



## President's Message ALISON KRANIAS

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## The Calm Before the Storm

President's Message

Centre Events

Pro Organo
Around Town

Chaplain's Corner

Pro Organo Concert Review

Kiwanis Music Festival Preparation
Ottawa Centre Breakfast Social

7 Supply List
Organ Teachers List

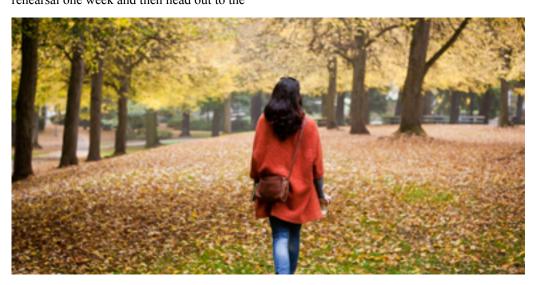
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Pro Organo Concert Poster

houlder season. The time In-between those beautiful, sunny autumn days and the crisp, snowy ones. In-between getting everything up and going in the fall, and the special services and events during Advent and Christmas time. The mornings are cold and wet now, the branches are bare on the tree outside my window and the leaves are matted on the ground.

But you know, there are good things about this time of year, the shoulder season. For one thing, there seem to be more people around, including more singers in the choir. Perfect time for some kind of social get-together. Perhaps you could have a shorter choir rehearsal one week and then head out to the pub. That's something we've been doing at my church every now and again – we call it Choir & Pub night.

Another good thing about November is that it seems a little easier to find time for things like polishing up a hymn, or starting to learn a new piece on the organ. Maybe get together with another organist to share some ideas, chat about what music you are planning for Advent and Christmas. Or maybe before you get busy with Christmas, take the time to get out to a concert – don't forget Maria Gajraj is playing in the next Pro Organo concert on November 12! – or go to a museum or art gallery. The choice is yours!.





## **Centre Events**

#### IAN GUENETTE AND SONDRA GOLDSMITH PROCTOR

#### Saturday, 2 December 2023, 2 p.m.

The Ottawa Centre is invited to a sharing session at St. Paul University. Bring your organ shoes and music that you love or are thinking of using during the season of Advent and Christmas. Joshua Zentner-Barrett is in the middle of his comps and editing work for publication and is inviting us to share with him at St. Paul University.

#### From Josh:

The Anglican Studies program of the Faculty of Theology at Saint Paul University is looking forward to hosting you for a sharing session on Saturday, December 2 at 2 PM. The program was formed in 1981 as a unique partnership between the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa and Saint Paul, a Roman Catholic institution, and has been instrumental in training clergy and lay leaders in the diocese and beyond alongside Roman Catholic, Eastern Christian, and other denominational students. While programs have grown and changed over the years, the Anglican Studies program has remained a core part of the Faculty's identity.

I have been the Director of Music for Anglican Studies at Saint Paul since September 2020 where I am a part of a team that coordinates liturgy, offers workshops and events, and builds the Anglican community at the university. While much of what we do is focused on the academic and spiritual formation of students, we also believe that this program should exist to support the wider formation of Anglicans in Ottawa. We value lifelong learning! This session on December 2 is part of a vision where Anglican Studies is part of building community among musicians and organists across Ottawa. I look forward to sharing more of what we do in the program and at Saint Paul that afternoon.

Our time together will be a Playand-Share of sorts. I invite you to bring your music for Advent and Christmas, your plans and dreams for the season, and your presence for one another as we share what we're doing, encourage and support each other in our work, and grow in fellowship. The organ at Saint Paul is a two-manual Casavant with several unified ranks. Though it is not the world's best instrument, it is located in a beautiful chapel space with stunning acoustics. The organ sounds good in here! The chapel is also home to a recently acquired Kawai baby grand piano, a gift from the former St. Martin's Anglican Church to the Anglican Studies program through the diocese. This instrument is also available for your use in Play-and-Share.

Saint Paul University is made up of two buildings: De Mazenod Chapel is located in the more southern, brown brick building called Laframboise Pavilion.

There is plenty of street parking (3 hours) available along Maiin Street, including in front of Laframboise. There are also two paid parking lots: one on Hazel Street and one on Main Street, next to Singing Pebble Books. The University is also reachable via public transit: you can take the #1 train to Lees station and either catch a connecting bus(#16 or #55) or walk about 15 minutes. In addition, buses #5 and 55 stop right in front of the school, while #16

ends its route on Saint Paul's north side. #56 also has a stop at Main and Lees; the University is only a 5-7 minute walk from there.And, of course, there's lots of bicycle parking in front of the university and along Main Street.

