



Pipelines

Bouches et anches



President's Message

THOMAS ANNAND

Say Yes to the Best

I just played my last wedding of the season, which seems to get later and later every year—what ever happened to June weddings? My approach to wedding repertoire changed quite dramatically a few years ago, and I thought I would share that process with you here.

Yes, I still play the *Trumpet Voluntary* and Widor's *Toccata* and the ever-popular *Jesu, Joy of Man(kind)'s desiring*; and why not—these are still great pieces of music, and I still enjoy playing them. But I suddenly came to the realization that, during the “Prelude” portion of the service, I was serenading the assembled guests with hackneyed readings of hackneyed music - Water Music, Handel overtures and minuets, etc, etc. What did any of this have to do with a wedding service? What service was I doing to this magnificent instrument by playing simplified transcriptions of popular classics? It seemed clear that it was sheer laziness and easy familiarity on my part.

So I relegated those books to the bottom shelf of the cupboard and took out my volume of Bach Trio Sonatas, some of his most inventive, expressive and beautiful organ music, and some of my most favourite Bach. These are great recital pieces: so much variety of rhythm and mood, so much potential for presenting the varied colours

of the organ—and so much potential for error! And so I found myself practicing for my weddings and thereby keeping these wonderful pieces firmly under my fingers and giving the guests something interesting to listen to, something special to this specific place and musician.

My approach to wedding repertoire changed quite dramatically

Now, I'm not suggesting you dump your wedding favourites and dust off the Trio Sonatas (don't have them? well, you might enjoy the Rheinberger Trios en route to Bach...). I would only encourage us all to take the time to re-examine our repertoire, to see if it is bringing out the best in us, in our instruments, and in our contribution to worship. We need to remember that, in the general hub-bub of pre-(and post-) service activity, someone might be listening attentively, tuned in and making a connection—with the music, with the organ, and with the unique spiritual language that we are so fortunate to be able to use to communicate—if we make the effort...

Happy practicing!

- Tom Annand

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2009/10 Programme of Events

IAN MacKAY

Looking Back...

Many thanks to all those who were able to come out to the Member's Social at the Vineer Organ Library (Bill Vineer's home) on September 20th. It was a great opportunity to reconnect and enjoy an array of good food. Thanks to Bill for offering his home as the venue and allow us to use his fancy new barbeque for grilling. See pictures of the event on page 6 of this issue.

As I write this, the visits to the Carillon at the Peace Tower are scheduled and set. It was a real pleasure to work with Dr. McCrady, Dominion Carillonneur, and she is very much looking forward to meeting us at the Peace Tower. We will have a report about on the visits next month.

Looking forward...

Friday October 2nd, 7:30pm

**Mendelssohn Plays J.S. Bach...
A Special Members Recital Celebrating
Mendelssohn's 200th Birthday
Knox Presbyterian Church**

In 2009 music lovers all over the world are celebrating the 200th birthday of Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, who is now generally considered to be one of the most important artists of 19th century Europe. Although widely known for his symphonies and chamber music, his compositions for the organ are enduring links between the music of Bach, which he so greatly admired, and Mendelssohn's own successors in the late 19th century and beyond.



The first half of the recital will essentially reconstruct Mendelssohn's famous all-Bach recital that he played at the Thomaskirche in 1840 to raise funds for a monument to Bach. The second half of the programme will feature a variety of Mendelssohn's works for organ. Jennifer Loveless, Robert Jones and Thomas Anand will be the featured recitalists.

I am indebted to Dr. William Little, Professor Emeritus, University of Virginia, for assisting me with the planning of this concert. Dr. Little is a foremost expert on the influence of Bach on the life and work of Felix Mendelssohn. In particular, Dr. Little sent me a facsimile of the concert notice that was posted on the doors of the Thomaskirche in Leipzig in advance of his now famous recital. The facsimile will be on display at the concert.

We have also engaged Pierre Brault, a well known and respected actor in Ottawa to play the role of Mendelssohn by reading excerpts from Mendelssohn's personal letters and writings. These letters not only reveal much about Mendelssohn's personal life, his travels and work as a musician, but also about life in Germany and Europe in the first half of the 18th century.

