concert :-)

Best wishes,

*Vjera*  
[vicepresidenteap@virgilio.it](mailto:vicepresidenteap@virgilio.it)

## *Introducing Our Members*

Organist **Katelyn Emerson** performs throughout the United States, showcasing repertoire spanning from the 14th-20th centuries and giving "superlative performance with musical precision" (Worcester Chapter, AGO). She has performed in numerous venues, notably including the Cathédrale Poitiers (France), Église Notre-Dame (Épernay, France), Mechanics Hall (Worcester, MA), St. Patrick's Cathedral (New York, NY), the Kotschmar Memorial Organ of Merrill Auditorium (Portland, ME), Severance Hall (Cleveland, OH) St. Mary, the Brick Presbyterian Church (New York, NY), Reith Recital Hall at Goshen College (Indiana), and others.

Katelyn received the Second Jean Boyer Award in the 2014 Fifth International Organ Competition Pierre de Manchicourt in Béthune and Saint-Omer, France and the second prize of the 2015 Arthur Poister Scholarship Competition in Syracuse, New York, where she will return to give a "Rising Star" recital in 2016. As the youngest of seven finalists, she received the title of Laureate and was awarded Third Place, among other prizes, in the VIII Mikael Tariverdiev International Organ Competition held in Kaliningrad, Russia. She won the Special Prize of the Krasnoyarsk Philharmonic Society and will make her Russian concertizing debut in Krasnoyarsk, Russia in November 2015. Katelyn was also chosen to be one of The Diapason's "20 under 30 - Class of 2015," a group of young organists, organ builders, harpsichordists, and choral directors showing "superior accomplishments, leadership, creativity, and innovative thinking" and will be featured in The Diapason's May 2015 issue. As the winner of the 2011 Region V AGO/Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists in Lexington Kentucky, Katelyn performed as a "Rising Star" at the AGO National Convention in Nashville, TN during the summer of 2012. She also won first place

in the L. Cameron Johnson Memorial Competition for High School Organists in 2010, received the 2013 M. Louise Miller Scholarship, and was a 2014 Fellow at the Boston, MA, National Convention of the AGO.

In May 2015, Katelyn graduated from Oberlin College and Conservatory (Oberlin, OH) with double bachelor's degrees in organ performance and French as well as with minors in music history and historical performance (fortepiano). During her time at Oberlin, she taught music theory at the Oberlin Community Music School, received the Selby Harlan Houston prize for distinguished work in organ and music theory, and was inducted into Pi Kappa Lambda, the national music honors society. As a recipient of the J. William Fulbright Study/Research Grant, Katelyn will study at the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional in Toulouse, France for the 2015-2016 academic year with Michel Bouvard, Jan Willem Jansen, and Yasuko Uyama-Bouvard.

Katelyn began her organ studies in 2005 through a scholarship of the Young Organist Collaborative (Portsmouth, NH). She has studied with James David Christie, Olivier Latry, Marie-Louise Langlais, Ray Cornils, and Dr. Abbey Hallberg-Siegfried. She has also studied organ improvisation with Jeffrey Brillhart, Marie-Louise Langlais, and Bálint Karosi, piano with Arlene Kies, fortepiano with David Breitman, and both harpsichord and continuo with Webb Wiggins. Katelyn frequently presents masterclasses on organ interpretation and church music for AGO-sponsored events. She has been on the faculty at several AGO Pipe Organ Encounters and at the Oberlin Summer Organ Academy.

While attending the 2011 and 2013 McGill Summer Organ Academies, Katelyn studied Improvisation, French Baroque music, French Romantic music, compositions of Louis Vierne, and works by Olivier Messiaen with Sietze de Vries, John Grew, Michel Bouvard, Olivier Latry, and Hans-Ola Ericsson, respectively. She

was the recipient of a scholarship to the 2011 Summer Institute for French Organ Studies in Poitiers and Épernay France where she studied with Dr. Jesse Eschbach and Gene Bedient and performed on organs of the French romantic and classical styles.

