

THE MONTHLY MIXTURE



The Newsletter of the Austin Chapter American Guild of Organists

MAY 2015



FROM THE DEAN

Dear Friends,

What is all of this hubbub with registration in French Classic literature anyway? *Grand Jeu, Plein Jeu, Dialogues sur la Trompette*, Oh my! In nineteenth century France some of the most popular organ music ever written was composed by Franck, Saint-Saëns, and Widor. We have all heard of the French Symphonic organ with its delicious Celestes and Harmonic Flutes, but we may not know much about its predecessor commonly referred to as the French Classic organ.



Aristide Cavallé-Coll, famed Symphonic Organ builder, came from a family of organ builders. In fact, his grandfather Jean-Pierre Cavallé has an instrument still standing at *Église abbatiale Saint-Guilhem-le-Désert*. This three manual organ is built in the French Classic tradition, as composers like François Couperin (1688-1733) and Nicolas de Grigny (1672-1703) would have known and composed for.

Some aspects of the French Classic organ are mild principals, in French called *Montre*. Their low cut up and wide mouth made them a cross between flute and a string, while they are equal in volume to the Flute. The Trumpets would be fiery, however. Reed pipes usually have wide tongues and wide scaled bodies, particularly in the smaller pipes, making them louder in the bass and tenor than in the treble. For this reason it is very common to find a *Grand Cornet V* on the Great (*Grand-Orgue*) manual with the *Trompette 8'* and *Clarion 4'*.

The *Cornet V*, a compound stop of 5 ranks (8, 4, 2 2/3, 2, 1 3/5), will start at middle C and be voiced to grow in volume as it ascends to the top of the keyboard, thus reinforcing the weak end of the *Trompette* stop. The next aspect of the French Classic organ is the ever-present 8' *Cromorne* on the lower *Positif* manual. Unlike the German *Krumhorn*, the French *Cromorne* was strong enough to play in dialog with the Great *Trompette* and acted as a chorus reed to its division. The *Positif* could be coupled to the *Grand-Orgue* by shoving the manual in, as is common on two manual harpsichords.

FROM THE DEAN (CONT'D)

The third manual, called *Récit*, normally only had a 32 note compass beginning at tenor G. Commonly these divisions had one stop, a loud Cornet V that was used to play virtuosic runs. Also, unlike the Symphonic Organs built by Cavallé-Coll, the *Récit* division was *not* under expression. In fact the entire French Classic organ was unenclosed. The pedal board resembles a Hammond Spinnet with as few as only nine notes. The music composed for these instruments used the pedals to play plainchant in long note values. For that reason this division commonly had an 8' Flute, an 8' Trompette, and, in large instruments, a 4' Clarion. Any bass from a 16' stop would come from coupling the manual to the pedal.

Winding in these instruments came from manually pumped wedge bellows which had unstable air, a problem Cavallé-Coll would deal with before creating his first large instrument at Saint Denis. The winding issue alone is why the registration for a *Grand Jeu* involved only the reeds and Cornets. The idea was to make a big sound using as little wind as possible. For the *Plein Jeu* you would use the principal choruses including the mixtures with the reed in the pedal. You couldn't use reeds and mixtures together though, as that would quickly use up the organ's wind supply and leave you with an unwanted tremulant-like effect.

I hope each of you have a wonderful summer break, and I look forward to seeing you at the ACAGO *free* Dinner being held at the [Snow Pea Restaurant](#) on Sunday May 17th at 6 PM. Please RSVP no later than Thursday, May 14th.

Sincerely,
Aaron M. Garcia, Dean

The Jean-Pierre Cavallé Organ at Église abbatiale Saint-Guilhem-le-Désert

GRAND-ORGUE man. II	POSITIF man. I
51 notes (C-d ^{'''})	51 notes (C-d ^{'''})
Montre 8'	Bourdon 8'
Bourdon 8'	Prestant 4'
Prestant 4'	Nazard 2 ² / ₃
Flute 4'	Doublette 2'
Nazard 2 ² / ₃	Tierce 1 ³ / ₅
Doublette 2'	Larigot 1 1/3'
Quarte 2'	Plein Jeu IV
Tierce 1 ³ / ₅	Trompette 8'
Fourniture III	Cromorne 8'
Cymbale IV	
Grand Cornet V	RÉCIT man. III
Trompette 8'	32 notes (g-d ^{'''})
Clairon 4'	Cornet V
Voix Humaine 8'	
	PÉDALE
	18 notes (CG°D-f)
	Flute 8'
	Trompette



2014-2015 PROGRAM YEAR

AUSTIN CHAPTER, AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

MAY

Sunday, May 17 at 6 PM

End-of-the-year event and members' dinner at [Snow Pea Restaurant](#) (3706 Jefferson Street, Austin Texas 78703). The chapter will pay for food; drinks will be at the individuals' personal expense. *(Note: this is a change from the previously published location)*

AUSTIN CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP!

Free ACAGO T-shirts

It's time for most of us to renew our AGO memberships! Of course, there are many wonderful benefits to membership: TAO magazine, access to the job database via ONCARD, fun local events (like our end-of-year dinner on May 17), and special member rates for national and regional conventions.

