



American Guild of Organists

Chartered 1896

European Chapter

Chartered 1979

Newsletter July 2020

1. *The Dean's Corner; The Secretary's Voice*
2. *The Board*
3. *Members' News; European News*
4. *News from HQ; Introducing Our Members; Recitals Past & Present*

The Dean's Corner

Dear European Chapter Members,

After about three months of corona measures, some of us have started to gradually turn from (severe or moderate) lockdown to 'new normal'. Unfortunately, for others this is not yet the case. Anyway, hopefully you will be spared severe illness or economic consequences. No matter how geographically dispersed we live and how timing may vary, we are all going through more or less the same process.

In Belgium it all started on Saturday, March 14th, just before the beginning of Spring. How did you experience this period? Personally, at the beginning of the measures I appreciated the abrupt peace and quiet, the attention to nature for which suddenly more time was available. Then I liked the way people developed solidarity and came up with creative solutions to the daily problems that the constant living together with the whole family and working from home entailed. Did you also have conversations with your neighbors, each at one side of the street? Or did you visit older family members to wave at them from the street?

During this period I also got to know video chat, conference apps and tic tok, participated in streaming church services and organ concerts without an audience, taught online, got to know many recording formats and learned to use a cloud. Not all of that went flawlessly from the start... But OK, even the guys from the recording studios that came to stream church services

had to go through an extended learning process.

It really helped me to regularly hear a sign of life from some of you, to hear what your situation is like, how you deal with it, and what solutions you come up with.

Of course we will get out of this situation and see each other again in real life! As a board we look forward to organizing a meeting under safe conditions as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, may this Newsletter be a way to keep inspiring and stimulating each other!

Johan

The Secretary's Voice

Dear Members,

When you received your January Newsletter there was no pandemic in sight. We all experienced how quickly things can change and how vulnerable we are. Perhaps we have learned to more appreciate some things which we have taken for granted in the past. I, too, think that everyday life will not return to what it was before. I like Johan's phrase, 'new normal'.

But perhaps it is comforting to have some things that don't change too quickly. Perhaps the AGO Chapter and the quarterly Newsletter are one of the comforting constants. Here you can read about friends and acquaintances and some of the developments and activities which are starting up again. In this vein, I wish you all safety and security in health, home,

and family, and hope that you can enjoy a bit of good news in these turbulent times! Have a good read!

Bernard
[bernard.sanders\(at\)web.de](mailto:bernard.sanders(at)web.de)

**Please submit your items for the next
Newsletter before Sept. 30th !**

The Board

Dean and Membership Coordinator:

Johan Hermans
[j.h.o\(at\)skynet.be](mailto:j.h.o(at)skynet.be)

Sub-Dean: Giorgio Parolini
[info\(at\)giorgioparolini.com](mailto:info(at)giorgioparolini.com)

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

Treasurer: Betsy Mixon-Stemmler
[betsymixon\(at\)web.de](mailto:betsymixon(at)web.de)

Registrar: Ludo Vandersmissen
[vandersmissen.ludo\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:vandersmissen.ludo(at)gmail.com)

Web-Master: Barry Jordan
[principal8\(at\)barryjordan.de](mailto:principal8(at)barryjordan.de)

Members-at-Large: Katelyn Emerson
[katelyn.emerson\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:katelyn.emerson(at)gmail.com)

Axel Wilberg
[axel.wilberg\(at\)t-online.de](mailto:axel.wilberg(at)t-online.de)

Alissa Duryee
[alissaduryee\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:alissaduryee(at)gmail.com)

Support your Board, be an active Member!
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 !

Mission, Vision and Value Proposition

The **mission** of the American Guild of Organists is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ.

The **vision** of the American Guild of Organists is to engage, support, and uplift every organist.

Value Proposition

As a member of the American Guild of Organists you can:

- **connect** with other organists
- **enhance** your skills as an organist and choral conductor
- **celebrate** the organ in historic and evolving contexts
- **discover** news of the organ and choral world online and in *The American Organist*
- Engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.
- **nurture** new organists of all ages
- **share** knowledge and expertise
- **enjoy** camaraderie at chapter events and conventions
- **find** inspiration and challenge
- **receive** encouragement from colleagues
- **experience** great organs and organists
- **access** career opportunities and job listings
- **earn** professional credentials through AGO certification

*Approved by the National Council
May 9th, 2016; revised by the
National Council June 7th, 2016.*

Update from our Webmaster

Don't forget our Chapter [Facebook page!](#) Not only that, but photos from all of our Spring Meetings have been put up there as an album. Follow this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1291359287568257.1073741830.912597592111097&type=1&l=5c5fd786b0>

It is public, so people who are not on FB can see it too.