Katelyn just completed her five-year tenure as music director of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Amherst, OH, where she provided ministry through leading services with the piano and organ and directing the adult choir and the hand-bell choir. She was previously assistant organist and pianist of First Baptist Church in Hampton Falls, NH. Katelyn has been the Sacred Music Intern at the Church of the Advent in Boston, MA, studying with Mark Dwyer and Ross Wood, since 2013 and, in January 2012, Katelyn serviced as the Oberlin Sacred Music Intern with music director Keith Tóth at the Brick Presbyterian Church in New York, NY, where she substituted as organist and choirmaster for the month of July in 2012, 2013, and 2014. Katelyn has been invited to present workshops on recently published organ music for church services in the 2013 Regional Convention of the AGO in Hartford, Connecticut, Regions I & II, and in the 2015 Northeastern Regional Convention of the AGO in Hartford, Connecticut.

***In each issue we'd like to introduce another member. Send us your resumé for inclusion!***

### *Members' News*

The Conservatorio di Musica "G. P. da Palestrina" in Cagliari has organized for the first time an International Organ Festival. Events will take place in the Auditorium of the Conservatory (Balbiani Vegezzi Bossi organ, III/50), at the Cathedral (Mascioni organ, III/46) and at the Church of St. Rosalia (Tamburini organ, III/50). **Giorgio Parolini**, Professor of Organ at the Conservatory and Professional Development Coordinator of the European Chapter of the AGO, opened

the Festival with a concert at the Cathedral of Cagliari on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 with music by J.S. Bach, F. Mendelssohn, C. Franck, M.E. Bossi and A. Guilmant.

In October 2015 part of the Festival will be devoted to Organ Music of the 20<sup>th</sup> century with masterclasses and concerts by Roman Perucki (October 1<sup>st</sup>) and Janos Palur (October 2<sup>nd</sup>) at the Auditorium of the Conservatory. Palu's Masterclass will focus on Improvisation. Two more concerts on this subject will be performed at the Cathedral. The first of these is on October 16<sup>th</sup> by Giorgio Parolini and then on October 23<sup>rd</sup> by Angelo Castaldo, also Professor of Organ at the Conservatory. During these concerts several pieces written by pupils of the Composition Classes at the Conservatory (C. Mura, A. Carrus, Atzori, Calabrò, Gibroni, Lavena) will be premiered.

The last three events of the Festival will be a conference and concert on the organ music of Johannes Brahms (Giorgio Parolini, October 18<sup>th</sup> at the Church of St. Rosalia), a concert by Francesca Ajossa (pupil of Angelo Castaldo) who won the Second Prize *ex-aequo* at the "Premio Abbado 2015" Competition (November 20<sup>th</sup>, Auditorium of the Conservatorio) and a performance of Bach's "Orgelbuchlein" in two concerts at the Church of St. Rosalia on December 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Performers will be Efisio Aresu, Fabrizia Lobina and Francesca Ajossa, pupils of Angelo Castaldo. The flyer of the Festival can be downloaded following this link: [http://www.conservatoriocagliari.it/amministrazione/uploads/festival\\_organistico.pdf](http://www.conservatoriocagliari.it/amministrazione/uploads/festival_organistico.pdf)

---

---

### **"ORGANUM XXI" The Sound – Art – Organ in Marmoutier**

**From now on there are two years to remember: 1710 and 2015**

Incredible things happened in the Alsatian town of Marmoutier (28 km west of Strassburg). The sleepy little town has long been an insider tip for cultural and musically inclined, but after this year there will be two pipe organs in the city built

