



Pipelines

Bouches et anches



President's Message

ALISON KRANIAS

Music For a New Season

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Spring is here and with it comes our last Pro Organo concert: on May 13 at Saint-François-d'Assise we'll get to hear Vincent Boucher play works by Bach, Scarlatti and Handel.

Do you ever wonder what's going on behind the scenes of Pro Organo, who is making this all happen? Karen Holmes perhaps? Well, Karen did organize this concert series almost single-handedly for many years, contacting artists, securing venues, writing grant applications, and organizing ticket sales. But a few years back Gilles Leclerc stepped up to give Karen a hand and he is now chair of the Pro Organo committee. Along with Ian MacKay's help and with the support of Karen's knowledge and expertise, they manage this series of four concerts we are blessed with every year.

Running the series is challenging, especially from the financial perspective. There are artists to pay, rental fees for the venues (which have increased significantly in recent years) and, like many institutions, we see the number of people coming to our events declining. On top of all that we don't have the arts grant we used to get every year.

What to do? Well, the team has had some good ideas that are starting to bear fruit. We are now posting Pro Organo concerts on **EventBrite**, an online platform where you can buy concert tickets with a few clicks.

There are also discussions underway with potential partners like Music & Beyond and the Canadian International Organ Competition, and plans are in the works for the CIOC to be a co-sponsor of one of our concerts next season. We are also having discussions among ourselves about what are the best venues — should we keep having concerts in downtown, central locations, or out in suburban communities? And when is the best time for a concert — perhaps a Sunday or Saturday matinée would be better attended? If you have any ideas let us know, we are always happy to hear suggestions from our members about artists and venues, and we are also happy to hear if you would like to help out at a concert.



Keep an eye out for next-season's flyer, we have some great organists lined up, and see you on the 13th at St-François d'Assise!



RCCO Ottawa Centre Executive Slate 2024-25

The following is the proposed slate of candidates for the RCCO Ottawa Centre Executive for 2024-2025 to be presented to the membership for approval at the RCCO Ottawa Centre's Annual General Meeting on June 3rd, 2024 at St. Stephen's Anglican Church:

President: Alison Kranias
Vice-President: Ian MacKay
Past President: Robert Jones
Secretary: Gordon Johnston
Treasurer: Alexander Reicker
Chaplain: Rev. Canon Christine Piper

National Councillors: Alison Kranias
Karen Holmes
Sue Sparks

Member at Large: Shirley Stratilo-Fleischhaker

Convenors of Committees:

Archivist: Larry Kempffer
Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Fund: Frances Macdonnell, Elaine Graham
Historic Organs: John Wanless
Membership: Donald Marjerrison
Newsletter Editors: Suzanne and Rick St. Germain
Pro Organo: Gilles Leclerc
Professional Support: Rev. Dr. Dan Hansen
Program: Heather Rice
Publicity: Ian Guenette
Student Concerns: Sue Sparks
Social Convenor: Suzanne Marjerrison
Webmaster: Ross Jewell

Thank you so much to all of those who have let their names stand for office for the coming year.

At the time of printing, the positions of Vice-President and Member-at-Large remain open.

If you would like to fill one of these positions or nominate someone, please email Robert Jones at robertjones12345@gmail.com



A Note from the Treasurer

ALEXANDER REICKER

By now you will have received your membership renewal statements from National Office. The College year begins on June 1st and fees are due by May 31st, 2024.

For detailed information on how to renew your membership online, please go to the RCCO national website at

<http://www.rcco.ca/Join-Us>

If your membership category is incorrect on the statement, please correct it and enclose the total fee shown below. The 2024/2024 fees (without a magazine subscription) are listed below:

Category	National	Centre	Total Fee	Notes
Regular	\$ 110	\$ 24	\$ 134	Open to individuals over the age of 35.
Joint	\$ 165	\$ 26	\$ 191	Open to 2-4 members living at the same address.
35 and under	\$ 55	\$ 17	\$ 72	Open to those under 35 OR enrolled full-time in post-secondary education.
18 and under	\$ 20	\$ 0	\$ 20	Open to individuals age 18 or under.
Institution	\$ 110	\$ 24	\$ 134	Open to churches, schools and other organizations.
Dual	\$ 100	\$ 24	\$ 134	Open to members of affiliate organizations wishing to join the RCCO.
AGO, FQAO, or RCO				** Non-member subscription to <i>Pipelines</i> is \$25 for 10 issues

The Ottawa Centre is a registered charity. Income tax receipts will be given for all donations over \$10. Donations and payments for centre events (not membership) may be made by cash, cheque or credit card, as well as online on our website, through Canada Helps, via PayPal, or by INTERAC e-Transfers to: payment@rcco-ottawa.ca.