The European Chapter Web Site

can be visited at:

www.agoeurope.eu

See Newsletters from 2000 until present and pictures from the Spring Meetings !

Barry Jordan

European Chapter AGO
Changes of Address

John Igoe has a new Email address:
[jpicaatons\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:jpicaatons(at)gmail.com)

Hartmut Siebmans has a new mailing
(postal) address starting July 1st, 2020:
Schützenring 32
D – 25899 Niebüll

Members' News

On June 29th **Katelyn Emerson** played her Graduate Organ Recital at the *Hochschule für Musik und darstellende Kunst* in Stuttgart where she has been studying with Prof. Dr. Ludger Lohmann on a scholarship. She finished her Masters' program there with the highest possible score. *Congratulations, Katelyn! We all wish you continuing success with your career!*

Bernard Wayne Sanders' "Partita on the Lourdes Hymn" has been accepted for publication by the Dr. J. Butz Verlag of Bonn, Germany. The original Triptych on this theme was commissioned by Our Lady of Lourdes parish in De Pere, Wisconsin, USA, for the dedication of their new organ. The Partita now encompasses six movements in all. It is scheduled for release in the course of this year.

Johan Hermans performed an Organ Meditation every Tuesday afternoon at the Hasselt Cathedral from April 21st until the end of June. On May 2nd, June 6th and July 4th he also played substitute programs there for guest artists who couldn't come. These were live-streamed via facebook.

European News

The **International Organ Academy of Strasbourg** will take place from the 9th to the 15th of August, 2020. Teachers will be: Vincent Dubois, François Espinasse, Martin Gester, Baptiste-Florian Marle-Ouvrard, Jérôme Mondésert, Damien

Simon, and Aline Zylberajch. Organs to be included are: Walcker and Garnier at St. Paul, Merklin at Temple Neuf, Thomas at Bouclier, Silbermann at St. Thomas and at St. Aurélie. Participants can concentrate on repertoire of the 17th and 18th Century, 19th and 20th Century or improvisation, German Baroque or French Baroque repertoire, or music for Clavichord from the 17th and 18th Century (beginners or advanced). The cost for active participation is 390 €, student active participation (under 28 years old) 290 €, or passive participation 190 €. A downpayment of 50 € should be submitted with the application. For questions or more information please contact:

contactaois@gmail.com or
info@ORGANpromotion.org.

For the fourth time the **Festival of Organs of Strasbourg** will be taking place from the 23rd until the 30th of August. The programs also include Piano, Ondes Martenot, Choirs, Clarinet, and Accordeon. For more information visit their website at www.strasorgues.fr.

Pipe Dreams American Public Media presents a tour of **Historic Organs of Alsace** from May 22nd through June 6th, 2021. The itinerary includes the cities of Strasbourg, Mulhouse, Colmar, Ebersmunster and Marmoutier among many other smaller towns in the Alsace Region along the Rhine River border between France and Germany. Hosts are J. Michael Barone, well-known for his broadcasts of American Public Media's Pipedreams, Carolyn Shuster Fournier, a French American organist and musicologist currently titulaire of the choir organ in St. Trinité in Paris, and Tim Schmutzler from Berlin, who has been accompanying Pipedreams journeys to Europe since 2016. The itinerary not only includes instruments by illustrious masters such as Silbermann, Merklin, Callinet, Mutin, Cavaillé-Coll and Walcker but also organs by lesser known organbuilders of regional renown, such as Rinckenbach, Stiehr, Rœthinger, Schwenkedel, Dalstein-

Haerpfer etc., and also newer instruments by Kern and Mühleisen. For more tour information, contact:

Accolades International Tours for the Arts
 2000 West 98th Street
 Minneapolis, MN 55431-2593
 Tel: 952-881-7811 or 800-747-2255
 Email: [groups\(at\)gtd.org](mailto:groups(at)gtd.org)

News from HQ



The American Guild of Organists is thrilled to announce the first online [OrganFest](#), which will take place July 20-24. Each evening's broadcast will premiere a new work which had been commissioned for the 2020 National Convention in Atlanta, accompanied by interviews with the composers.

Featured performers will be Jens Korndörfer, Amanda Mole, Alan Morrison, Thomas Ospital, and Catherine Rodland.

Additional recorded performances by recent international organ competition winners will be presented, and short presentations will share exciting news and updates from the AGO.