305 years apart but geographically close to each other. The famous instrument completed in 1710 by Andreas Silbermann stands in the Abbey church dating from the 13<sup>th</sup> Century. The new "Sound – Art – Organ" with the name "Organum XXI" built by the Jäger & Brommer Organ Company from Baden, Germany, now stands in the European Organ Center, "C.I.P. Point d'orgues" (Organ Point), which was at one time the barn of a Benedictine Abbey. This unique instrument is installed in the centrally located "Hall aux sons" (Hall of Tone). It consists of 30 tonal colors (ranks) called Sound Islands. These and numerous additional sound effects are controlled by an ultramodern console and 2 touch screens. A pipe organ is always a highly interesting construction and this instrument allows one to see into many areas generally hidden from view, the manually constructed single wind chests on which the pipes stand, wind generator and the wind canals which direct the wind to where it needs to be when the organist gives the signal.

At first glance a traditional pipe organ with modern tonal resources which produces sound, but one which impressively brings a visitor optically and aurally closer to the subject "organ" and organ sounds truly in the style of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The "Organum XXI" instrument and the attractions in the other two rooms of the C.I.P. Organ Point in the heart of Europe are an exhibition for children, youth, adults, and seniors alike, but also for organists, composers and students. It is an invitation to hear, understand and admire the organ as an instrument that deserves its nickname "The King of Instruments". This project will long be proof that the organ, even over 2000 years after its invention, remains a young, fresh, vibrant and viable instrument for musical expression.

A special effect which is unique worldwide: eight of the stops (including the 16' Posaune, Principal 8' and up to 2') and the keys from low C to a''' can be operated

from the large touch-screen creating a tone collage or "smear" as a sonic experience. Perhaps an impetus for new music . . .

Truly a marker of achievement on the European organ landscape, the instrument by Silbermann and the "Sound – Art – Organ" by organ builders Heinz Jäger and Wolfgang Brommer of Waldkirch, Germany, will be the pride and joy not only of Marmoutier and Alsace, but of the entire region at the heart of Europe. The master organ builders and their staff have proven that the organ is an exciting contemporary instrument with almost unlimited tonal potential that today can still inspire composers to new musical creations.

Commissioned by:

Communauté de Communes du Pays de Marmoutier-Sommerau

Initiator and project supervisor:

Elisabeth Chowanski

Feasibility – conception Organum XXI:

ENSCI

Construction Organum XXI:

JÄGER & BROMMER Organ Co.,  
Waldkirch, Germany

Visit the „Sound – Art – Organ“ in Internet at [www.waldkircher-orgelbau.de](http://www.waldkircher-orgelbau.de) and starting Fall 2015 in Marmoutier, Alsace, France.

As an aside, the region also has a very interesting landscape and local cuisine! Here you can experience firsthand the "dolce vita" !

Information on Marmoutier:

<http://www.paysdemarmoutier.eu/>

---

From our member **Christoph Keller**:

As some of you may know I composed a setting of "Ecce Sacerdos" for Choir and Organ in 2012 on the occasion of the Mettlach Pilgrimage as well as for the inauguration of the new 'Tuba Magna' in the Haerpfer organ by Bishop Karl-Heinz Wiesemann. The composition is dedicated to Fr. Thomas Schmitt.

After leaving the position of Music Director at St. Lutwinus, this piece was not

performed there anymore during the 2015 Mettlach Pilgrimage. Thus I am very happy and proud that this composition was performed for the first time in the United States on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

The Spring General Assembly of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) was opened with a Mass at 5 PM Central Time (Midnight in Europe) in the Cathedral of Saint Louis. Approximately 250 bishops from across the United States gathered at this Mass. Under the direction of Dr. Horst Buchholz, Director of Sacred Music at the Cathedral and for the Archdiocese of St. Louis, the Cathedral Choir performed my music for the processional of the bishops into the Cathedral.

From Saint Louis I heard that the choir enjoyed learning and performing the work. I feel very honored to know that this piece of music, which is very important for me personally, was performed in such a prominent context.