We are now partners with Benevity Causes which allows for donation matching by registered employers.

When making a donation, please specify which program or fund you would like to donate to, for instance Pro Organo, the Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Fund or the Development Fund which supports young organ students. A list and description of the scholarship funds can be found on our website at:

<http://www.rcco-ottawa.ca/schol.html>.

Your financial support is most welcome as it is the generous donations of our patrons that make our concerts,

activities and scholarships possible. See our website for more details about upcoming concerts and events. Note that you may purchase magazine subscriptions along with your membership renewal up to May 31st only. To avoid missing any publications, please renew promptly. It also saves us much time and money if all renewals are in by the due date, May 31st, 2025.

Alexander Reicker
Treasurer



Member of the Year: Deirdre Piper

DONALD MARJERRISON

DEIRDRE JANE PIPER
(originally David John*)

I was born during the middle years of the Second World War to staunch Baptist parents, my mother being half Welsh and half Cornish, my father being wholly English serving at the time in the Royal Signals Regiment in Europe. At the end of the war my mother and I settled on the Isle of Wight - that being the home of my father and his family. There was always music at home: my father was a fine amateur solo baritone and also choral director at the church, and my mother's younger brother (who lived just over the water in Southampton) was a professional organist with whom I studied for several years in my teens. During my high school years I fell in love with Physics and Mathematics – I taught myself the essentials of calculus long before it was even mentioned in math class!

At the age of eighteen I received a state scholarship (based on exam papers in both mathematics and music) to enable me to study at any university in Britain free of charge. I chose to study music at the University of Manchester – along with organ and cello at the Royal College of Music – completing GRSM and ARMCN diplomas, followed by my Bachelor of Music degree in 1965. I then proceeded directly to studies for a doctorate in the area of electronic music (as it was then



known), completing a thesis having to do with a critical musical, technical and aesthetic comparison of the then two dominant forms: musique concrète in Paris and elektronische Musik in Cologne. During my research I spent a summer studying at the electronic music studio at the University of Toronto – my first introduction to life in Canada!

I received my doctorate in 1968, and spent two years thereafter setting up an electronic music studio and teaching at the University of Manchester followed by a year as Music lecturer

at Huddersfield Polytechnic before receiving an invitation, in 1971, to join the Music faculty at Carleton. My move to Ottawa in 1972 coincided with another enormously significant event: my marriage to Christine! We settled most happily in Ottawa – she undertaking studies and working in the area of social work before responding several years later to a call to ministry, and we both raising a family of four children. For me, Carleton offered very little in the way of performance opportunities (my work there was almost entirely academic), and I very soon undertook additional work as church organist and choir director, as well as occasional work as a chamber music pianist – thereby creating a much needed balance in my musical life.

As a church organist I very quickly, and happily, became involved with the RCCO. During my many years as organist/choir director at St. Stephen's Presbyterian and St. Matthias Anglican churches I took an active role in RCCO affairs both locally and nationally: I served as president of the Ottawa Centre (2007-2009) and as a member of the National Council.

* See my entry under this name in Encyclopedia of Music in Canada (University of Toronto Press, second edition 1991).



Annual General Meeting Monday, June 3rd, 2024 7:00 for 7:30 pm St. Stephen's Anglican Church (930 Watson Street)

This is your Centre. Our executive values your feedback. Come out and voice your opinions and ideas on what you'd like to have your Centre do. The Annual General Meeting of the Ottawa Centre is our opportunity to conduct the necessary business of the College, but also to celebrate the year past and look forward to the coming year.

We are pleased to announce that Deirdre Piper, Past President of the Ottawa Centre, will be recognized as the 2023 Member of the Year.

All members are encouraged to attend and participate in decision-making of your Centre and to hear reports of the various convenors and National Council representatives. There is plenty of parking behind the church at 2821 St. Stephen's Street.



Pro Organo Ottawa

Ian MacKay

The Pro Organo committee is busy with final arrangements for the last concert of the season featuring Vincent Boucher at Saint-François-d'Assise next week. All the details can be found elsewhere in Pipelines, this month. It's going to be a great concert of great music in a great space, which has been the mandate of Pro Organo for more than 35 years.

The committee has been reflecting on the concert series and looking at ways of increasing profile and attendance, collaborating with other arts groups and organizations and harnessing social media and other modern platforms to get the word out about the concerts, organ music and selling tickets.

Central to all of this is the fact that the series is first and foremost for us, as members of the College and as lovers of the organ and the repertoire. We are all pulled in many directions and there

are many competing priorities for arts activities and then of course we have weather and parking to contend with.