If you have any questions or concerns about the event, feel free to connect with me at **jzentner@ustpaul.ca**. Once again, I look forward to seeing you there on December 2.

A time of refreshing our spirits as we move forward through Advent and Christmas will be beneficial to us all.

Saturday, 27 January 2024, 10 a.m.

# Plan now to reserve a seat at the Cafe RCCO Zoom session on *Principles for Making Informed Decisions about our Musical Techniques* led by Donald Russell. Please register via email at events@rccoottawa.ca You'll receive a registration

ottawa.ca. You'll receive a registration notice. Close to the event, you will receive a Zoom invitation and link. Register early before the Advent and Christmas season overtakes us with busyness.



Page 2 Pipelines Vol. 41, No. 3



## Pro Organo

#### GILLES LECLERC

35<sup>th</sup> season continues with a special recital entirely dedicated to women composers featuring Maria Gajraj, from Ottawa and Montreal, on SUNDAY, November 12th at 3 p.m. at Christ Church Cathedral at 414 Sparks Street, near Bronson Ave.

This concert will be co-sponsored by the Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Scholarship Fund, since Maria Gajraj is a former winner of this prestigious Scholarship. She will play works by among others, Jeanne Demessieux (1921-1968), and American composers Florence Price (1887-1953) and Ethel Smith (1902-1996).

Parking is difficult around the Cathedral, so you should come early!



We look forward to seeing you at this event. You can order your subscription tickets and/or make a patron donation by using the Donation Form on the last page of this newsletter, or the tear-off in the enclosed flyer, or through the RCCO website, rcco-ottawa.ca; just go to the Home Page, press the Donate button, and select Pro Organo. If ordering by mail, please send your order to:

Frances Macdonnell, 303 - 3099 Carling Avenue, Ottawa ON, K2H 5A6.

If you would like more information, call us at 613-255-1394 or send an e-mail to **ProOrgano@rcco-ottawa.ca**.



## **Around Town**

Sunday, 19 November, 2023, 7 p.m. Matthew Larkin will present an organ recital at St. Stephen's Anglican Church. With the closure of St. Martin's Anglican Church in the spring, the three-manual Rodgers organ from St. Martin was moved and installed at St. Stephen's Church over the summer. The older Allen organ that had been in St. Stephen's got moved to All Saints' Church (Westboro) as their Rodgers organ was dying.

Matthew Larkin's varied programme will include music by Bach, Vierne and Rachel Laurin. The audience will get to sing the hymn Let There be Light. The music was composed by Robert Fleming (1921-76). His son, the Reverend Michael Fleming, is an honorary assistant priest at St. Stephen's, and Michael's brother Richard was a choir member and warden at the time of his death last November.

Although there is no admission charge for the recital, any donations received at the door will be forwarded to Belong Ottawa – The Anglican Diocese of Ottawa's community ministry outreach programme.

St. Stephen's is located at 2821 St. Stephen's Street (just west of Pinecrest, and north of the Queensway). Plenty of on-site free parking. The church is wheelchair accessible.

Sunday, 26 November, 2023, 3 p.m. Ready for a unique treat? Come by the Church of St John the Evangelist, Somerset at Elgin to experience a harpsichord recital presented by Thomas Annand featuring works by anniversary composers William Byrd (400th anniversary of his death) and György Ligeti (born 1923) as well as favourite compositions by Bach, Scarlatti and Rameau. Tickets at door: \$25 (students \$10). More info: 613-261-0376, t.annand50@gmail.com

Sunday, December 10, 2023, 3:30 p.m. Join us at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 1758 Alta Vista Drive, to enjoy the music of the season! This event will feature local musical groups including The Ottawa Catholic School Board Chamber Choir, Le Grand Choeur De La Salle, and The Immaculate Heart

of Mary Church/St Margaret's Church Choirs accompanied by The Ottawa Wind Ensemble, a 35-member orchestral group. They will be joined by the return of tenor soloist Dr. Fraser Rubens, for special tributes to the musical season. Interspersed with this will be carol singing for all to join in.

This 32<sup>n</sup>d Immaculate Heart of Mary Concert is held in support of the Heron Emergency Food Centre (HEFC). Admission to the Concert is FREE and there is ample and easily accessible parking. There will be collection baskets for voluntary monetary donations (cheque or cash). Tax receipts can be issued by the charity for donations over \$20 upon request. Those interested in an advance donation or in purchasing advertising in the concert program or who have any questions, please contact the concert organizing committee at **613-791-9115**.