Pierre Brault is perhaps best known for writing and performing his three solo plays: *5 O'Clock Bells*, which premiered in 2008 at the Great Canadian Theatre Company and began touring in 2009, *Portrait of an Unidentified Man*, which premiered in 2005 at the National Arts Centre and began touring nationally in 2006, and *Blood on the Moon* (Capital Critics Circle & Montreal English Critics' Circle Awards: Best Actor), which ran for three consecutive summers at the National Arts Centre, toured Canada from coast to coast, and to nine cities in Ireland. Pierre was seen most recently in *The Ecstasy of Rita Joe* (Western Canada Theatre/NAC), *Catalpa* (Seven Thirty Productions), *How the Other Half Loves* (The Gladstone), Peter Hinton's *Macbeth* (NAC/Citadel), *The Man from the Capital* (GCTC), *A Night in November* (Seven Thirty Productions; Capital Critics Circle Award: Best Actor), *Doctor Faustus* (Third Wall The-

atre), and *The Barber of Seville* (Opera Lyra Ottawa). Other acting credits include *Stones in his Pockets*, *No Great Mischief*, *An Acre of Time* (Capital Critics Circle Award: Best Actor) and *The Collected Works of Billy the Kid* (all Great Canadian Theatre Company); *The Odyssey*, *Angel Square*, *Twelfth Night* and *The Secret Garden* (all NAC); *Kings of the Kilborn High Road* (Seven Thirty Productions), *Vanya* (NAC/Citadel), and *An Acre of Time* (Tarragon Theatre, Toronto). He has appeared in numerous films including *Custody of the Heart*, *Mind over Murder*, *H2O*, *Two's a Mob*, *House of Luk* and *Punch & Judy*. He has also worked extensively as a comedian touring regularly across Canada and to Melbourne, Australia. Pierre was Playwright-in-Residence at GCTC for the 2006-07 season and the recipient of the Capital Critics' Circle inaugural Audrey Ashley Award in 2005 for his body of work contribution to the Ottawa theatre scene.

"Expertly crafted, multi-dimensional, fueled by intelligence and energy... Pierre Brault is a national capital treasure. He's a gifted performer... with grand passion in all his performances."

- Tom McSorley, CBC Radio

Saturday, October 3rd.

**Organ Crawl to
Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec,
to visit Orgues Létourneau
to help celebrate their 30th Anniversary,
and visit a number of other significant
instruments in the region**

Founded in 1979, Orgues Létourneau is celebrating its 30th anniversary on October 3rd with an open house at company's factory in Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec. Many of us have followed the rise of the company over the last few years as it competes on the world stage with the best of the best. The company's first instrument was a small two manual organ built right here in the National Capital Region for the Conservatoire de Musique in Hull. Since then the company has built instruments

in Canada, the United States, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Austria, the UK, and recently signed a contract for opus 120.

The Montérégie region of Quebec is home to a variety of historically important instruments. Arrangements are currently being made to visit the Casavant 1996 organ in Boucherville, the Warren 1854/Juet 1995 organ in Chambly, the Casavant organ in Saint-Hyacinthe and the Broudeur 1898 in Les Cèdres.

If you are interested in joining us for the visit, please contact Ian MacKay as soon as possible so that the appropriate arrangements can be made for transportation. Tentative plans are to leave Ottawa at 8:30 am to arrive in Saint-Hyacinthe about 11:00.

Monday, October 5th.

RCCO Examinations: Preparing for the Service Playing Certificate.

Karen Holmes,

**St. Peter's Lutheran Church,
Sparks Street**

Have you ever considered taking an RCCO exam? The RCCO examinations are at the center of the College's effort to promote high standards of organ playing and church music. For students, the exams are an excellent way to focus on honing basic and advanced technique and consolidating skill as an organist and church musician. It is well understood that preparation for the advance examinations (associateship and fellowship) requires considerable preparation and practice. However, why not consider starting with the Service Playing Certificate? This Certificate is targeted at organists or students wanting to consolidate their skills for playing worship services. This exam, which consists of a practical session only, requires candidates to play hymns, sight read, accompany an anthem, transpose a passage of music, and compile a list of 12 different voluntaries, three from each of the following categories: weddings, funerals, preludes and postlude for public worship; four of these pieces should be prepared for performance at the examination.

