



# The Brooklyn Bombarde

NEWSLETTER OF THE BROOKLYN CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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## A Tribute in Honor of



**Julian Goodwin, AAGO**  
(1932 - 2015)

## REMEMBRANCES OF JULIAN GOODWIN

*by Ellen Wright, Dean*  
(Transcribed from the Memorial Service)

Because I am fourth in succession to Julian as Dean of the Brooklyn Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, I have been asked to say a few words to honor our late colleague's many contributions to our profession. It is fitting that the previous tribute, read by our brother Frank Kain, (complete with Julian-impersonation!) was written by another Brooklyn Dean, Gregory Eaton, beloved former Director of Music here at St. Ann's, and, also, that Julian's immediate successor as Dean, Donald C. Barnum, is here in the Gallery as Master of the Choir.

The fact that so many Brooklyn Chapter members are here, and so many are performing Julian's compositions, is testament our high regard for his prolific contribution to the organ repertory. But, as Gregory so truthfully wrote, Julian also spent much of his life working enthusiastically for the benefit of our profession. He was a hands-on Dean of our Chapter, compiling, editing, writing

*(Remembrances of Julian Goodwin continues on page 2)*

and mailing our newsletter, the Brooklyn Bombarde, himself. He handled job placements genially, exercising considerable creativity (and sometimes a level of mischief as well) in connecting musicians with jobs. In that capacity, he was also a consistent and effective advocate for fair compensation for musicians. The current diversity that our Chapter and its Board enjoys today is, in no small measure, Julian's responsibility.

As a performer, he was always ready to showcase an interesting instrument, including St. Ann's beautiful Skinner, in recital.

My own tribute to Julian as a friend and neighbor speaks to Father David Sibley's point: no tribute of mine would be complete without an acknowledgement of Julian's extraordinary faith. I am so glad that Don Barnum and Eric Birk included his setting of the 23rd Psalm in the prelude to this service, as I often heard Julian cite its lines to affirm his trust in Providence. Throughout the entire time I knew him, what I admired most about him -- what I will most cherish as his legacy -- was his ability to impart meaning to his life. And this continued right up to the end. No matter what happened to him, even when failing health left him barely able to creep around the neighborhood with his cane, he still kept optimistic and busy, always with at least one composition in progress.

I want to conclude by sharing something Julian once shared with me. During a lengthy phone conversation (and I never had a phone conversation with Julian that lasted less than an hour), he described an episode of despair he had experienced, alone in the hospital. In his anguish, he asked God for a sign that there was actually somebody there. Receiving no answer, he cried himself to sleep. But the next morning, he told me, he woke up with a head full of gamma waves and the happy realization that, he was, in fact, surrounded by signs of God's love and care.

I know he was at peace when he died. I am grateful to Father John Denaro, and to everyone here at St. Ann's, for this occasion to come together consign our friend to a hereafter where we can trust that he is welcomed and loved.

## REMEMBRANCE OF JULIAN GOODWIN

*by Gregory Easton, Past Dean (2009 – 2012)*

I first met Julian Goodwin in 1993, shortly after I began as Director of Music at St. Ann & the Holy Trinity, in Brooklyn Heights. On my second or third Sunday, Julian caught me at the foot of the stairs to the organ gallery right after the service. "Hello," he said, "I'm Julian Goodwin, Dean of the Brooklyn Chapter of the American Guild of Organists." After a brief complimentary remark, he continued with, "You know, now that you work in Brooklyn, you really should be a member of the Chapter. And then once you've had a year or so here, we can maybe see about getting you on the Board." I was very amused at his direct, no-holds-barred approach, with not even the suggestion that I might opt out (although it was already my intention to join the Chapter). However, his invitation (or was it a command?) caused me to make the membership arrangements sooner than I might otherwise have done. Eventually, I would serve three terms on the Board, two as Sub-Dean, and three as Dean of the Brooklyn Chapter. All of that began from his invitation to me.

I later found out that this was typical of Julian. Always direct and unequivocating when his object was the support and promotion of music, and especially of the organ and sacred music in all its forms, his passion was especially apparent when it came to the mission of the American Guild of Organists and his beloved Brooklyn Chapter. He took, and passed, the most difficult of the exams which the Guild offers, making him a Fellow of the American Guild of Organists. For those of you who do not know, this is no small achievement!

Julian was a member of the class of the Union Seminary School of Sacred Music which included Larry King and Marilyn Keiser, among other luminaries of the musical world. A life-long Brooklynite, he made his home in the Heights for most of his time with us. Over the years, he would be involved with the Church of the Holy Trinity, as it was then known, and then St. Ann & the Holy Trinity. He also spent many years as a member of Grace Church, but was additionally well-known in almost all of the churches of Brooklyn Heights and the wider Brooklyn community.

