



The Bombarde

The Official Newsletter of the Detroit
Chapter of the American Guild of Organists



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The Dean's Column

Well, the fall of 2019 blew in fast a furious and it was packed with churches having special music festivals, composer symposia, recitals, lectures and conferences. Your Detroit chapter was absolutely part of that fast-paced fury with two marvelous recitals. In October we present Johan Vexo playing the beautiful organ at St. Paul's UMC in Rochester, and then in November we were treated to a Sunday afternoon recital with Jean Baptiste Robin. Both artists are renowned in their home cities but have gained many kudos for their recitals in the US making them two organists that are much in demand.

As we look down to 2020, some more exciting programming is on the bill and we will be telling you more about that in another part of this newsletter as well as special announcements as those dates draw near. There has been some inquiry about the annual Epiphany banquet which is usually early January. We are trying something a little different this year with this event being moved toward the end of winter and as we welcome Spring 2020 with a possible brunch with an adjoining recital presentation. You will hear about this very soon also.

As we close out 2019 I would ask each of you to take advantage of the wonderful music being offered all around our southeast area of the state. That music can only serve to enhance your holiday celebrations.



Dean's Column Concluded

On behalf of the officers and executive committee of the board of the Detroit chapter, I extend to you wishes for a glorious holiday season and healthy and prosperous 2020 both personally and professionally.

I look forward to seeing you in the new year.

As ever, your faithful Dean,

Regards,

George Jonte-Crane
Chapter Dean

Chapter News and Events

Monday, February 10, 2020 at 7pm
Jeremy David Tarrant
Cathedral Church of St. Paul
[4800 Woodward Avenue](#), Detroit

Jeremy David Tarrant will present a lecture/recital on Vierne's *24 Pièces de Fantaisie*. Between 1926 and 1927, Louis Vierne composed *Pièces de Fantaisie pour Grande Orgue*, displaying his most mature writing style. He performed *Pièces de Fantaisie pour Grande Orgue* and his *Six Symphonies pour Grand Orgue* frequently during his concert tours such as his tour of America in 1927. On June 2, 1937, the last set of *Pièces de Fantaisie* along with his recently published work, the *Triptyque*, was programmed for what ultimately became his final recital. Vierne passed away on the organ bench during this concert. Between 1926 and 1927, Louis Vierne composed *Pièces de Fantaisie pour Grande Orgue*, displaying his most mature writing style. He performed *Pièces de Fantaisie pour Grande Orgue* and his *Six Symphonies pour Grand Orgue* frequently during his concert tours such as his tour of America in 1927. *(Continued on the following page)*



Chapter News & Events, Continued

On June 2, 1937, the last set of *Pièces de Fantaisie* along with his recently published work, the *Triptyque*, was programmed for what ultimately became his final recital. Vierne passed away on the organ bench during this concert.

Even following his death, Vierne's *Pièces de Fantaisie* stands as a unique collection in organ literature, as it offers varied inspirations; some pieces derive from the French tradition of writing with musical titles that relate to the Baroque era, some pieces are poetic, and some pieces are visual.

Thursday, March 26, 2020 7pm
Thomas Ospital, Organist at Saint-Eustache
First Presbyterian Church
[1669 W. Maple Road](#), Birmingham, MI



Titulaire of the grand organ at St Eustache Church in Paris, successor to Joseph Bonnet and Andre Gillou, Thomas Ospital is also the newly-appointed Organist in Residence at Maison de la Radio (Radio France Concert Hall). He is a young artist who has quickly earned a place amongst the world's finest concert organists. He has won prizes at several international competitions including the Chartres Competition, the Xavier Darasse Competition, and the Saragossa and Angers competitions. Dedicated to the art of improvisation in all of its forms, he typically includes improvisations in his concerts and frequently accompanies silent films as well.