Karen Holmes, who has been a teacher for many years and who has shepherded many students through RCCO examinations, has offered to host a planning session for members who are considering pre-

paring for the Service Playing Certificate in 2010. Karen will provide an in-depth review of the examination requirements and hints on preparing effectively.

It would be great to see a handful or more of members spend 2009-10 working toward the Service Playing Certificate examination in June 2010.

POSTPONED UNTIL NOVEMBER:

The Rise and Place of Praise Bands in Contemporary Worship. This workshop will feature a panel discussion on coordinating praise bands, music for praise bands and blending contemporary and traditional styles of worship.

Friday, October 30th.

At 7:00 PM Annual Halloween Event at Woodroffe United Church. If you would like to participate by playing a 'scary' piece of music or accompanying someone singing a scary song, please contact Ian MacKay before October 10. The event will be geared to children and families and will feature both organ music and other creepy music. Please find attached to Pipelines a poster to help to promote the event.

Looking ahead – stay tuned for details!

Saturday, November 14th.

Choral Workshop with Stephanie Martin, in Kingston, in collaboration with the Kingston and Montreal Centres:

- 10:30 am. Registration & Coffee
- 11:00 am. Lecture – Presentation on the Life & Legacy of Healey Willan
- 12:15 pm. Catered Lunch
- 1:00 pm. Music (Old & New) at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Toronto
- 2:15 pm. Participatory choral workshop
- 3:30 pm. Worship service
- 4:00 pm. Close

Stephanie Martin is the Director of Music at Healey Willan's church of St. Mary Magdalene, Toronto, and is the professor on the Faculty of Music, York University. She is a Travelling Clinician with the National RCCO for 2009-2010.

Important Note: Advance registration for this event is required by October 2nd so that the appropriate

number of music kits can be ordered. See page 8 for further details and contact information.

Saturday, November 21st.

A day long event for members and potential members on:

1. working with small choirs;
2. finding and choosing practical and approachable repertoire; and
3. challenges working with clergy and church volunteers.

This event will feature three experienced centre members who collectively have worked in different denominational and liturgical traditions and with a range of other professional staff and volunteers. We are hoping that members might promote this event personally to organists and church musicians that are not presently members of the College but who might benefit or welcome this opportunity to expand their skills.

Monday, November 23rd.

A Night at the Pub. We plan on commandeering a pub in downtown Ottawa for the evening and sharing favourite organ DVDs and YouTube organ videos.

Friday, December 18th.

Our Second Annual Christmas Members Recital featuring Christmas music from Germany. Many will recall the success of last year's recital featuring the tradition of French Noels. We hope to have an equally successfully recital this year featuring congregational singing, organ solos, brass quartet and more. Please e-mail your chorale and repertoire suggestions to Ian MacKay before the end of October.

- Ian MacKay

e-mail: mackay_sap@hotmail.com
(Please note the 'underscore' between mackay and sap)



Did You Know?

BILL VINEER

The first organ in St. François d'Assise Church was a two-manual-and-pedal Estey Reed Organ, style K 59 with ten ranks of reeds, four each in the Great and Swell, and two in the Pedal. The organ was bought from C.W. Lindsay Limited, located at 189 Sparks Street. The organ was purchased on February 21st, 1917 for the princely sum of \$656.⁰⁰

- Bill Vineer

A Note from the Editor:

This article is the first in what will become a regular monthly feature gracing the pages of Pipelines.

We welcome Bill Vineer, our Archivist and prime mover behind the Vineer Organ Library & Archives. He has graciously offered to provide us with regular insights into the organ treasures we can find right here in the Ottawa Centre.

In this first installment, we see the beginning of the rich musical history at St-François-d'Assise church.



