

Website: <http://detroitago.org/>

Visit Us on [Facebook](#)

## November, 2019 Issue

[The Dean's Column](#)

[Chapter News & Events](#)

[Other Chapter Events](#)

[2019 Meadowbrook Hall Christmas](#)

[National News & Events](#)

[From the Registrar](#)

[A Holiday Lagniappe](#)

[Member News & Events \("The List"\)](#)

## The Dean's Column

Well, here we are, and another year is about to begin. What happened to 2019? For this Dean, it has been a most active year with not only church, temple and community choir activities but coupled with major surgery both for myself and an ageing sister. The latter necessitated numerous out of town trips. Through it all, it has been a wonderful year for our Detroit Chapter of AGO. We have started this year with two of the best events it has been my pleasure to be a part of in all my years of being an organist and associated with AGO.



Our installation of officers on October 23 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Rochester was the perfect event to kick off our year. The reception in Rickard Chapel provided the perfect setting for the formal installation of officers and new board members. A beautiful food table and a string trio for background music during the reception created just the right ambience for what was to follow. Rev. Randall Engle did his customary stellar job with the installation ceremony. As we journeyed from there to the sanctuary for the evening's main event, a recital offered by Johan Vexowas absolutely stunning. I believe that Mr. Vexo made use of every possible registration available on that wonderful organ and his playing was brilliant. And we capped off the evening with a social event at a local watering hole in downtown Rochester. It was truly a full evening of delightful music and comradeship and well attended. A super thank you to Jean Randall for a beautiful event.

## **(Dean's Column, Concluded)**

**This past Sunday found us at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament where we heard Jean Baptiste Robin present a wonderful afternoon of organ music, mostly from the French repertoire. Skillful, brilliant playing by Mr. Robin followed by a beautiful reception at the rectory. Another outstanding event and many thanks to Andrew Herbruck and Joseph Balistreri for orchestrating this and a special thanks to Father J J Mech for allowing our chapter to once again be a part of the Arts and Cultural series at the cathedral and for inviting us into his home for the reception and afterglow.**

**My point for this recap? Your Detroit chapter is rocking it out this year with exceptional programming. This gives credence to my boasting that our chapter is one of the most vibrant in the national organization and every one of our membership should be taking advantage of it. By not being in attendance at even one of these two great events, you've missed not only exceptional organ masters but you've missed being part of the fact that pipe organs are still very much alive and well despite what "nay sayers" are telling us about this great instrument being a dying breed.**

**The programming is here for you—our membership. Your board is working together to ensure that the instrument does stay alive. So please continue to be a part of us. We will be taking a brief hiatus during the month of December as we all put forth the effort needed to survive another Advent and Christmas season. But we will return in January 2020 with more exciting programming to finish out another year.**

**Stay tuned for details of our upcoming annual social gathering—our big social event that will include another occasion of great organ music as well as the other events that will follow. Wishing everyone a glorious holiday season and a healthy 2020 as we continue to change the world—one stop at a time.**

**Kindest regards,**

**George Jonte-Crane, Dean**

## Chapter News & 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. 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 its forms, he typically includes improvisations in his concerts and frequently accompanies silent films as well.

## Other Important Chapter Events Coming Soon

**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.



**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, below.

If you have an interest in playing this historic instrument and would like to be added to the contact list, please contact Pete Townsend at [ptownsend@comcast.net](mailto:ptownsend@comcast.net) so your name can be added to the email list. If you have an interest in a short practice or trial session prior to then, please also contact Pete.

## From the Registrar

When you register or pay dues on the AGO National Website, we now have 3 Questions (What programs would you like; What location suggestions; Committees to serve on); and 3 Funds to which you may choose to contribute to (Helen Fairchild Larrison Scholarship Fund; Major Artist Fund; and New Music Fund).



## National News



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



## A Holiday Lagniappe from Dr. James Kibbie

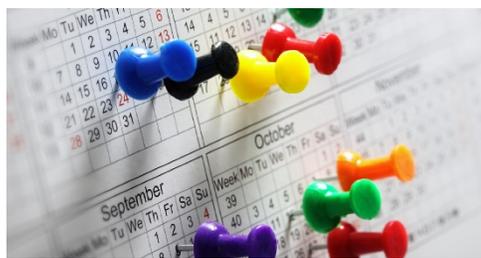
*Holiday Greetings from*  
**JAMES KIBBIE**  
*The 18th annual holiday recording on Orgues Létourneau, Op. 7*

**JOE UTTERBACK'S "Song of the Magi"**

Download the **FREE** recording at  
[www.umich.edu/~jkibbie](http://www.umich.edu/~jkibbie)

**M** The University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-2085  
Tel: 734-764-1591 | Email: [jkibbie@umich.edu](mailto:jkibbie@umich.edu)

## 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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to Gerald Furi at [gerifuri@gmail.com](mailto:gerifuri@gmail.com) for inclusion in the next issue of The Bombarde.

**Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019: 4:30pm**

**Harmony in the Hills: Chamber Soloists of Detroit**  
**Pauline Martin and Eliot Heaton**  
**St. Paul's United Methodist Church**  
**[620 Romeo St.](#), Rochester MI**

**Sunday, November 17, 2019 2:30pm**

**Third Sunday Series: Big Music in a Grand Space**  
The Five Lakes Silver Band Christopher Ward, Conductor  
Old St. Mary's Church  
[646 Monroe St](#), Greektown

**Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019: 3:00pm**

**Haydn, Mozart, and Schubert: Music of the Classical Era**  
Grosse Pointe Memorial Church  
[16 Lakeshore Dr.](#), Grosse Pointe Farms

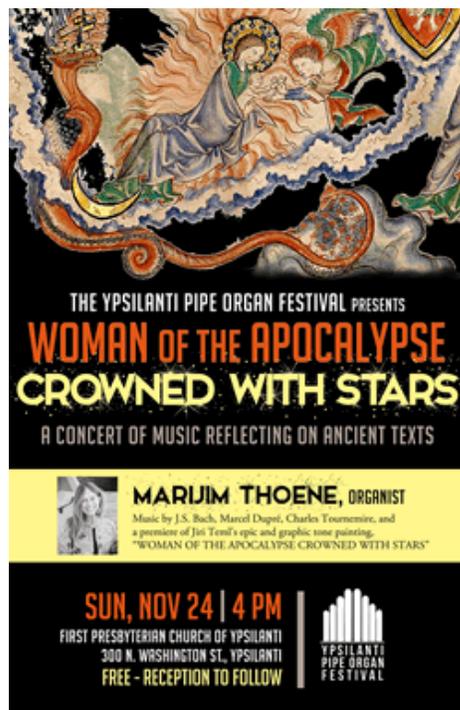
Tickets \$10 in advance at [eventgroove.com](#); \$15 at the door.

Music of the Classical Era (ca. 1730 - 1820) is tuneful and elegant. You will hear an organ concerto by "Papa" Haydn, some of Mozart's most beautiful choral pieces, and Franz Schubert's Mass in G. Schubert composed the piece when he was only 18 years old, yet it is astonishing in its beauty. The voices of the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church Choir combine with orchestra to fill your soul with healing peace.

**Sunday, Nov. 24 4pm**

**Marijim Thoene in Concert**  
First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti  
[300 N Washington St](#), Ypsilanti, MI

The Ypsilanti Pipe Organ Festival is excited to present Marijim Thoene in concert on Sunday, November 24th at 4:00 p.m. The program will feature music reflecting on ancient texts by J.S. Bach, Marcel Dupré, Charles Tournemire, and a premiere of Jiri Teml's "WOMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE CROWNED WITH STARS." The concert will take place at First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti and is free and open to the public.



THE YPSILANTI PIPE ORGAN FESTIVAL PRESENTS  
**WOMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE  
CROWNED WITH STARS**  
A CONCERT OF MUSIC REFLECTING ON ANCIENT TEXTS

**MARIJIM THOENE, ORGANIST**  
Music by J.S. Bach, Marcel Dupré, Charles Tournemire, and  
a premiere of Jiri Teml's epic and graphic tone painting,  
"WOMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE CROWNED WITH STARS"

**SUN, NOV 24 | 4 PM**  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF YPSILANTI  
300 N. WASHINGTON ST., YPSILANTI  
FREE - RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

YPSILANTI  
PIPE ORGAN  
FESTIVAL

**Jiri Teml's "WOMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE CROWNED WITH STARS", commissioned by Thoene, is a poetic and graphic portrayal of the 12th chapter of the Book of Revelations. It is a tone painting in which one glimpses the majesty of the woman about to give birth to the Saviour, and the looming presence of a dragon waiting at her feet ready to devour the baby.**

One feels the boiling rage of the dragon when the baby is rescued by an angel, and the calm of the sanctuary that is given to the woman. One hears the battle in heaven as the devil and his army fight St. Michael and his army, and the apocalyptic battle on earth between good and evil. Jiri Teml in a musical language reminiscent of Messiaen and Stravinsky offers a final, radiant vision of good triumphing over evil.

**Sunday, Dec. 1, 2019 4 pm**

**Measure for Measure, A Men's Choral Society**  
**Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church**  
[24110 Cherry Hill St.](#), Dearborn, MI

It is a pleasure to welcome the members of Ann Arbor's Measure for Measure, A Men's Choral Society, back to Cherry Hill! What better way to begin the season by attending this concert which features holiday favorites old and new! This will be a ticketed event

**Friday, Dec. 6, 2019 7 pm**

**Marilyn Mason Memorial Service**  
**First Congregational Church of Ann Arbor, MI**  
[608EWilliamSt](#), Ann Arbor

**Sunday, December 8, 2019 4pm**

**Vanguard Voices Holiday Concert**  
**Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church**  
[24110 Cherry Hill St.](#), Dearborn, MI

Director G. Kevin Dewey and the members of Vanguard Voices will present a special holiday concert at Cherry Hill featuring the music of Steven Errante's "Boar's Head Festival."

**The Boar's Head Festival was a beloved Cherry Hill tradition for many years. What a gift it will be to hear this glorious music in the place for which it was composed. A free will offering will be received.**

**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.**