The daily YouTube premiere (8pm Eastern) and accompanying [Festival website](#) will be available at no charge.

OrganFest 2020 promises to be an exciting way to showcase our beloved instrument and the great work of the AGO. Please share this information widely with your music-loving friends.

While we are saddened by the cancellation of many musical events this spring and summer, including our National Convention in Atlanta, we look forward to celebrating the future of organ music together online next month.

F. Anthony Thurman, DMA
 Dir. of Development and Communications
 AGO National Headquarters and
 THE AMERICAN ORGANIST Magazine

Introducing Our Members

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

Recitals Past and Present

Because of restrictions due to the Corona-Virus pandemic, it is very possible that some of the concerts listed here may not take place. Please inform yourself closer to the date!

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

June 29 th	7 PM	Katelyn Emerson, Organ Master Recital	Konzertsaal, Staatliche Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst Stuttgart (D)
July 5 th	5 PM	Giorgio Parolini, Organ	Heilig Geist Kirche, Dortmund-Wellinghofen (D)
July 5 th	6 PM	Katelyn Emerson, Organ	St. Jakobus, Pfullendorf (D)
July 11 th	4 PM	Johan Hermans, Organ	Basilica of Notre Dame, Tongeren (BE)
July 15 th	7 PM	Martin Welzel, Organ	Cathedral, Munich (D)
Works by Vierne (Final Symphony VI), Baker (Deux Evocations), Bridge, Duruflé (Suite, op. 5)			

July 21st 10 AM Johan Hermans, Organ Cathedral, Hasselt (BE)
Civil ceremony at Hasselt Cathedral; with Kathleen Beliën (Sopran), Isabella Bikkembergs (Mezzo)

July 25th 7:30 PM Katelyn Emerson, Organ Church of St. John the Evangelist London (GB)

July 26th 4 PM Johan Hermans, Organ Basilica of Notre Dame, Boulogne-sur-mer (F)

July 31st 12:05 PM Hartmut Siebmanns, Orgel Cathedral, Salzburg (Austria)
Works by Bach, Beethoven, Vierne, Cooman, Willscher

Aug. 1st Johan Hermans, Organ Cathedral, Hasselt (BE)
Substitute program at Hasselt Cathedral, streaming via facebook

Aug. 7th 5 PM Axel Wilberg, Organ Herz-Jesu Kirche, Koblenz (D)
Works by Boellmann, Bonnet, Guilmant

Aug 13th 7 PM Martin Welzel, Organ St. Petri Dom, Bremen (D)
Works by Bach, Whitlock, Vierne, Baker, and Duruflé

Aug. 15th 11 AM Johan Hermans, Organ Cathedral, Hasselt (BE)
Pontifical Mass with singers

Aug. 16th Johan Hermans, Organ Protestant Church, Cannstadt, Stuttgart (D)

Aug. 23rd 6 PM Hartmut Siebmanns, Orgel "Rosentahler Orgelsommer", Berlin (D)
Werke von Mendelssohn, Vierne, Meale, Sanders, Cooman, Willscher

Aug. 23rd Johan Hermans, Organ Ev. Reformed Church, Warsaw (PL)

Sept. 13th 11:30 AM Hartmut Siebmanns, Orgel Münster, Ulm (D)
„Swinging Bach“ mit Werken von Bach, Beethoven, Vierne, Cooman, Willscher, Norlin/Heaps

Sept. 13th 6 PM Giorgio Parolini, Organ Keski Porin Kirkko, Pori (Finland)

Sept. 13th Johan Hermans, Organ Reformed Church, Ronsdorf - Wuppertal (D)

Sept. 17th 5 PM Hartmut Siebmanns, Orgel Marienkirche, Ahrensböök (D)
"Die Bremer Stadtmusikanten" ein szenisches Orgelmärchen

Sept. 29th 7:30 PM Katelyn Emerson, Organ Northrup Auditorium, U. of Minnesota (USA)
Works by Mozart, Bairstow, Elgar, Widor, Parker, Karg-Elert, Reimann (live-stream)

Oct. 4th Johan Hermans, Organ St John Bosco Church, Danzig (PL)

Oct. 18th 5 PM Hartmut Siebmanns, Orgel Kilianskirche, Korbach (D)
Werke von Beethoven, Vierne, Willscher und Gawthrop

Oct. 18th Johan Hermans, Organ The Cenakel, Tilburg (The Netherlands)
Fabienne Vénien, Violoncello

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