This 1917 photo shows the newly-installed Estey K 59 under the famous rear window of St-François-d'Assise church

If you have an interesting story from your church or would like to have Bill research the history of your church organ, contact Bill at 613-224-1553 or via email at billvin@travel-net.com



The G 59 model featured in Estey's 1917 organ catalog. The K model installed at St-François-d'Assise church differed only in the detail on the façade pipework and slight differences in the names of the pipes indicated on the stop list.

Service Playing Workshop

On Monday, October 5, Karen Holmes will present a workshop from 7 to 8:30 p.m. (approx.) at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Sparks and Bay. (Please enter by the back door off the parking lot.)

The subject of the workshop will be "Preparing for the Service-Playing Exam." Karen will explain the RCCO requirements, and have copies of old papers and the suggested hymns and anthems. She will have suggestions about how to work on sight-reading and transposing.

This workshop should be useful to anyone considering trying a College exam this year or in the future, and possibly also to teachers. There is no charge.

Correction...



The caption for this wonderful picture in last month's *Pipelines* was incorrect. It should read:

David Palmer (centre) with students Bob Jones (left) and Competition First Prize winner Aaron Tan (right).

Acknowledged With Thanks

Eleanor Crabtree, wife of the late Alan, donated several boxes of archival material which Alan had been collecting over the years to the RCCO and the Vineer Organ Library & Archives. Here is a small sample of some of the files that were donated to the RCCO archives collection: Gerald Bales, Healy Willan, Robert Fleming, Lilian Forsyth, Carman Milligan, and Frances Macdonnell.

Our sincerest thanks to Eleanor Crabtree for her generous donation of this significant historical material collected by her husband, Alan, our Roving Ambassador of the Organ.

- Bill Vineer

Around Town

Sunday, October 4, 7:30 p.m.

Catherine Donkin & Amélie Langlois (piano duets). The program will include an exciting Canadian work for piano four hands and works by Mendelssohn, Debussy, Poulenc and more. St. Luke's Church (760 Somerset Street West, 3 blocks west of Bronson Avenue). Admission is by donation. Info. Tel. (613) 235-3416 or visit www.stlukesottawa.ca

Wednesdays, 7, 14, 21, and 28 October, 12:30 - 1:00 pm.

Music at Midday. Recitals at Knox Presbyterian Church, Lisgar at Elgin. Free admission.

- 7 Oct. Wesley Warren - Organ
- 14 Oct. Tom Annand - Organ
- 21 Oct. Mauro Bertoli - Piano
- 28 Oct. Stephen Candow - Organ

Sunday, October 18, 7:30 p.m.

Joan Fearnley (soprano), Frédéric Lacroix (piano) and Robert Brown (french horn). An evening of song including Hector Berlioz's *Nuits d'été*, Franz Schubert's *Auf dem Strom* and the Canadian premiere of *Three City Songs* by Steven Winteregg. St. Luke's Church (760 Somerset Street West, 3 blocks west of Bron-

son Avenue). Admission is by donation. Info. Tel. (613) 235-3416 or visit www.stlukesottawa.ca

Tuesdays, October 20 and 27, 12.15 p.m.

Organ Tuesdays at St. Andrew's Church (Kent at Wellington). Free-will offering.

Sunday, October 25, 7.00 p.m.

Celebrating Reformation, hosted by Knox Presbyterian Church, Lisgar at Elgin. The choirs of Rideau Park United Church (Richard Glasser, director) and Knox Presbyterian Church (Mervyn Games, director), organ, trumpets, handbells. Guest speaker - Rev. Malcolm Sinclair of Metropolitan United Church, Toronto. Freewill Offering

Sunday, November 1, 7:30 p.m.

The Men's Voyces: James Macdonnell (counter-tenor), Robert Mann (counter-tenor), Meredith Macdonnell (counter-tenor, bass), Charles Donnelly (tenor), David Brearley (baritone), John van der Leeden (bass). *The Men's Voyces presents Saints of November*: a program of music for All Saints' Day, All Souls' Day, and Armistice Day (including a medley of First World War Songs). St. Luke's Church

(760 Somerset Street West, 3 blocks west of Bronson Avenue). Admission is by donation. Info. Tel. (613) 235-3416 or visit www.stlukesottawa.ca

Sunday, November 15, 7:30 p.m.

