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ALISON KRANIAS

Learning How to Tok

President's Message

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hange. There's a lot of it, and the way we communicate has certainly been changing fast. If you're reading this message, you're actually getting news and information in a rather old-fashioned way. A complete, curated package, either printed or sent to your inbox, is old style. Instead people often get news in small bites now, a little bit on Facebook, another bit on a blog, search up something else on the web... The old-fashioned newsletter, however, does work well for communicating to a select group. It's when we want to reach out, to let the broader community in on the exciting things we're doing, that the old methods of posters, ads and press releases, don't work as well as they used to. Nowadays organizations like ours need to use social media. We all know that, but it's easier said than done, isn't it? I mean, even social media is changing fast – I'm still trying to figure out Facebook and now there's what: TikTok? Eventbrite? It's hard to keep up!

We've been talking a lot about social media at the Executive and Pro Organo

meetings this year, and realized that, although we can post things here and there, to use social media effectively we need to have a better understanding of how it works and develop a communications strategy accordingly. Our first step was to have a special presentation and discussion at one of our meetings - thank you for leading that Ian Mackay! And we have now launched a Working Group to develop a strategy. Stay tuned for what you will be able to do to help implement the strategy. I'm sure we'll all be able to pitch in and help by sharing and posting events and videos. But we're also going to need some people who are really dedicated to the task: we would like to have a few more people join the working group that is developing the strategy, and once the strategy is in place we will need one or two people to coordinate the effort. If you think you can help us out, let us know (me, Ian M. or Gilles Leclerc). Happy posting!





RCCO Ottawa Centre Executive Slate 2024-2025

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



Member of the Year - Deirdre Piper

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 ARMCM 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

DONALD MARJERRISON

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.

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



Join us at our Annual General Meeting 7:30 pm on Monday, June 3rd, 2024 at St. Stephen's Anglican Church (2821 St. Stephen's St.)

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 2024 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

St. Stephen's Anglican Church has two addresses. For mail, it's 930 Watson Street, Ottawa, K2B 6B9

The main entrance is off the parking lot located at the rear of the church. Note that the parking lot is located at 2821 St. Stephen's Street.

From the Queensway: Take Exit 129 (Pinecrest Road / Greenbank Road). It is Pinecrest north of the Queensway, and Greenbank south of the Queensway.)

St. Stephen's Street is the first street after Du Maurier, almost across from the parking lot of Britannia United Church. Turn left and head west on St. Stephen's Street for 90 metres. Cross Watson Street and the entrance to the parking lot is in the second block on the right side and has a large sign. Enter via the glass door.

If coming by bus from downtown, the no. 11 goes out Somerset / Wellington / Richmond. Get off at stop 5240 (a few

Richmond. Get off at stop 5240 (a few steps west of Pinecrest). It's 7-minute walk to St. Stephen's: go south on Pinecrest to the first street (Fallis). West on Fallis to Watson, south on Watson to the church. Rather than the main entrance, use the sidewalk along the south side of the church to a brown wooden door.



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Programme

As we come to the close of a successful 2023-2024 year we are looking ahead to 2024-2025. Do you have some ideas, activities, or events that you would like to see in next year's programme? Please let me know at gowans978@gmail.com.

With thanks & melody!

- Heather Rice

Around Town

Thursday, August 1 at 12:00 noon.
Thomas Annand in recital at Dominion-Chalmers. Celebrating Ottawa composers and the 60th anniversary of the Dominion-Chalmers Casavant organ. Works by Bach, William France, Gilles Leclerc, Rachel Laurin and Fred Karam. Presented by Ottawa Chamberfest. For more information visit www.chamberfest.com



Enjoy some quality down time!





Rev. Christine Piper

Godly Moments

Sometimes, it seems in June, *those moments* are simply given to us. We are out there on the sidewalk - its an average afternoon with an average array of tasks ahead - and there right in front of us there appears, it seems out of nowhere, that vividly red cardinal hopping this way and that...And if this is not wonder enough, suddenly in the tree above my still presence, lands his mate, brown with touches of that beautiful red.

And she darts down to join her mate on the path besides him. Sometimes, it seems in June, *those moments* are simply given to us... And now I am walking along the path by the river. I see a grouping of Canada Geese paddling in the shallows. And here is the gifting of another *moment*. I count seven! And yes, I see that never ending source of Spring wonder, that five of these seven geese, swimming ably besides their mum and dad, are babies, known to us as goslings. Sometimes its seems that in June *those moments* are simply given to us...

