Vol. 31, No. 10 June/Juin 2014 ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS OTTAWA CENTRE Collège royal canadien des organistes section d'Ottawa

President's Message

Donald Russell

The Missed Lesson

hy take lessons? What has been lost when a lesson is missed? When you are good enough can you stop lessons? Can you teach another musician something if they play better than you?

When I play, and I imagine that most people are similar, if I am not careful and deliberate, I hear the music I want to produce - my Fantasia and Fugue in g minor sounds a lot like Karl Richter's recording ...?? I know some choir directors who, I am certain, always hear King's College Cambridge no matter what sound their choir makes. My colleagues and teachers hear the sounds and the music I actually produce (not the recording of Karl Richter I may hear in

my head). In addition to the invaluable guidance and the numerous suggestions that a good teacher can provide a student they also reflect to the student an unbiased impression of the music that they hear - a gentle but truthful confrontation with reality.

Especially in the world of the organist, this is important. Even if we hear exactly what we play, untarnished by the music in our heads, we hear the sounds that reach our ears in the organ loft. The experience of the listener, often far off in the sanctuary, may be very different. A good teacher will listen from various places and convey to the student the adjustments that will reflect the experience of the distant listener. (I imagine a bagpiper may have the same problem distance can make all the difference.)

UPEUMEE uches et anches

> Even the best of us, can benefit from a lesson from someone with enough background to reflect the actual music from the perspective of a listener. So, we all should ask a friend to listen and confront us with the reality of the music we make.

Have a good summer.



President's Message

Slate of Candidates 2014-15 Shawn Potter Concert Review

Around Town AGM Info

4

Member of the Year Kiwanis Festival Winners

Buxtehude Completed! A Note from the Treasurer

Supply List Organ Teachers List

Our Advertisers



RCCO Ottawa Centre Executive Slate 2014-2015

The following is the proposed slate of candidates for the RCCO Ottawa Centre Executive for 2014-2015 to be tabled at the RCCO Ottawa Centre's Annual General Meeting on June 16th:

President: Vice-President: Secretary: Treasurer: Past President: Chaplain: Donald Russell David Lafranchise Shawn Potter Ross Jewell Moira Hayes Rev. Dr. Mervin Saunders

National Councillors: Donald Russell

Frances Macdonnell Donald Marjerrison Moira Hayes

Convenors of Committees:

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Shawn Potter Concert Review

nice audience turned out for the final recital of the 2013-2014 Pro-Organo season, given by Shawn Potter, Organist and Choir-director of First Baptist Church here in Ottawa. The recital was hosted at Église Saint-François-d'Assise and featured a program of early composers, of whom Bach was the most contemporary! This selection of music suited the Guilbault-Thérien organ quite well, though I have often associated it with French Romantic music.

Potter opened with a strong performance of the Praeludium in g, by Dieterich Buxtehude. Written in the stylus phantasticus, Potter made excellent use of many silences and pauses to accentuate the sudden changes in Buxtehude's composition. This was followed by the four verses of Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her, by Heinrich Scheidemann. Potter's use of the cornet was excellent, giving the solo line beautiful movement. His third selection was Ricercar del nono tono, by Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck, which was one of my favourite pieces of the recital. The choice of registration was interesting, highlighting the contrast between the different treatments of the cantus firmus. Potter's playing was light and dancing, and expressed the liveliness and excitement of the piece, particularly in the

final, sparkling plenum section. This was followed by a joyful performance of *In dir ist Freude*, by Bach. To end the first half of the program, he played a second work by Buxtehude: *Toccata in d*. This was a stunning performance from start to finish



because of his effective use of registration and articulation. Of particular note were his use of silences between the fragments of the opening, giving it a magnificent sense of "space;" and the use of the Oboe stop – which had not yet been heard in such a prominent position – in two of the sections, to shape the music with playfulness and give each section a greater musicality.