*(Remembrances of Julian Goodwin continues on page 3)*

Composer, performer and commentator, Julian was always thinking about how to promote music, how to make the musical life of Brooklyn better, and how to promote vitality in the Brooklyn AGO. His long support of the restoration efforts of the E.M. Skinner organ at St. Ann & the Holy Trinity is just one example of these efforts. Notable among his achievements is the growth of the Brooklyn AGO Chapter from a very small group to one with more wide-reaching membership and programmatic appeal, while at the same time cultivating and supporting the achievements the Chapter had already made. Due in large parts to Julian's efforts, the Chapter received recognition from the national AGO for having one of the highest rates of growth in the country in the 1990s.

Throughout his career, Julian presented many concerts of his own music, and that of others. Like myself, he was a passionate proponent of music by American composers, and music that was current, in addition to the classical repertoire. Over the years, it was my privilege to premiere several of Julian's works, including his five-movement organ work on Psalm 23. I was impressed to the end by his commitment to his art, which would not allow age or disability to stand in his way.

For all of my time in Brooklyn, it was always a pleasure to run into Julian, whether in a church, at a concert, or just on the sidewalk. His keen observations, reminiscences, and suggestions were always well-thought and supported by his own passion for music, for the church, and for the Borough of Brooklyn. It saddens me to know that we have lost such a great heart, a lover of music, and a champion of the American Guild of Organists. Julian, if you are looking down on this gathering, I hope that you know that we send our love, prayers, and thanksgivings for the life you led among us.

## REMEMBRANCES OF JULIAN GOODWIN

*by Nancy Wright*

In early November 2008 I had the honor of performing some of Julian's compositions at St. Ann and the Holy Trinity Church, including a setting of a poem I had written titled "Remembering Fengdu." The poem was about the Chinese ghost city of Fengdu, destined to be at least partially submerged with the construction of Three Gorges Dam. The composition contained Chinese motifs, which Julian said came to him unconsciously. In other words, he never tried to make it "sound Chinese." He was very much in touch with the subliminal roots of his creativity and always allowed them to guide him in his work.

After singing the composition I returned to the poem and revised it. While the first version lent itself more readily to a musical composition, the revised version delved deeper and was more visually engaging. Julian's music had inspired me to take the art form of poetry to the next level.

His interests and knowledge were eclectic, reflecting a multifaceted life. His expressions of wisdom were almost always accompanied by a twinkle in his eye and a chortle in his throat, a testimony to his ability to see humor in everything.

When Julian's good friend Mary Williams asked if I would sing his composition "Return to Me" at his memorial, I was deeply honored. The fact that I had not known of that composition until then has become a source of consolation and inspiration, because it reinforces the fact that Julian is still with us, not only in memory but in discovery. He will always have a place in the present tenses of our lives.