Thankfully, the Boucher concert next week is very likely to coincide with good weather and there is easy and ample parking at Eglise Saint-François and, oh yes, an elevator to the sanctuary – plus a concert of music by three composers all born in 1685!

Let's all look ahead, clear our calendars, consider inviting friends and family, buy our tickets, dust off our concert subscriptions, and see if we can't make this the best attended concert of our 35th season.

And as a bonus we will be announcing our exciting plans for the 2024-25 season, our 36th season with a wonderful lineup of musicians and music.

See you all on May 13!

Programme

The programme year for RCCO-Ottawa Centre has concluded. The Executive invites everyone to attend the Pro Organo Program. Additional information is elsewhere in this publication.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the Great Bach Marathon in previous years - performers, workers, and, especially, Joshua Zentner-Barrett for working with the youngest people to learn about the organ, and Rick St. Germain for his support and wisdom.

I wish Heather Rice well as she steps up to become programme chair. Thank you to Heather and Donald Rice for their wonderful support.

- Sondra Goldsmith Proctor

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Rev. Christine Piper

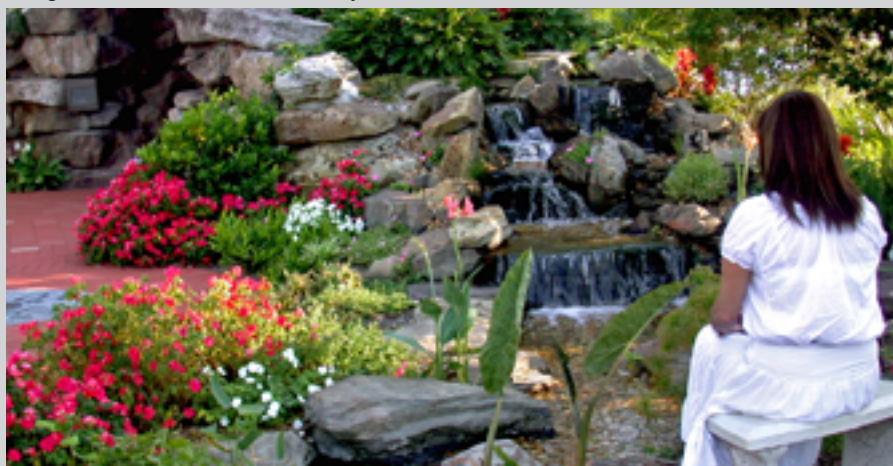
God's Gift on a Park Bench

It was so special last weekend on that sunny afternoon to sit on a park bench in the gardens of the Mapleview Estate in Westboro. I drank in the sight of yellow daffodils, *fluttering and dancing in the breeze!* * And they were accompanied by low growing scilla plantings; their deep blue flowers contrasting so strikingly with that daffodil yellow. As well, the brown-red foliage of bleeding hearts, not yet in flower, was interspersed among them, offering a wonderful backdrop to this gift of Springtime.

As your chaplain, and indeed as someone close to two organists within my family, might I be bold enough to suggest that such a verdant scene can speak deeply into our creativity. Indeed, spring growth and all it symbolizes, speaks to the new territories that beckon us as leaders, musical and pastoral. Musically, this might include exploring new repertoire for choir and organ, perhaps beginning with discovering new hymns. Pastorally it could mean trying to be present to others in fresh ways. All

in all, I gave thanks for how this season is unfolding in Ottawa after what was experienced by many as a distressingly mild Winter, evoking in my mind that descriptive phrase which we have inherited from Shakespeare: *the Winter of our discontent!* **

Yes, as I sat on that hospitable bench in those gardens of the Maplelawn Estate, I indeed prayed that those needing a spiritual 'pick-me-up' might find their way to such a place.





Anne Laver Concert Review

ROBERT JONES

The last organ recital I heard at On Friday, April 5th, Ottawa residents were treated to a fine recital by Anne Laver at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. The Associate Professor of Organ and University Organist at Syracuse University's Setnor School of Music offered a varied programme that explored heroism through music. The repertoire ranged from familiar works by Buxtehude, Bach and Franck to newer works by Asriel Davis, Connor Chee and Rachel Laurin.

Dr. Laver opened with the spirited Variations on *Solid Rock* by Asriel Davis, an alumnus of Syracuse University. The work – consisting of five variations – is based on William Bradbury's 1863 hymn tune *Solid Rock*. It was originally an improvisation by Davis at his master's degree recital in 2022 which he then wrote down. The variations ranged from a syncopated chordal treatment, to soloing out the melody in the tenor voice on the Great trumpet, to the use of the Swell strings and then concluding with a flurry very similar to the hymn variations of Denis Bédard.