After the intermission, Potter returned with seven verses of *Es ist das Heyl uns kommen her*, by Matthias Weckmann. This was a strong piece, in which the

Joshua Zentner-Barrett

fourth, fifth and sixth verses stood out for the quality of their expression. In these verses, the use of exciting registration helped showcase the playfulness of the music, which was then brilliantly echoed in Potter's touch. The solo trumpet in the sixth verse had lovely shaping, demonstrating a virtuoso excitement in his playing. This verse was also notable for its length, which Potter described in his notes as being "a veritable chorale-fantasia unto itself." It was particularly pleasing, and received applause before having even heard the final verse, which concluded the recital in a full, triumphant rendering of the chorale (including double pedal)!

Thank you to Shawn Potter for a wonderful concert! Many thanks also to the Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Fund for co-sponsoring, Karen Holmes and her committee for organizing the concerts of the 2013-2014 Pro-Organo series, to Gilles Leclerc and the congregation of Saint-François-d'Assise for the use of the beautiful church and organ, and to Suzanne Marjerrison, for the refreshments afterwards.

Next year's Pro-Organo series opens with Damian Rivers-Moore (French Horn) and Karen Holmes (Organ) at Rideau Park United Church, at 7:30pm, on Friday, September 26th, 2014.

Around Town

Sunday, June 8th at 3:00 p.m. Wesley Warren will present an organ recital at St. Bartholomew's Anglican church on the new Letourneau organ. Featured works are by: Buxtehude, Scheidemann, Bach, Mendelssohn, Near, Vaughan Williams and Vierne. Tickets are: \$25 general, \$20 seniors and \$15 students. Tickets available at the door or in the church office (125 Mackay street).

Tuesday, June 10th at 7:30 p.m.

A choral celebration with the Christ Church Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys, presenting their end-of-term concert at St. Joseph's Church, 174 Wilbrod Street. Selected works of the cathedral tradition will be featured, including Bernstein's Chichester Psalms. Guest instrumentalists will include Caroline Leonardelli (harp), Vincent Boudreau (percussion), and Michael Capon (organ). Admission \$25 Adults, \$15 Seniors, \$10 Students. All proceeds support the Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys tours and team activities for the boys.

Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at 5:30

p.m. Riverside United Church, 3191 Riverside Drive. Come to a Church Musicians' Mix and Mingle – meet your colleagues – enjoy a special presentation by the Leading Note's choral specialists and management on new services for musicians. Free admission, free parking and refreshments. Hosted by Ottawa area United Church music directors.

Next deadline for announcements in the Around Town section is:



Thursday, June 26, 2014, 12:10 p.m.

NOON-HOUR RECITAL. A 40 minute organ recital of music by several Canadian composers will be presented by Donald Russell at Trinity Anglican Church, 1230 Bank Street Ottawa, Ottawa. The recital will include the world premiere of "Plainchant for Organ", a piece by Ottawa composer Dr. Maya Badian. A free-will offering will be collected with proceeds going to support the *Bales to the North* outreach program.

February 27 to March 1, 2015

Save the date! A Weekend with John Bell – Singing and Preaching for the 21st Century. John Bell is known internationally as a musician, hymnwriter, leader in worship renewal and global hymnody. He is a minister of the Church of Scotland and member of the Iona Community. Registration will be available online in September at Kanata United Church, 33 Leacock Drive. Info at www.kuc.ca. Sponsored by Kanata United Church and a team of Ottawa area United Church musicians.



now available online at

www.rcco-ottawa.ca





... at our Annual General Meeting on Monday June 16th, 2014 at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. (971 Woodroffe Ave.)

Reception at 7:00 p.m. with meeting to follow at 7:30 p.m.

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 will honour Sally Duke as our "Member of the Year" and will also hear the latest on our upcoming "Orgelfest" convention this summer.

All members are encouraged to attend and participate in decisionmaking of your Centre and to hear reports of the various convenors and National Council representatives.