Learn more about the USCCB at <http://www.usccb.org/news/15-084.cfm> and <http://archstl.org/node/4367454> (Homepage of the Archdiocese of St. Louis)

The mass was broadcast live via satellite and internet stream by the Global Catholic Network:

<http://www.ewtn.com/multimedia/schedule.s.asp?sat=DOME&alerted=1>

*Christoph Keller*  
Siercker Weg 7  
66663 Merzig  
Germany

[Kontakt\(at\)christophkeller.org](mailto:Kontakt(at)christophkeller.org)  
[www.christophkeller.org](http://www.christophkeller.org)

---

**Bernard Sanders** attended a special concert of the in Glarus, the smallest Canton in Switzerland. On Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, the Music School presented a special concert in which young students performed as soloists with the Glarner Chamber Orchestra. On the program were a Violin concerto by Haydn, a Gitarre concerto by

Vivaldi and Kabalewski's 4<sup>th</sup> Piano Concerto. Finding no suitable repertoire for a young saxophone player, the Music School commissioned Sanders to arrange his composition "Tanz-Suite", originally for Alto Saxophone (English Horn) and Organ (Piano), for String Orchestra. This arrangement was then premiered by Jonas Ferndrigger (14 years old), Saxophone, and the Glarner Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Reto Cuonz.

Sanders' organ work "Eclogue and Fugue in B-flat" was on the program for the first concert of this years "European Festival for Contemporary Sacred Music" in Brauweiler, Germany. Organist Gregor Simon performed it at the Brauweiler Abbey on May 28<sup>th</sup>. The piece was commissioned and composed in 2011 for the dedication concert of the new Jäger & Brommer organ in Nendingen and premiered there in July 2012 by Carolyn Shuster Fournier.

Concordia Publishing House has commissioned Sanders to do a setting of the Hymn-Tune "St. Thomas" for the next Volume in a series of chorale-preludes for the Lutheran Service Book. This is his fifth setting for the Series, preceded by Chorale Preludes on "*The Lord's My Shepherd*" (Belmont), "*I Am Content*" (Es ist genug), "When You Woke" (Joyous Light), and "Now the Light Has Gone" (*Müde bin ich*).

---

From our member

**Carolyn Shuster Fournier:**

Recently here in Paris, France, a few weeks ago, I was blessed to give a recital on Olivier Messiaen's organ (in the gallery) at the Trinité Church, where I am organist. A few days later, I accompanied Maurice Duruflé's *Requiem* on the Aristide Cavaillé-Coll choir organ at the Trinité Church under the direction of Till Aly, a young talented German conductor who is now living in Paris. This is one of the most difficult pieces I've ever performed and this was one of the most spiritual experiences I have ever known. The concert began with Arvo Pärt's *Beatitudes*,

which I accompanied on the gallery organ, then the choir sang Duruflé's *Magnificat* a cappella, and I performed his *Prelude and Fugue on the name Alain* (1942) on the gallery organ before going downstairs to accompany his *Requiem* (1947). As you likely know, Jehan Alain premiered his *Litanies* on Messiaen's organ at the Trinité Church on February 17, 1938 and Marie-Claire Alain played them for her First Prize in Organ at the Paris Conservatory. Originally from Louviers in Normandy, Maurice Duruflé was strongly affected by the war and these two pieces go hand-in-hand to express the power of music to express man's utmost desire for liberty. More recently, after the massacre of the administration of Charlie Hebdo in France, our world is in dire need of liberty of expression. Each artist is a living emblem of liberty and our mission is to enlighten the world with harmonious beauty. During this concert, silence was the true bridge between the music and our mutual spiritual elevation. This is one of the greatest gifts I have ever received and I am very grateful!!!