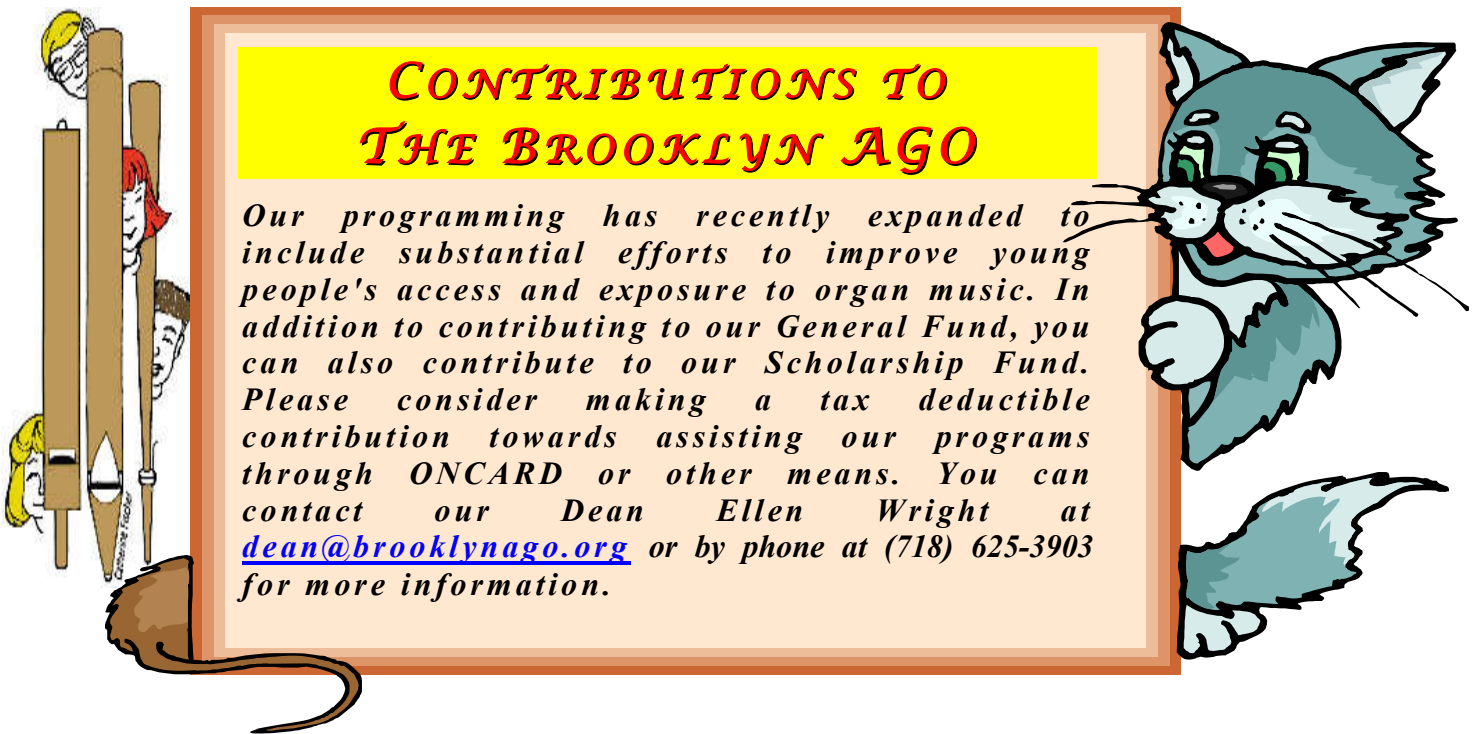
## RETIREMENT OF ROGER CASTELLANI

*from Saint Thomas/Holy Family Roman Catholic Church*

Roger Castellani, Organist at St. Thomas/Holy Family Roman Catholic Church and All Saints Episcopal Church of Park Slope, has announced his resignation/retirement from St Thomas. Roger has been Organist for some thirteen years and desired to have less responsibilities and more free time on weekends. The position was filled by a professional colleague of the church's cantor. His last weekend of playing was October 15, 2015. He will continue his position at All Saints. Roger continues to live in New York City with his husband Alan, a Radio City tour guide.

## ANNOUNCING THE BROOKLYN AGO 2016 SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

The American Guild of Organists Brooklyn Chapter is pleased to announce the 2016 Scholarship Competition, which we've established to encourage excellence in the performance of organ music and to inspire, educate and nurture future generations of organists. The competition will be held on Saturday, March 12th, 2016 at 3:00 PM, at Grace Episcopal Church, 254 Hicks Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. The competition will include two separate categories for highschool and college organists, and is open to any student who resides, works, or studies in one of the five boroughs of New York City. More information will soon be available on our webpage. In the meanwhile, please direct questions to Chapter Sub-Dean John A. Wolfe at (717) 253-2886 or [johnwolfe@johnwolfemusic.com](mailto:johnwolfe@johnwolfemusic.com).



**CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
THE BROOKLYN AGO**

*Our programming has recently expanded to include substantial efforts to improve young people's access and exposure to organ music. In addition to contributing to our General Fund, you can also contribute to our Scholarship Fund. Please consider making a tax deductible contribution towards assisting our programs through ONCARD or other means. You can contact our Dean Ellen Wright at [dean@brooklynago.org](mailto:dean@brooklynago.org) or by phone at (718) 625-3903 for more information.*

## CONDUCTING WORKSHOP REPORT

On Monday evening, November 9th, the NYC Chapter of the AGO presented a Conducting Workshop at the Church of the Ascension. The clinician was Dennis Keene, conductor of the Voices of Ascension. After a brief, light-hearted run through his vitae and the notes he normally covers in a two-hour presentation, Dr. Keene spent an hour and a half coaching four conductors as they led a choir of volunteer singers. As a member of the choir I got a bird's eye view and am anxious to put into practice the many technical tips offered.