This was followed by Dieterich Buxtehude's *Praeludium in C major*. The improvisatory style of the prelude was captured with stylistic ornamentation. An allowance for the room's acoustic, especially in the flourishes in the Prelude, added to the excitement. A nice, bright tempo for the Chaconne brought the work to a rousing conclusion. And, of course, the Guilbault-Thérien organ at St.

Andrew's is so well-suited to this piece.

Though Clara Schumann did not compose for the organ, it was a delight to hear two of her *Opus 16 piano preludes and fugues (G minor and B-flat major)* that Anne Laver transcribed for the organ.



The first half of the recital ended with a fine reading of César Franck's *Pièce héroïque*. The dark opening theme in B minor is contrasted by the second section in B major, effectively punctuated with a timpani-like motive in the pedals. I am always moved by the triumphant conclusion, and tonight was no different.

Judith Bingham's *St. Bride, Assisted by the Angels* was composed in 2000, after a difficult time in her life. It begins with a gradual crescendo depicting a sunrise before clouds and night creep in. The middle section depicts St. Bride (a Celtic goddess) being flown back in time, which gives way to a calm conclusion.

Bach's *St. Anne Fugue* began with a full plenum (including a 16') on the Great. The second section was played on the Positiv and the final section, played with a dance-like pulse and articulation, was greatly appreciated by the audience with extended applause.

Navajo pianist and composer Connor Chee (born 1987) is known for combining his classical piano training with his Native American heritage. His first organ piece, *Hózhó*, dates from 2022. It begins and ends with a dialogue between the Swell and Great, while the middle section features the melody in the pedal.

The programme closed with Rachel Laurin's exciting *Étude héroïque* which begins with a jubilant introduction that gives way to an impressive pedal solo. The humour and joy we experienced with Rachel was evident in this composition and was conveyed so effectively by Laver. The audience was quick to give Dr. Laver a well-deserved standing ovation at the conclusion of this piece, indicating their appreciation for a recital that was played with great accuracy, warmth and passion.



OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE 2023-2024

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NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING:
MONDAY, 6 MAY / 7:30 P.M.
WEB MEETING



Supply List

Sunday Supply Organists:

Elizabeth Brown 613-608-1220 lizbrown2007@hotmail.com Sundays, weddings, funerals, any denomination
Frances Macdonnell 613-726-7984 fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca

Wedding and Funeral Organists:

James Calkin 613-236-9149 x20 james.calkin@ottawacathedral.ca
Simon Pinsonneault 613-299-1886 simon.pinsonneault@tc.gc.ca

Please note that this list is provided by the RCCO for informational purposes only and that, while the RCCO does require background screening in the form of a certified Police Records Check, the primary responsibility for safeguarding vulnerable persons lies with the employer. Potential employers are therefore urged to make their own appropriate checks and precautions, such as seeking references.



Organ Teachers List

Thomas Annand, MMus, BMus (Hons), FRCCO Teaches at all levels, also theory, history
Info: t.annand50@gmail.com or 613-261-0376

Next Deadline





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Advertising Policy

1. Any Ottawa Centre member may announce his/her event on the Around Town section of the newsletter free of charge if **he/she is** the coordinator, conductor, **soloist**, or organist/accompanist of the event.

2. If a member wishes to place a free announcement in Around Town for an event of another organization he/she is a member of (not covered by Policy 1), the member must make a written request to the RCCO Centre Executive for approval of that one specific event. Approval may be granted on the basis that this **extraordinary** event would be of specific interest to our members: e.g., church/choral, and/or organ/bells, **and/or** the encouragement of young organists and pianists.

3. If a non-member wishes to announce an event of his/her organization in Around Town **free of charge**, he/she must make a written request to the RCCO Centre Executive for approval of that one specific event. Approval may be granted per Policy 2; in most circumstances, however, we would expect the Organization to pay as per the rates set out by the Centre for advertising.

Disclaimer

Pipelines is published by the RCCO Ottawa Centre for the express purpose of informing its members about RCCO activities. The use of information contained in this publication, including personal information and mailing lists, for purposes not related to the RCCO is not allowed.

Pro Organo Ottawa

Amours et délices de l'orgue
The finest organists on the finest organs

A series presented by the Royal Canadian College of Organists, Ottawa Centre
Une présentation du Collège royal canadien des organistes, Section d'Ottawa

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Saison 2023-2024

Info: www.rcco-ottawa.ca/pro_organo.html



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featuring

Vincent Boucher

Montréal, QC

featuring music by J. S. Bach,
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Monday, May 13th at 7:30 p.m.

Église St-François-d'Assise

(Wellington at Fairmont)

Tickets available through Eventbrite, on our website or at the door.

For further information, visit our website at
http://rcco-ottawa.ca/pro_organo.html#event4