With all my very best wishes and greetings,

*Carolyn*

6 bis, villa des entrepreneurs  
75015 PARIS – France

E-mail : [cshusterfournier@orange.fr](mailto:cshusterfournier@orange.fr)

Internet : [www.shusterfournier.com](http://www.shusterfournier.com)

### *European News*

The "Santa Maria Assunta" Parish in Bibione, Italy, has established the **1<sup>st</sup> International Competition for Organ Compositions "Rine Benedet" 2015** to promote the creation and spreading of new organ repertoire for the liturgy. The contest is open to composers of any nationality and citizenship with no age limit. The deadline for applications is September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015. For more information contact the Secretary of the competition:

daniele.parussini(at)gmail.com

Tel.: (country code) 338 62307 66

### **Cherry Rhodes and Ladd Thomas Honored by the AGO at Glendale Gala**

**New York City.** The AGO presented its twelfth annual Endowment Fund Distinguished Artist Award Recital and Gala Benefit Reception honoring Cherry Rhodes and Ladd Thomas on Friday, April 17, at the First United Methodist Church of Glendale, Calif., where Dr. Thomas has served as organist for 55 years. An audience of more than 500 colleagues, students, friends, and loved ones came together to celebrate the lifetime achievements of this dynamic musical couple.

The Gala was sponsored by the AGO National Council and its Development Committee in cooperation with the First United Methodist Church of Glendale. The event raised approximately \$60,000 to be invested in the AGO Endowment Fund in the couple's honor. Annual earnings from the Endowment support the educational activities of the Guild.

The honorees performed a recital that included Mendelssohn's Sonata No. 1 in F Minor (Thomas), Moussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition, transcribed by Jean Guillou (Rhodes), and combined their talents on the organ bench in a rare organ duet performance of The Sorcerer's Apprentice by Dukas, as arranged by Rayner Brown for their exclusive use. The Gala Benefit Reception followed at the Hilton Los Angeles North/Glendale Hotel with 200 guests in attendance.

AGO President John Walker, FAGO, presented the honorees with the AGO Endowment Fund Distinguished Artist Award "for their exemplary careers as stellar performers and passionate teachers, and their lifelong service to the AGO and the sacred music profession."

Established in 1994, the AGO Endowment Fund provides income to educate new organists and to cultivate new audiences for organ and choral music. Tax-deductible contributions to the Endowment Fund are invested in perpetuity to produce



continuing income for essential Guild programs and educational projects. The AGO's annual Gala travels around the country to celebrate distinguished members of the organ world. Past AGO Gala honorees have included Marie-Claire Alain (New York City), Charles Callahan (St. Louis), David Craighead (Philadelphia), Gerre and Judith Hancock (New York City), Joyce Jones (Fort Worth), Marilyn Keiser (New York City), Marilyn Mason (Ann Arbor), Thomas Murray (New Haven), John Obetz (Kansas City), Frederick Swann (Los Angeles), and John and Marianne Weaver (Philadelphia).

Those unable to attend the 2015 AGO Gala will receive a copy of the

commemorative program book with their contribution of \$50 or more to the AGO Endowment Fund. Contributions in honor of Cherry Rhodes and Ladd Thomas can be made online at [Agohq.org](http://Agohq.org) or by mailing a check to: AGO Endowment Fund, 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1260, New York, NY 10115. All gifts will be acknowledged in *The American Organist*. For information, please call 212-870-2311, ext. 4308, or e-mail [gala@agohq.org](mailto:gala@agohq.org).

F. Anthony Thurman, DMA  
Director of Development and  
Communications AGO-HQ

### *Recitals Past and Present*

***You can advertise here for your concert engagements to come as well as report those past.  
Please submit items for the next Newsletter !***