There is plenty of parking and the room is air-conditioned.



Member of the Year

Sally grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio, studied piano, sang in both youth and adult choirs in the Presbyterian Church and began organ study with her piano teacher at age 13. She continued studies as an undergraduate at Centre College of Kentucky while majoring in history and music; her teachers were Harmon Lewis and Arthur Lawrence. Sally enjoyed a wonderful summer with the American Organ Institute based in Freiburg -im- Briesgau, Germany in 1969 which included master classes with Andre Marchal and Walter Kraft. She studied at the University of Connecticut with Virginia Herrmann while pursuing a M.A. in History and a M.A. in Music History. This was interrupted to study for a second M.A. and then marrying a Canadian and moving to Toronto in 1975. Also, Sally served as organist in Episcopal and Congregational churches in Kentucky and Connecticut. After doing some supply work in Ottawa, Sally accepted a position as organist with Kanata United Church,

Kiwanis Festival Winners

ttawa Centre students fared quite well in the annual National Capital Region Kiwanis Music Festival organ classes that took place at Rideau Park United Church on Friday, April 11th, 2014.

Congratulations to our winners:

Kiwanis Club of Ottawa (Arnt Loa Scholarship) - \$600 - Nicholas Walters (student of Jennifer Loveless)

RCCO Ottawa Centre Scholarship - \$250 - Ian Guenette (student of Jennifer Loveless).

RCCO Ottawa Centre Scholarship -\$250 - Samuel Lee (student of Karen Holmes).

Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Scholarship) - \$100 - Emma Drinnan (student of Frances Macdonnell) meeting in Earl of March High School auditorium, in 1979. She was an advisor on acoustics for the church building, dedicated in 1987, and later served on committees which purchased a grand piano for the sanctuary and a pipe organ belonging to Carman Milligan which was rebuilt for the church by Guilbault-Therien and dedicated in 1995.

DON MARJERRISON

Sally served on committees promoting two United Church hymnbooks, Voices United and More Voices as well as cochairing a United Church committee which organized three worship conferences from 2001-2005, and brought together prominent speakers, Ottawa clergy and musicians. She acted as Convenor for the United Church of Canada Association of Musicians for several years. Sally helped to organize several children's choir Festivals in the 1990's with Dianne Ferguson and others.

Sally says, "I am now in my 35th year at Kanata United, playing organ and piano and leading a small band of flutes and strings which accompanies the piano in worship. As Director of Music, I oversee 4 choirs and direct three. My current

> passion is for directing children's choirs and including them in worship. To this end, I attended a three-year summer course sponsored by the Choristers Guild in the U.S. I am also interested in promoting confident hymn-singing. I will attend my second Hymn Society meeting this summer and am part of a group bringing noted hymn-writer, minister of the Church of Scotland

and worship enlivener, John Bell to Ottawa in 2015. "

Sally has been actively involved in the RCCO Ottawa Centre as Secretary of the Executive for one term and also as a Social Convenor. In addition, she has helped with three RCCO National Conventions including her excellent work last year for Orgelfest as the Registrar. On behalf of the RCCO Ottawa Centre, we are delighted to honour Sally with the Member of the



Year award for her dedication to the RCCO and Church Music in this community and abroad. The presentation of this award to Sally will take place at our AGM on June 16th at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church.



Buxtehude Completed!

Frances Macdonnell

ongratulations to Centre member Shawn Potter, who during 2013-14 played the entire organ works of Dieterich Buxtehude in a series of eight hour-long lunchtime recitals at First Baptist Church.



Shawn Potter and fiancée Jen at the final Buxtehude concert.

An interested and admiring audience attended all eight recitals, during which Shawn played in every different Buxtehude organ style with every possible combination of stops on the small but fine Casavant organ at First Baptist Church, where he has been the organist for the past

two years.