What, I wonder, has been your experience?



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Godfrey Hewitt Scholarship Award 2023

Frances Macdonnell

annual Godfrey Hewitt annual Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Scholarship, a value of

\$6,000, has been awarded for 2024 by the Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Fund to:

Owen Spicer



Owen Spicer, B.Mus., ARCCO, is an organist and accompanist based in Montreal, Quebec. He has previously held positions as Organist at Montreal West United Church and Organ Scholar at Christ Church Cathedral Montreal, First St. Andrew's United Church London, Ontario, and St. Martin's in the Fields. London, Ontario. As a recitalist, he has performed at numerous venues in Quebec and Ontario, including Redpath Hall Montreal, St. Andrew's Church Ottawa and St, James Cathedral, Toronto. Owen has accompanied numerous choral and instrumental ensembles, such as the Caelis Ensemble and the Stratford Symphony Orchestra. Owen is a graduate of McGill University with a Bachelor's in organ performance and a minor in music theory and choral conducting. At McGill, he studied organ with Hans-Ola Ericsson, Jonathan Oldengarm, and Isabelle Demers, and choral conducting with Jean Sébastien Vallée. Owen is pursuing a Master's degree at McGill University in the studio of Isabelle Demers, and is currently Assistant Organist at Christ Church Cathedral in Ottawa, Ontario.

* * * * *



GODFREY HEWITT MEMORIAL FUND

The Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Scholarship was established to honour the late Godfrey Hewitt, CD, DMus (Cantuar), FRCO, HonARSCM, and is administered by the RCCO Ottawa Centre. Awarded annually, the scholarship provides to an advanced organ student holding Canadian citizenship (or having permanent residency status in Canada) \$6,000 towards further courses of study either at a university or with a particular organ teacher, within Canada or outside it. It is hoped that candidates will plan to use their skills in the future as organ teachers—not necessarily in an institution, and not necessarily as a primary source of income. Complete requirements and application details may be found at http://www.rcco-ottawa.ca/require.html.

Godfrey Hewitt, CD, DMus. (Cantuar), FRCO, HonARSCM, died in 2002 at the age of ninety three. For over seventy years a prominent figure in sacred music in Canada, Dr. Hewitt left a very significant legacy to Canadian music. Born in England in 1909, he came to Canada in 1931 after serving as Organist for the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace, London, in 1930.



He became Organist and Master of the Choristers at Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa, in 1931, and remained there for half a century, until his retirement in

1980. In 1973, Dr. Hewitt was awarded the Lambeth Doctorate of Music by the Archbishop of Canterbury; he was made a Member of the Order of Canada in 1976. He was famed as performer, teacher, composer, and organ designer. This scholarship was established after his death both to honour his memory and to increase the number of highly-trained professional Canadian organists, not only to serve as organists in universities, concert halls, and churches, but also to teach future generations of performers and church musicians.

Previous winners of this scholarship were Craig Humber (2005), Isabelle Demers (2006), Michael Unger (2007), Ryan Jackson (2008), Matthieu Latreille (2009), Shawn Potter (2010), Wendy Nieuwenhuis (2011), Stephen Boda (2012), Sarah Svendsen (2013), Julie Pinsonneault (2014), Rachel Mahon (2015), Shane Murphy (2016), David Simon and Nicholas Walters (both in 2018), Stefani Bedin (2019), Samuel Lee and Manuel Piazza (both in 2020), Martin Jones (2021), Maria Gajraj (2022), and Alexander Straus-Fausto (2023).

The next annual competition for the Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Scholarship in organ will close on April 30th, 2025. Details may be found on the web site of the Royal Canadian College of Organists, Ottawa Centre: www.rcco-ottawa.ca

The Fund also offers the **Godfrey Hewitt Prize** of \$5,000, awarded biannually as the Grand Prize at the National Organ-Playing Competition at the RCCO National Organ Festival; the next Prize will be awarded in July 2025 in Kirchener-Waterloo.