June 14 <sup>th</sup>	4 PM	Carolyn Shuster Fournier, Organ Works by Franck, Messiaen, Duruflé, Chauvet, Boulanger	St. Trinité, Paris (F)
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	11:30 AM	Martin Welzel, Organ	St. Margaret, Munich (D)
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	6 PM	Bernard Sanders, Conducting Benefit Concert for the Renovation of the Organ with works for Choir, Soli and Orchestra by Charpentier (Te Deum), Sanders (Cantata on "Ach, wie nichtig"), and Mozart (Jubilate Deo)	St. Gallus, Tuttlingen (D)
June 5 <sup>th</sup>	8 PM	Carolyn Shuster Fournier, Organ Dominique Fournier, Organ Works by Mozart, Bach, Franck, Boëllmann	Cathedral, Helsinki (Finland)
July 12 <sup>th</sup>		Jennifer Chou, Organ	Ilen Church, Trondheim (Norway)
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	7 PM	Agnes Goerke, Organ Works by Mendelssohn, Jongen, Howells, Guilmant (1. Sonata)	Espoo Cathedral (Finland)
July 18 <sup>th</sup>		Jennifer Chou, Organ Market Music with Recorder and Organ; Works by Bach, Handel, Sanders, etc.	St. Walburga, Zutphen (N)
July 18 <sup>th</sup>	8 PM	Bernard Sanders, Organ Dr. Cornelia Seiterich-Stegmann, Margarete Simmendinger, Narrators Works by M. Dupré, Ch. Callahan, R. Purvis, R.S. Stoughton, N. Rorem, Wm. Mathias, B. Sanders	Maria Königin, Tuttlingen (D)
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	5 PM	Martin Welzel, Organ Works by Reger (Variations and Fugue, op. 73), Rheinberger and Bunk	Moritzkirche, Halle (D)
July 21 <sup>st</sup>		Jennifer Chou, Organ	Cathedral, Ribe (Denmark)
July 28 <sup>th</sup>		Jennifer Chou, Organ	St. Mortens, Randers (Denmark)
July 19 <sup>th</sup>		Giorgio Parolini, Organ	Eglise Abbatiale, Marmoutier (F)
July 22 <sup>nd</sup>		Jennifer Chou, Organ	Ribe (Denmark)

July 25 <sup>th</sup>	8 PM	Giorgio Parolini, Organ	St. Bartholomäus, Dornheim (D)
July 25 <sup>th</sup>	8 PM	Giorgio Parolini, Organ	St. Bartholomäus, Dornheim (D)
July 25 <sup>th</sup>		Carolyn Shuster Fournier, Organ Dominique Fournier, Organ and Recitation; Bertrand Grenat, Oboe Works by Mozart and excerpts from his letters	Saint Rémy de Provence (F)
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	5 PM	Giorgio Parolini, Organ	Dreifaltigkeitskirche, Gräfenhein (D)
July 28 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 PM	Giorgio Parolini, Organ	St. Blasius, Friedrichroda (D)
July 28 <sup>th</sup>		Jennifer Chou, Organ	Randers (Denmark)
Aug. 1 <sup>st</sup>	4 PM	Bernard Sanders, Orgel Premier of the commissioned work "gratia plena" on the residence organ of Werner Bogenschütz	House Concert, Wurmlingen (D)
Aug. 1 <sup>st</sup>	11 AM	Carolyn Shuster Fournier, Organ Works by Wm. Selby, J. S. Bach, A. Chauvet, C. Franck, L. Boëllmann, J. Charpentier, L. Vierne	St. Vincent, Carcassonne (F)
Aug. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	4 PM	Agnes Goerke, Organ Works by Guilmant, Adams, West, Merkanto, Gigout	Magdeburg Cathedral (D)
Aug. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	3:30 PM	Carolyn Shuster Fournier, Organ Works by D. Buxtehude and J. S. Bach	Notre Dame Abbey, Pesquié (F)
Aug. 5 <sup>th</sup>	7 PM	Agnes Goerke, Organ Works by Brahms, Mendelssohn, Diemel, Stanford, Gigout	Helsinki Johannes Church (Finland)
Aug. 15 <sup>th</sup>	4 PM	Carolyn Shuster Fournier, Organ Works by J. S. Bach, C. Franck, L. Boëllmann, L. Vierne	Cathedral of the Assumption, Rouen (F)
Aug. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	12:10 PM	Martin Welzel, Organ Works by Sweelinck, Scheidemann, Pachelbel, Homilius, Buxtehude, and J. S. Bach	Klosterkirche Fürstenfeld, Fürstenfeldbruck (D)
Sept. 5 <sup>th</sup>	7 PM	Martin Welzel, Organ Works by J. S. Bach, L. Vierne, Max Reger (Variations and Fugue op. 73)	Theatinerkirche, Munich (D)
Sept. 6 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 PM	Bernard Sanders, Organ Martin Weidner, Trumpet Works by J.L. Krebs, E. Hemmer, T. Albinoni, M.-R. Delalande, C. Cooman, B. Sanders, C. Avison	St. Johanneskirche, Bad Dürkheim (D)
Sept. 20 <sup>th</sup>	4:30 PM	Carolyn Shuster Fournier, Organ Nicolas Debacq, Trumpet; Organ Festival of the Aisne Region Works by J. S. Bach, G. Ph. Telemann, J.-F. Dandrieu, L.-N. Clérambault, L. Boëllmann, G. Martini, G. Viviani, M.-R. Delalande, H. Purcell	St. Nicolas, Villers-Cotterêts, (F)
Sept. 27 <sup>th</sup>	11:45 AM	Martin Welzel, Organ Works by Hancock, Vierne, J. S. Bach/Guillou, Bunk, and Baker	Cathedral, Altenberg (D)