Shawn, a former winner of the Godfrey Hewitt Scholarship, also won the Godfrey Hewitt Grand Prize at the RCCO's National Organ-Playing Competition during Orgelfest 2013 last summer. Shawn Potter was also presented in a recital of early organ music by the Pro Organo Concert Series in May 2014, co-presented by the Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Fund.

His proficiency and expertise have been shown over and over again in the eight recitals of this Buxtehude series.

There has been considerable research done in recent years into the performance practice of Buxtehude's organ works, and Shawn, who finished his M.Mus. at McGill University two years ago, has demonstrated very clearly how well he understands the style and nature of these golden pre-Bach works.

Very few organists ever have the opportunity - or the energy - to present, in their entire lifetime, a complete performance of all the organ works of a major composer in one year, and it is excellent to see one so well presented here in Ottawa. We wait with interest to see what new project Shawn takes on for 2014-15! We are most fortunate to have a young musician of Shawn Potter's calibre in our Centre.

Following the eighth and final recital, a group of those who had attended all the series of recitals took Shawn out for lunch at the nearby Lord Elgin Hotel, an event kindly organized by our American member, Sondra Goldsmith Proctor.



Market

A Note from the Treasurer

B y now you will have received your membership renewal statements from National Office. There is no increase of fee this year. The College year ends on June 1st and fees are due by May 31st, 2014. If your membership category is incorrect on the statement, please correct it and enclose the total fee shown below.

Ross Jewell

The 2014/2015 fees (without a magazine subscription) are listed below:

Category	HQ Portion	Centre Portion	Total Fee	* Student rates apply for anyone under 21 or FULL time
Adult	\$ 110	\$ 24	\$ 134	student. Please send in proof of eligibility with your fee.
Institution	\$ 110	\$ 24	\$ 134	A photocopy of your student ID will do.
Joint	\$ 144	\$ 26	\$ 170	
Student*	\$ 56	\$17	\$ 73	** Joint senior rate applies if at least one of the joint
Senior	\$ 91	\$17	\$ 108	members is over 65.
Joint Senior**	\$ 132	\$ 19	\$ 151	Non-member subscription to <i>Pipelines</i> is \$25 for 10 issues.

Note that you may now renew your membership on line at www.rcco.ca.

The Ottawa Centre is a registered charity. Income tax receipts will be given for all donations. If you would like to make a donation to one of our Centre funds, **you may now do so on our website directly** or by downloading a donation form. Please specify on the form which fund you would like to donate to. A list and description of the scholarship funds can be found on our website at http://www.rcco-ottawa.ca/schol.html

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, 2014.

Have a wonderful summer.

Ross Jewell, Treasurer

OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE 2013-2014							
OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE							
President Vice-President	Donald Russell (vacant)	613-738-9223	Newsletter Editors	RICK & SUZANNE ST. G	ermain 613-841-0246		
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Amy Andonian	613 224-8117	Sundays, weddings, funerals
Nadia Behmann	613-723-8601	nadia@behmann.ca Weddings and Funerals.
Elizabeth Brown	613-608-1210	lizbrown2007@hotmail.com Weddings, funerals, Sunday services, any denomination
Mai-Yu Chan	613-726-0818	fosterg@rogers.com
Frances Macdonnell	613-726-7984	fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca
Daniel Morel	613 228-8331	danmorel@rogers.com Sunday services, weddings, funerals.
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Simon Pinsonneault	613 299-1886	simon.pinsonneault@tc.gc.ca
Gavan Quinn	613-792-1492	gavanquinn@gmail.com, Weddings, funerals
Donald Russell	613-738-9223	russell.kimberwick@me.com
Wesley R. Warren	613 726-6341	Weddings and Funerals

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



D. Mervyn Games, B.Mus., FRCO, ARCM. Students in piano, organ, and theory at all levels. Info: mervyn.games@gmail.com or 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. Call 613-563-1409

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





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