Late Winter Social Event: Details to be announced

Monday, March 9, 2020 6pm: Scholarship Competition

The Detroit Chapter AGO Scholarship Awards Auditions will be held Monday, March 9, 2020, 6:00 pm at St. Joan of Arc Roman Catholic Church, [22412 Overlake](#) at Greater Mack, between Vernier Rd. (E. 8 Mile Rd.) and E. 9 Mile Rd.) St. Clair Shores MI, 48080

[Click here](#) for the 2020 Scholarship Award Entrance Form and Details.



Chapter News & Events, Concluded

**Saturday, April 25, 2020: Organ Crawl: The Organs of Grosse Pointe
Details to be announced**

Monday, May 11, 2020 7:00pm: Member and Scholarship Recital



To be held at Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church, [24110 Cherry Hill St.](#), Dearborn, MI on the 3m 43rk 1959 Austin Organ.. Details to be announced

2019 Meadowbrook Hall Christmas

Would You Like to Play the Area's Largest Residential Organ?

Once again, the original-condition 1919 Aeolian organ in Meadow Brook Hall will be featured during the annual Holiday Walk from Thanksgiving until Christmas. Meadow Brook Hall is a National Historic Landmark. It is the 88,000 sq.ft. former home of Alfred and Matilda Dodge Wilson and is on the campus of Oakland University.

In past years members of the Detroit AGO have generously joined in volunteering to man the console and provide holiday music for the hall's visitors. We are still in need of a few more volunteers, so please contact Pete Townsend at ptownsend@comcast.net



The popularity of the Holiday Walk has prompted the addition of another evening (12/14). So now each Saturday we will be open 'til 8pm.

Open sessions are getting fewer thanks to all, but there are still openings. I particularly need coverage for that new evening (12/14) as I have a service to play that evening

National HQ News & Events



Registration for the [2020 National AGO Convention](#) July 6–10, 2020 in Atlanta, GA is now open.



A Holiday Lagniappe from Dr. James Kibbie

Holiday Greetings from
JAMES KIBBIE



The 18th annual holiday recording on Orgues Létourneau, Op. 7

JOE UTTERBACK'S "Song of the Magi"

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Member News & Events (The List)



Do you have news that you'd like to share with the Chapter? Please send your information by no later than the 15th of the month to Gerald Furi at gerifuri@gmail.com for inclusion in the next issue of *The Bombarde*.

Member News & Events (“The List”) Continued

Sunday, December 15, 4pm

Saint-Saens’ Christmas Oratorio.

St. James Episcopal Church,

[355 West Maple](#) (at Chester) Birmingham MI

St. James Choir, strings, organ, and harp. Glenn Burdette conducting. Free-will offering.

Monday, December 23, 2018, 4 pm: St. Michael’s Episcopal Church
[20475 Sunningdale Park](#), Grosse Pointe Woods, MI

Harpichord Recital by Christian Schoen, followed by Lessons and Carols

Sunday, January 20, 2019, 2 pm: Old St. Mary’s Catholic Church
(Greektown) [646 Monroe St.](#) Detroit, MI

Music for Two Organs: Dr. Joanne Clark and Bob Barnhart

Sunday, January 27, 2019, 4 pm: Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church
[24110 Cherry Hill St.](#) Dearborn, MI

Music at Cherry Hill Series: “Littlefield Folk”—a concert by musical friends from The Littlefield Presbyterian Church (and some from Cherry Hill as well).

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Organ Needs A Good Home

My brothers and I are looking for a happy home for our mother's Rodgers 870 organ. She died in 2015, but loved this organ dearly. She bought it from a man named Rupert Otto in Chelsea, MI.

An organist came to look at it within the past two months and played it. He thinks it's in find working order except for two sticky keys. He was looking for a less "showy" organ. It has several speakers and a glockenspiel.

I'd appreciate any thoughts you have on finding a safe place for this organ to land. It meant a great deal to our mother.

Thanks so much for your time.

Sherri Marshall

Home phone 517-456-4130