Dr. Keene will be offering a five-day workshop from June 6-10, 2016. For information you can go to the web site: <http://www.voicesofascension.org/academy/>

Nicholas Martellacci, Organist/Music Director  
718-624-5665 / 646-765-3803



## CANONI CHORALE TO PERFORM CHRISTMAS PORTION OF HANDEL'S MESSIAH

The parish choir of Christ Church, Cobble Hill along with the professional Canoni Chorale, all under the direction of Donald Barnum, and accompanied by Eric Birk, will perform the Advent and Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah, with soloists from former City Opera and the Metropolitan Opera, along with local companies. There will be three different performances at three different locations. The first will be at St. Mary's Church, Long Island City, on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, at 5 pm after a short prayer service. The church is at 1008 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Vernon Ave., just off the #7 train Vernon Avenue/Jackson Avenue stop, 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Van Alst station, and Hunters Point Avenue. It is also accessible via LIRR at Hunters Point Avenue or Long Island City stations. No admission fee, but there is a free will offering, and a reception and refreshments afterwards. <http://www.yelp.com/map/st-marys-rc-church-long-island-city>

The second performance will be on Thursday evening, December 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6 pm, at St. Agnes R. C. Church, 143 East 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, Tel: (212) 682-5722; in between Lexington and Third Avenues. Featured will be the Mander tracker action pipe organ. This is a half block from Grand Central Station and the East Side IRT 42nd Street Stop. Once again, there is a free will offering. <http://www.stagneschurchnyc.org/>

The final performance will be at Christ Church, Cobble Hill, 326 Clinton Street, on Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm. This will take place in the Parish Hall, and celebrate the reopening of the building after the church was struck by lightning several years ago. It will be followed by a reception and a chance to meet the artists. Christmas trees and decorations will be available for sale in the church yard. The church is a few blocks from the F train stop at Bergen Street. <http://cchf.tripod.com/subway.html>

## RECIPE CONTRIBUTION

*by Gray Di Franco*

### NEW YORK CRUMB CAKE

[www.foodnetwork.com](http://www.foodnetwork.com)

2 tablespoons canola oil, plus more for pan	1/2 cup milk
4 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for dusting pan	2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
1/2 cup granulated sugar	1 cup light brown sugar, firmly packed
2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder	1 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon salt	1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, melted and cooled
1 large egg	Confectioners' sugar, for dusting

1. Place rack in center of oven and heat to 325 degrees.
2. Lightly brush a 9 by 12 1/2-inch baking pan with canola oil, dust with flour and tap to remove excess. Set aside. In a medium bowl, sift together 1 1/2 cups flour, granulated sugar, baking powder, and salt; set aside. In a second bowl, whisk together egg, milk, canola oil, and vanilla. Using a rubber spatula, fold dry ingredients into egg mixture until just combined.
3. Spread batter evenly into prepared pan, and set aside. In a medium bowl, combine remaining 2 1/2 cups flour, brown sugar, and cinnamon. Pour melted butter over flour mixture and toss with a rubber spatula until large crumbs form.
4. Sprinkle crumbs over batter and bake, rotating pan after 10 minutes. Continue baking until a cake tester comes out clean, about 10 minutes more.
5. Transfer baking pan to a wire rack to cool. Dust with confectioners' sugar. Using a serrated knife or bench scraper, cut into 3-inch squares. Store in an airtight container up to 3 days.

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

In order to create an issue that includes the interests and concerns of our entire membership, we are soliciting submissions in the following areas:

### **Concerts and Musical Events**

*If you and/or your church are performing any concerts, please let us know so we can share this information.*

### **Article Contributions**

*Article contributions could include various educational topics, music reviews and recommendations, concert reviews, book reviews, etc.*

### **Classified Ads**

*Classified ads could include items for sale or sought after, job openings, and anything else with which you believe our chapter could assist.*

### **Submissions**

*When emailing submissions to us, please send in Microsoft Word, Plain Text or PDF format. For photographic, graphic or clip art (with permission/credit to use), please send in JPG or GIF format.*

Our email is [bombarde@brooklynago.org](mailto:bombarde@brooklynago.org).

We look forward to hearing from you, and we thank you very much for your participation in the Brooklyn Chapter. Have a blessed Autumn/Fall.

Very truly yours,

*Timothy Chun      John A. Wolfe*

Timothy Chun & John A. Wolfe

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**CLASS OF 2017:** Eric Birk, FAGO; Aaron Comins

**CLASS OF 2018:** John Collis; Paul Olson; Sophie Williams Johnson

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## UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

- January 10<sup>th</sup> (*Sunday*) at 5:00 pm – *Holiday Banquet*
- January 30<sup>th</sup> (*Sunday*) at 5:00 pm – *Organ Service Workshop by John Klauder*

*For the 2015 – 2016 Calendar of Events, please watch our website at [www.brooklynago.org](http://www.brooklynago.org), where the upcoming Program Year will be.*

[www.brooklynago.org](http://www.brooklynago.org)