Come and enjoy this wonderful prelude to the Christmas season. It's a joyous way to help those in need in our community.

November/novembre 2023 Page 3



Rev. Cl

#### A Scam Blows Apart My World

For this month's publication of Pipelines, I had thought that I would offer some thoughts on All Saints Day which, as I write this on Halloween, falls tomorrow, that is, on November 1.

The very useful publication by the Anglican Church, For All the Saints, begins with the following key words: In every time and place God calls women, men and children to holiness. This beautifully ordered book offers the stories of individuals who have contributed particularly in this way. And I have read stories here for which, in my life, as one of the faithful, I have been deeply thankful.

Little did I think that leading up to this day when we commemorate All the Saints, I would be the subject of an attempted and successful scam which certainly made a dent in my bank balance. Indeed, I would like to express how deeply touched I was by a colleague who, inadvertently having become involved, offered to shoulder half that amount: indeed, to be my neighbour. Now that I am somewhat recovered, I realize that there are likely many others within our College of Organists who have been or might become subject to similar scams...

It seems that we are living, these days, in a different world, a world where sophisticated deceit and duplicity can – in a newly developing way - be the order of the day. Many of us are not yet equipped to easily identify it when this new and so deeply calculated and manipulative practice creeps into, and arises, within our lives.

Indeed, we are called to have more than eyes in the back of our head...

And so, this year I shall commemorate and give thanks for *All the Saints* with an added and deep awareness that those who are called to lead lives of holiness are like jewels within our midst. I pray for all that they offer, and, yes, also for their protection.

Thanks be to God.



## In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarce heard amid the guns below. We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.



Page 4 Pipelines Vol. 41, No. 3



## John Paul Farahat Concert Review

#### DONALD MARJERRISON

Pro Organo Season began on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> with an organ recital by John Paul Farahat at Notre-Dame Cathedral. John Paul is currently Director of Music and Principal Organist of St. Basil's Church, the collegiate church of St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto, is one of the five organists of St. Michael's Cathedral-Basilica, and is a member of the faculty at St. Michael's Choir School in Toronto.

Pierre Du Mage's *Premier livre d'orgue* opened the programme. John Paul played with authentic registrations showcasing beautiful ornamentation and lovely phrasing throughout the piece. For this listener, the *Tierce en taille* was so very lovely with a plaintive quality. The *Dialogue sur les grand jeux* with its echo parts was most effective.

Next on the programme was Charles Tournemire's *Cantilène improvisèe* from *Cinq Improvisations* which was recorded in 1930 at Sainte-Clotilde, as part of a broader project of five improvisations, and was transcribed and reconstructed from the recording by Duruflé in 1958. John Paul used stirring foundation stops along with upper melodic sounds and effective use of the tremolo. I really appreciated the striking harmonic passages.

The first half of the recital ended with Jean-Jacques Grunenwald's *Pieces and Jubilate Deo* from *Diptyque liturgique*. *Pieces* begins and ends serenely, with a grand crescendo and climax in the middle section. *Jubilate Deo* has a spectacular quality and John Paul used the resources of the organ very effectively.

The second half opened with J.S. Bach's *Fantasia and Fugue in g minor* (BWV 542). This was a real highlight of Mr. Farahat's recital for me. I really enjoyed the registration of the *Fantasia* with its bright opening and the gorgeous trills. There can be no doubt that this *Fugue* is one of Bach's superb masterpieces. John Paul played it not only flawlessly, but with energy as the music propels forward in the most delightful way.



C.M. Widor's *Allegro ma non troppo* from *Symphonie no 7* followed. This piece has so much in it, including pianistic flashes, meditative sections, and splashes of colour which John Paul played with elegance.

The last piece on the programme was Cèsar Franck's *Choral no 2 en si mineur*. This piece is very symphonic in nature and it has a beautiful orchestral quality with the different reed stops being featured. Mr. Farahat played this with exuberance and confidence not only in the sonorous sections but in the assured, smoothconnecting passages.

The audience was very appreciative of Mr. Farahat's playing. John Paul played as an encore Victor Togni's 1964 improvisation based on the *Ite Missa est* from the *Orbis factor mass*. It was reconstructed by John Paul in 2019 from historical tapes. It is so stunning with rapid passages and has a very climactic finish. John Paul had earlier written the book *Precomposed and Extemporized: Rediscovering the Life and Improvisory Work of Victor Togni*.