But this year there's an extra bonus for renewing: we're giving a free Austin AGO T-shirt to everyone who renews their Austin chapter membership (or joins for the first time) on or before July 1, 2015.

After you renew (or join), I'll email you to find out your preferred T-shirt size. Then we'll have the T-shirt waiting for you at our first AGO event in the fall. I'm really happy that we can show appreciation to all our wonderful chapter members in this way. And I think you'll love the T-shirt design! (Spoiler alert: it features organ pipes!)

But remember, T-shirts are only available if you renew (or join) by July 1. Simply log into ONCARD, and go from there. If you're not sure how [ONCARD](#) works, [here's a helpful video](#) which explains the process. Or you can email me with questions--I'd be delighted to help.

Helen Wiley, Membership Coordinator

LOCAL CONCERTS AND PROGRAMS

MAY

Wednesdays during Eastertime, 12:15-12:50 PM

"EASTER PEOPLE" ORGAN SERIES

Through May 20th

First United Methodist Church, Georgetown

(See flyer on page 5 for scheduled artists)

Sunday, May 31, 2015 at 3:00 PM

The First United Methodist Church, Austin

Ken Cowan, organist



Ken Cowan, internationally acclaimed virtuoso, will perform a concert in the sanctuary on the church's new R. A. Colby pipe organ of 100 ranks! This is a thrilling program you and your friends will not want to miss, not only for the organ's sonic and color possibilities, but also the console will be moved into the chancel for a full view of Mr. Cowan's dazzling musicianship and technique. Mark your calendars now.

The Diapason magazine states: "It is difficult to find enough adjectives to describe Ken Cowan's playing. He is simply one of the best anywhere!" and The American Organist states: "Mr. Cowan's technical mastery, expressivity, musicality, and sheer brilliance thrilled the convention audience." This is a free program offered by First Church to the greater Austin community in celebration of the new instrument.

Free parking will be available in the church's lot on the north side of the Education/Chapel building (enter from Colorado Street), in the Trial Lawyer's Garage (enter from 13th Street between Guadalupe and Lavaca Streets), on the roof top of the Texas State Teachers Association garage on 12th Street, in the Stokes Garage on the southeast corner of 12th and Guadalupe Street, and on streets north of 12th Street surrounding the church.

All newsletter submissions should be sent to monthlymixture@gmail.com

Events, Concerts, Job Opportunities, Professional Development Milestones

Church concert series (individual event listings or pdf flyers), Trivia,

Notes from the Bench (serious or humorous)

LOCAL CONCERTS AND PROGRAMS

EASTER ORGAN SERIES

WEDNESDAYS 12:15-12:50 pm

APRIL 8 - MAY 20

- APRIL 8 **David Polley**, Organist, *University United Methodist Church, Austin*
with **Bruce Cain**, Vocalist; *Associate Professor of Music, Southwestern University*
- APRIL 15 **Don McManus**, Organist & Director of Music, *Grace Episcopal Church*
- APRIL 22 **Sheryl Stack**, Director of Music & Worship Ministries, *First United Methodist Church*
with **Caleb Bennetch**, Violinist; *Director of Music Ministries, St. Johns UMC*
and **Galen Wixson**, Cellist; *Executive Director, Dream Come True Foundation*
- APRIL 29 **Marti Mortensen Ahern**, Organist, *The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*;
Artistic Director & Pianist, Austin Chamber Ensemble
- MAY 6 **Pam Rossman**, Organist, *First United Methodist Church*; *Chapel Organist & Instructor*
of Music, Southwestern University with *First UMC Adult Handbell Ensemble*
- MAY 13 **Ellsworth Peterson**, Director, *Georgetown Festival of the Arts*; *Former Music Director*
& Organist, First United Methodist Church; and *Professor Emeritus, Southwestern*
University with **Suzanne Peterson**, Organist and **Bob Horick**, Bassoonist
- MAY 20 **Jean Farris Fuller**, Director of Music & Organist, *St. Matthews Episcopal Church, Austin*



First United Methodist Church
410 E. University Avenue
Georgetown, Texas 78626

JOB OPPORTUNITY

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Grace Episcopal Church in Georgetown is looking for a 3 month substitute organist whilst Dr. Don McManus is on sabbatical.

All Sundays from June 14-August 30 would be included. Choir is off season until mid-August.

This is only for the 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist service and includes: Opening/Closing voluntary, service music, and hymns from the ECUSA Hymnal. A Steinway piano B is also available for offertory music should you desire. The substitute organist would have first right of refusal for funerals/weddings that may occur during that time.

A copy of the Church Musician's Handbook would be loaned to you for you to select the hymns for the service, but please note the rector has the final decision for all decisions regarding music and worship. Typically the service lasts about an hour and 10 minutes and with three exceptions – will be Rite II.

Grace Church has just celebrated the first anniversary of receiving the gift of Etsie's Organ – a Schlicker/Walker hybrid.

If interested in the position, please contact the Rector:

Fr. Trey Garland
rector@graceepis.org
512-863-2068.

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