Thomas Brawn (flute) and Natalie Khoriaty (piano). *Expressions of impressionism*. St. Luke's Church (760 Somerset Street West, 3 blocks west of Bronson Avenue). Admission is by donation. Info. Tel. (613) 235-3416 or visit www.stlukesottawa.ca

Saturday, November 28, 7:30 pm.

Stairwell Carollers on Saturday November 28, 2009, at 7:30 pm at Woodroffe United Church, 207 Woodroffe Ave. (between Richmond and Carling). For more information go to: http://www.woodroffeunited.org/concert_current.html or phone the church office at 613-722-9250.

Sunday, November 29, 7:30 p.m.

Joel Allison (violin). An evening of fine violin music with some of my friends and family. St. Luke's Church (760 Somerset Street West, 3 blocks west of Bronson Avenue). Admission is by donation. Info. Tel. (613) 235-3416 or visit www.stlukesottawa.ca

Pro Organo

KAREN HOLMES

You're all cordially invited to Maxine Thévenot's recital at Notre-Dame Cathedral-Basilica on October 16th. Look forward to an excellent evening of organ music with a special touch just for us: her programme is built around an "Ontario Connection" and a "Parisian Connection".

Pieces in the first half are all by Ontario composers, including two born in Ottawa - Jeanne Landry and Andrew Ager, whose *Toccata Op. 30* will be played for the first time in Ottawa. The other Ontario composers are Ruth Watson Henderson, John Burge and Victor Togni. Victor was born in Tanganyika and educated in Europe, but he spent part of his professional life in Canada, including a period as organist at First Baptist Church in Ottawa.



In the second half of the programme, Maxine will play pieces by the French composers Marcel Dupré, Jeanne Demes-

sieux, Louis Vierne, Olivier Messiaen and Gaston Litaize.

Maxine Thévenot was born in Saskatchewan, and began her musical education there. She went on to Calgary, and then to the Manhattan School of Music. She has won numerous prizes and performed widely in concert. She is now the Associate Organist-Choir Director at the Cathedral of St. John in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Suggested donations for the October 16th concert are: adult - \$20; senior - \$15; student - \$10. For more information, please call Karen Holmes at 613-728-8041 or 613-798-0264.

A Barbeque at the Vineer Organ Library

The Vineer Organ Library & Archive opened its doors wide to welcome all members of the Ottawa Centre to the new 2009-10 season of activities. Bill Vineer proved himself yet again to be a gracious and knowledgeable host. In addition to a fine selection of food and wine, the guests had another opportunity to tour the fine (and expanding) collection of organ historical documents in the Library's collection. Our heartfelt thanks to Bill for his hospitality and continuing dedication!



Our handy master chef, Ian MacKay at the console of Bill's three-manual-and-pedal barbeque, opus 152.



The Choir begins to sing after the grand Library tour, a fine meal and a bit of wine.

The famous group shot of all those smiling faces. Note Bill, at centre in the back row, hiding from the camera, as usual,.



OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE

2009-2010

OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE

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NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING:

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18TH, 12:45 PM,
ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN

Supply List

Robert Dunlop	613-235-3778	
Janice Gray	613-730-0401	janicenlpegyp@hotmai.com
Alison Kranias	613-761-6516	alison.kranias@mail.mcgill.ca
Paula Lin	613-721-2850	paula.w.lin@gmail.com
Frances Macdonnell	613-726-7984,	fmacdon@magma.ca
Dorothea Mawhinney	613-237-1320 (ext. 2404),	
Simon Pinsonneault	514-299-2805 (H), 613 949-5841 (W)	pinsosi@tc.gc.ca

Please note: Supply list can also be found on the RCCO Ottawa web site at <http://www.rcco-ottawa.ca>
Anyone interested in adding their names to the Supply List,
please contact Suzanne St-Germain at 613-841-0246
or via email at newsletter@rcco-ottawa.ca

Organ Teachers List

D. Mervyn Games, B.Mus., FRCO, ARCM. Students in piano, organ, and theory at all levels. For info call 613-729-2515.

Robert P. Jones, M.Mus., ARCCO (ChM). All levels of students (teenager or adult). Lessons at St. Luke's Church (760 Somerset Street W.) Info: pentland@hotmail.com

Heather Rice, ARCT, BMus, ARCCO (ChM). Welcomes students in piano, organ, voice and theory, Beginner - Intermediate, Children - Adult. Lessons at St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church, 579 Parkdale Ave. at Sherwood. Call 613-563-1409 or email choirmaster@bellnet.ca.