Further details may be obtained from:

Frances Macdonnell, 613-726-7984 fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca

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Vincent Boucher Concert Review

he final recital of the Pro Organo series, sponsored by the RCCO

Ottawa Centre, was held on Monday, May 13, 2024 at 7:30pm, at Eglise Saint-François-d'Assise Church, Ottawa, and featured Vincent Boucher, titular organist of St-Joseph's Oratory, Montreal. The interesting and varied programme took as its title: **1685: Une grande année!**, and included works by Handel, Scarlatti and Bach, all born in 1685.

The opening half of the programme included selections from: *Suite pour clavier no. 8 en fa mineur* (Adagio, Allegro), which presented the Plein Jeu, and Grands Jeux combinations on the fine organ, located in the rear gallery, within a very live acoustic. Built by Warren in 1886, rebuilt by Karn-Warren in 1915, and expanded by Guilbaut-Thérien in 1988, this instrument is one of the finest in the city. The reeds of the Grands Jeux were used very effectively, and the total ensemble presented a majestic statement.

More Handel was supposed to follow, but the programme was changed to include selections from the *Messe pour les Couvents* by François Couperin; here, Mr. Boucher was at his most stylish and poetic. The *Tierce en Taille, Dialogue sur*

la Trompette, and Plein Jeu movements unfolded elegantly, with lovely musical shaping, sometimes atmospheric with quiet tranquility, and at other times, bold and dramatic. Two movements: Sarabande and Passacaglia from Suite pour clavier no. 7 en sol mineur by Handel followed. It is rare to hear a group



WESLEY WARREN

of Sonatas by Scarlatti presented on the organ, but, with a wide range of colours available, Mr. Boucher brought out all of the Rococo charm of these *Style galant* works, normally reserved for harpsichord.

In the final *Sonate en ré mineur, K.* 517, Boucher's commanding keyboard technique was very much in evidence, as fast passages were tossed off with ease and accuracy.

The second half of the programme was devoted to a group of works by J.S. Bach. The *Prelude and Fugue in C minor* (BWV 549) began with an arresting pedal solo, followed by a *Gravement Prelude* in the French manner. The fugue featured added ornamentation and a truly impressive final cadenza. Three chorale preludes followed, including a transcription of "*Jesus bleibet meine Freude* (BWV 147) by Maurice Duruflé which was utterly charming.

The programme finished with the iconic *Toccata and Fugue in D minor* (BWV 565), which was unfortunately marred by a cipher, which unsettled the player. Still, it was a fine performance from the dramatic opening with the rhetorical elements well-handled, to the breathtaking final flourishes.



Pro Organo season tickets

are now available online at Eventbrite.ca and www.rcco-ottawa.ca

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OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE 2023-2024

Ottawa Centi	RE EXECUTIVE		Convenors of Committees		
President Vice-President Past President Secretary Treasurer Chaplain National Cou	ALISON KRANIAS IAN MACKAY ROBERT JONES (VACANT) ALEXANDER REICKER REV. CANON CHRISTINE PIPER	613-761-6516 613-447-8955 613-220-3420 613-884-8539 613-725-2164	HISTORIC ORGANS MEMBERSHIP	LARRY KEMPFFER FRANCES MACDONNELL ELAINE GRAHAM JOHN WANLESS DONALD MARJERRISON CK & SUZANNE ST. GERMAIN GILLES LECLERC REV. DR. DAN HANSEN	613-230-5564 613-726-7984 613-729-8277 613-283-2590 613-724-3793 613-841-0246 613-798-0264 613-635-2127
Member at La	Alison Kranias Karen Holmes Sue Sparks Robert Jones (alternate) ARGE Shirley Stratilo-Fleischhak	613-761-6516 613-728-8041 613-798-3739 613-220-3420 ER	Program/Education S Publicity Social Convenor Student Concerns Webmaster	Sondra Goldsmith Proctor Donald Russell, Heathe (vacant) Suzanne Marjerrison Robert Jones Sue Sparks Ross Jewell	

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Section d'Ottawa
C.P. 2270, Succursale D
wa.ca
Ottawa, ON K1P 5W4

NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING: MONDAY, 19 AUGUST / 7:30 P.M. WEB MEETING



Supply List

Sunday Supply Organists:

Thomas Annand 613-261-0376 t.annand50@gmail.com Sundays, weddings, funerals, any denomination 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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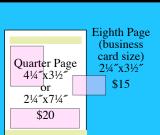
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Advertising Policy

- 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.

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