It is to be hoped that now that the pandemic is behind us, we can have a return to larger audiences. We thank Notre-Dame Basilica for providing this beautiful venue and its Casavant organ, as well as Jennifer Loveless for her assistance in making this recital possible. The Pro Organo Committee under the leadership of Gilles Leclerc wish to thank all those patrons who bought seasons tickets, and we also thank those who have donated to the series. We hope that even more people will donate to Pro Organo this year.



November/novembre 2023 Page 5



## **Kiwanis Music Festival Preparation**

#### ROBERT JONES

many years, Ottawa's Kiwanis Music Festival has included classes for organ. The Festival wants a sufficient number of organ students to enter or they won't offer the organ classes. That would be a great pity: the students gain valuable performance and adjudication experience. Additionally, we would lose the big Arnt Loa Scholarship of \$600, which they usually divide between several Junior students. If we don't have sufficient numbers, and they cancel the organ classes, the chances of the Festival reviving the organ classes might be highly unlikely. This year's organ classes are currently scheduled for Saturday, April 13th.

If you have any students or know of someone who might consider applying, please contact one of our co-convenors of Student Concerns: Bob Jones at robertpjones12345@gmail.com or Sue Sparks at sue.sparks@rogers.com.

The deadline to submit applications is December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Here is the repertoire:

#### **Bach Junior**

Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ, BWV 639 (3 minutes)

#### **Bach Intermediate**

Prelude and Fugue in Bb major,

BWV 560 (4 minutes)

#### **Bach Senior**

Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr, BWV 664 (6 minutes)

#### **General Junior**

Brahms: *Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen* Op. 122 No. 8 (4 minutes)

#### General Intermediate

Mendelssohn: Sonata No 5: Andante and Andante con moto (4 minutes)

#### **General Senior**

Alain: Le jardin suspendu (6 minutes)

The Open classes, General and Bach, are Own Choice.





## Ottawa Centre Breakfast Social

Suzanne and Don Marjerrison

Ottawa Centre's Breakfast Social, our first Centre event of the new season, took place on Saturday, October 21st at 10:30 am at the Chances R Restaurant in Nepean.

And what a turnout it was! The rain failed to dampen spirits and so many members took the opportunity to enjoy catching up with friends and family, face to face, over good food.

Hats off to the chef and staff at ChancesR Restaurant for their warm welcome and great breakfast fare.

Heartfelt thanks also to Suzanne and Don Marjerrison for their superb organizational skills and to our photographer, Ian MacKay for providing this group shot.

All in all, a wonderful kickoff to our 2023-24 season. Now let's make music!



Page 6 Pipelines Vol. 41, No. 3

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Glenn Keefe	289-830-6607	gkeefe78@gmail.com United and Anglican services.
Matthew Larkin	613-862-4106	matthewlarkin1963@gmail.com Weddings, funerals, Sunday services, all denominations
Frances Macdonnell	613-726-7984	fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca

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Donald Russell	613-738-9223	russell.kimberwick@me.com	
Wesley R. Warren	613 726-6341	Weddings and Funerals	



## **Organ Teachers List**

Thomas Annand, MMus, BMus (Hons), FRCCO. Organ all levels, also instruction in theory, history, conducting, continuo and accompaniment. 613-261-0376

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.

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, Ottawa. Info: 613-726-6341

## **Next Deadline**

**NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING:** 

Monday, 27 November / 7:30 p.m.

WEB MEETING



November/novembre 2023 Page 7



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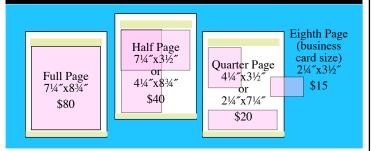
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## Organ Console For Sale

Organ console only with 5 octave keyboard, 32 pedal notes, 10 tab stops, with bench. This chapel console was connected to a pipe organ at 555 Parkdale Avenue. Could be connected to a small pipe organ.

For further details or information, please email Mike at:

treasurer@ stmarkottawa.ca

Page 8 Pipelines Vol. 41, No. 3





Join us for our next exciting

## Pro Organo Recital featuring

## Maria Gajraj

Montreal

featuring music by

Jeanne Demessieux, Florence Price, Ethel Smith

## Sunday, November 12th at 3:00 p.m.

**Christ Church Cathedral** 

(414 Sparks Street)

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

For further information, visit our website at <a href="http://rcco-ottawa.ca/pro-organo.html">http://rcco-ottawa.ca/pro-organo.html</a>

## **DONATION FORM - PRO ORGANO RECITAL SERIES 2023-24**

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I enclose \$ that is:	to purchas	e season tickets to the	e 2023-24 Pro Organo	Recital Series;
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