Wesley R. Warren, M.Mus., FRCO, (ChM), ARCT. Beginning to advanced organ students at St. Barnabas Anglican Church, (Kent St. at James), Ottawa. Info: 613-726-6341

Newsletter submissions

Send your articles and photos to:

Suzanne St-Germain
628 Tourelle Drive
Orleans, ON K4A 3H4
613-841-0246

newsletter@rcco-ottawa.ca
or
[sstgermain@rogers.com](mailto:ssstgermain@rogers.com)



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Dear Members of the RCCO, Kingston, Montreal, and Ottawa Centres,

In order to help the Kingston Centre plan for Nov. 14th Tri-Centre event with Stephanie Martin (see details on page 3 of this issue of *Pipelines*), it is necessary to have an idea of numbers attending.

We need to choose a rehearsal space of appropriate size. George Old of Con Brio Music, Ottawa, in conjunction with Stephanie Martin, is preparing a package of music for use at the workshop, and must know in advance how many copies to order and prepare. These packages will be available, at cost, at the event.

If you plan to attend, please e-mail or phone me **by Friday, Oct. 2**. I apologize for the short notice. Please include in the number, any choir members or students you may be bringing. Encourage younger musicians, who could learn from this event, to attend.

Your prompt attention to this matter, will help us prepare for proper numbers. A formal registration sheet with all the necessary information, will be issued to all members after our RCCO Kingston executive meeting on October 7th.

My e-mail address is jruttley@bellnet.ca (work).

My telephone number is 613-962-5527 (home)

613-962-3636 (work)

I look forward to seeing you on Nov. 14th.

John Uttley, President, Kingston Centre

The Royal Canadian College of Organists presents:
an organ recital celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birth of Felix Mendelssohn

Felix Mendelssohn- Bartholdy plays JS Bach...

Mendelssohn would have agreed that the best way to celebrate his birthday would be to hear the music of JS Bach. Mendelssohn worshipped Bach and thought so highly of him that he played a now famous recital at Bach's church, the Thomaskirche (check out the watermark) in Leipzig, in 1840, to raise funds for a monument to Bach which, two years later, was constructed outside the church and across the street from where Bach lived and worked during his tenure in Leipzig from 1723 until his death in 1750.

A number of Ottawa Organists will reconstruct this famous recital in addition to playing some of Mendelssohn's own works for organ. Also, excerpts from Mendelssohn's effusive personal letters and writings read by noted Ottawa actor:

Pierre Brault

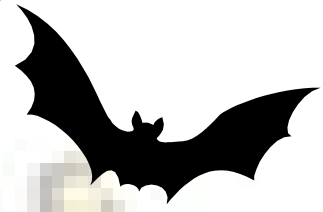
"Expertly crafted, multidimensional, fueled by intelligence and energy....Pierre Brault is a national capital treasure. He is a gifted performer...with grand passion in all his performances"....

Tom McSorley, CBC Radio

**Knox Presbyterian Church
Corner of Elgin and Lisgar
Friday, October 2, 2009
7:30pm
Tickets at the door \$10**

The Royal Canadian College of Organists, Ottawa Centre presents

SPOOKY TUNES, MACABRE MELODIES & HAUNTING HARMONIES



**SUPER SPOOKY MUSIC FOR THE
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AND HALLOWEEN SNACKS**

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FRIDAY OCTOBER 30, 2009 AT 7:00PM

**AN EVENING OF HALLOWEEN FUN FOR THE
WHOLE FAMILY. EXPECT ALL THE CLICHÉS
INCLUDING THE GRAND DADDY OF ALL
SPOOKY MUSIC: BACH'S TOCCATA AND FUGUE
IN D MINOR**



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WILL BE WELCOME**