Every Saturday (11:30) Organ Music at Market Time Hans Uwe Hielscher and guest organists from around the world	Marktkirche, Wiesbaden (D)
---	----------------------------



## APPENDIX

Judy Riefel-Lindel  
Bonendaal 32  
NL – 7231 GH Warnsveld  
NETHERLANDS  
judith.riefellindel(at)upcmail.nl

June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### INVITATION to the **European Chapter AGO Fall Meeting 2015**

Dear fellow-members and friends of the European Chapter of the American Guild of Organists,

It is with great pleasure that we can now officially invite all of you to join us at the **Fall Meeting 2015** in Ingelheim am Rhein, Germany! Ingelheim is not only a charming wine town on the banks of the Rhine River, it is also the new home of an authentic American Skinner Organ, the largest Skinner organ in Europe and the only one here in a church, which is the target of our excursion.

Some of you may have already heard about the big project that our member **Carsten Lenz** initiated several years ago in Ingelheim. In 2008 the Saalkirche there purchased the organ from the First Presbyterian Church in Passaic, New Jersey, but without the case and façade pipes. This instrument was built in 1930 by E. M. Skinner. An Antiphonal-Division was added in 1952. It thus has 5 divisions and the stops of the Choir, Swell and Solo divisions have a range of C-c<sup>5</sup> to enable the octave couplers to go all the way up! The virtually unchanged instrument was restored and installed in the Saalkirche in Ingelheim with a new case and console by the Johannes Klais Company (Bonn) in 2013. It was enlarged with a Pedal division in the original style and partly with original pipework from other Skinner organs. The Disposition can be found on the Klais Web Site

The Fall Meeting will start on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, (arrival, dinner, and opening concert) and will finish Sunday forenoon, Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>, with a service in the Saalkirche. Four of our members will perform the evening concert, others will play for a less formal afternoon event on Saturday, and still others can contribute musically to the worship service on Sunday morning. **Not all of these slots are filled! Bring your music and we'll see where you all will fit in!** All participants will be able to take part in a project choir which will rehearse on Saturday and also sing in the service. If the Skinner Organ alone isn't enough to attract your attention, there is also the opportunity on Saturday afternoon to visit a nearby historic organ. Please read the attached itinerary for more details.

At this point the most important steps are to:

- Save the dates in your calendar !
- Tell me (Judy) that you will be attending !
- Also tell me if you would like a room reserved for you in the Ibis Mainz City Hotel where you can receive our group rate when reserving for 2 or more nights.
- Pay for your Hotel room(s) by bank transfer into our European Chapter account or contact me if you need more information.

**Registration date for the Fall Meeting and Hotel reservation is 31 July 2015 !**

**By this date the rooms must be booked and paid for!**

By **BANK TRANSFER IN EUROS** into our European Chapter account (see below) under the name of American Guild of Organists and our Dean's name: Judith Riefel-Lindel. Please include that you are paying for Hotel Fall Meeting.

Account Number: 2055689 at the Sparkasse Leer-Weener  
Bank Code Number (Bankleitzahl) : 285 500 00

International Account Number (IBAN) : DE65 2855 0000 0002 0556 89  
International Bank Identification (BIC) : BRLADE 21LER

Our Hotel will be the

**Ibis Mainz City**  
Holzhofstrasse 2  
55116 Mainz  
Germany  
Tel.: +49 (0) 6131 24 70  
Fax: +49 (0) 6131 247 200  
[h1084-gl@accor.com](mailto:h1084-gl@accor.com)  
[ibis.com](http://ibis.com) · [accorhotels.com](http://accorhotels.com)

Conditions for 2 (or more) nights (Sept. 25 -27):

Single: EUR 88,00 per Room / Night, Breakfast included

Double: EUR 109,00 per Room / Night, Breakfast included

Refunds for cancellations: 100% until 4 Weeks before Arrival, 50% until 2 Weeks before Arrival,  
25% until 1 Week before Arrival, after that only 10 %

If you prefer to find your own accommodations, feel free to do so. Due to the Ingelheim Wine  
Festival (see below), most of the possibilities directly in Ingelheim are already full. Even if you do  
decide to stay somewhere else, **please** let us know that you are coming!

Hope to See **YOU** there !

*Judy, Carsten and Bernard*

<b>European Chapter AGO "Fall Meeting" Ingelheim, Germany 25-27 September 2015</b>
--

### Itinerary

Friday, 25 September
----------------------

18:00 Meet in the Evangelische Saalkirche in Ingelheim  
Karolingerstrasse, 55218 Ingelheim am Rhine. **Buffet supper.**

19:30 **34. Internationales Orgelkonzert**  
*Skinner-Organ Spectacular* Followed by "Organ wine from the organ wine pipe."  
**Skinner-Organ: Concert Organists of the European Chapter of the AGO**  
**Johan Hermans (Belgium)                      Giorgio Parolini (Italy)**  
**Christa Rakich (USA)                              Ann Elise Smoot (England)**

Saturday, 26 September
------------------------

10:00 Meet in the Evangelische Saalkirche in Ingelheim  
"Introduction to the American organ" (Lecture by Bernard Sanders)  
followed by Skinner organ demonstration

11:30 Choir rehearsal for European Chapter members and choir members from the  
Saalkirche to sing for the church service on Sunday morning  
(will include choir music in English)

12:30 Lunch (various restaurants in Ingelheim)

13:30 Historic organ visit!

**or**

14:30 Saalkirche's "Karl's-Cafe in the Summer 2015", cake and coffee are being served  
AGO participants have the chance to explore and play the Skinner organ

16:00 Final Concert of the Saalkirche's *Faszination Orgel - 30 Minuten Orgelmusik zur  
Café-Zeit* (organ series) with AGO members Gabriel Dessauer, Agnes Goerke and  
others. . .

18:00 Rotweinfest in Ingelheim am Rhein 2015. Chance to enjoy the local Volksfest  
(September 26th is the opening day of a 9-day wine festival in Ingelheim!)

Sunday, 27 September
----------------------

9:00 Choir rehearsal for the international choir participating in the 10:00 service

10:00 Church service in the Saalkirche

11:30 Farewell speeches and lunch