The Brooklyn Bombarde

The Newsletter of the Brooklyn Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Autumn / Winter 2017



Dean's Letter

Dear Chapter Members,

Greetings! It's my pleasure to address you all in my first Dean's Letter for the Brooklyn Bombarde. This issue is the first to be edited by our Executive Board member Nick Martellacci, who has generously stepped into this important duty. I hope you will all help Nick generate issues of the Bombarde that will be both useful and delightful to read—he welcomes a wide variety of content submissions from our membership. Also, as you continue to plan and execute your many musical activities for the holiday season, I hope you'll be able to take a moment to relax and give thanks for the opportunity to work in our wonderful field.

I'd like to let you know about some of the many ways the Brooklyn Chapter is planning for the future. Firstly, we have recently welcomed two new board members: Rasaan H. Bourke, Director of Music Ministries at St. Martin De Porres Parish, and new Chapter Secretary Maria Rayzvasser, Organist and Music Director at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Bay Ridge. Mr. Bourke and Ms. Rayzvasser replace Jacque Jones, who departed the board due to her duties on the Plymouth Church Council, and Angelina Ngo, who departed to take a job at the Spencer Pipe Organ Firm in Boston. We are eternally grateful to both our past board members and our newest board members. Thanks to their work, we are expanding our public outreach through a new Facebook page and a new online homepage currently in the works. We expect to significantly increase our multimedia presence in the near future.

The new year will arrive with an abundance of activity from our chapter. On Sunday, January 7th, we'll kick off the year with our January Banquet at Enoteca on Court, a fabulous opportunity for us to meet and enjoy one another's company. The flyer with further details is attached to this issue, and I hope you'll make every effort to attend! Tentatively scheduled for Saturday, January 27th is our Pedals, Pipes and Pizza event, an AGO

staple aimed at familiarizing young people with the organ, often for the first time. Stay tuned for more on this! February will include our popular "Not-the-Superbowl" variety concert, while March will feature both a Scholarship Competition fundraising concert by our board member Paul Olson and the Scholarship Competition itself. In April we'll host a performance by the Spanish virtuoso organist Loreto Aramendi, whose last visit to Brooklyn included an electrifying performance at Our Lady of Refuge in 2015. Our program year will conclude with our annual Members' Recital in May, followed by a tour of Greenwood Cemetery and our closing banquet in June. Please see our calendar and check back often, as the details surrounding many of these events are still taking shape.

Finally, the past months have seen have the passing of two dear members of our Chapter, Brian MacAnuff and George Mathison. Brian passed away on September 16th at the age of ninety. Although he had relocated to Florida in the closing chapter of his life, many of our members will remember him vividly and fondly. George passed away on September 24th. A past Dean, he was active in our chapter until the very end of his life. To commemorate him, we have rechristened our annual Scholarship Competition as the George Mathison Memorial Scholarship Competition. An Evensong dedicated to his memory will take place on Sunday, January 14th at 5:00PM at All Saints Church in Brooklyn, organized by past Dean Ellen Wright.

The Brooklyn AGO strives to be the "Friendly Chapter Next Door." In order to make this a reality, I encourage all our members to come talk to me with any questions, concerns or ideas regarding the Chapter's continuing growth. I'd love to take the time to get to know more about you and your particular hopes, and I know that the other leaders of the chapter feel the same way. I'll look forward to seeing you and hearing from you in the new year, and I thank you for your ongoing participation in our organization. God bless you!

Very truly yours,
John A. Wolfe
Dean, American Guild of Organists Brooklyn Chapter

Hunting for Lost Treasure?

Every few months Craig Cramer, recitalist and professor at the University of Notre Dame, emails an extensive list of organ and sacred music for sale. I've used this mailing to get my hands on standard repertoire as well as some rare gems (e.g. Johann Gottfried Walther's organ transcriptions of orchestral concerti penned by other composers).

The standard works are alphabetized by composer name; anthologies by title. Cramer's quality assessments (Excellent to Poor) are spot on. He also provides a description of each gradation ("Good—marked with other slight condition problems; could have writing on the cover; could have pages taped in to facilitate page turning; could be some minor cover damage or creasing.")

Cramer claims that prices are 25-30% off the retail price. I believe that the prices asked are the original sale prices (e.g. many pieces from the old "St Cecilia Series" cost only \$1.00 – the going rate at the time of publication).

If you'd like to receive these emails, just contact Mr. Cramer (ccramer@nd.edu) and ask to be added to his mailing list. Each package of music costs \$2.50 for shipping. You can request insurance for an additional fee.

I've lost out on several valuable items because I didn't see the email until the morning after it was sent.

One word of warning – if you snooze you lose! Mr. Cramer offers everything on a first-come-first-served basis.

From My Library by Nick Martellacci

William Lloyd Webber (1914 – 1982) was an English organist, composer, and the father of another, more famous, Lloyd Webber, i.e. Andrew. His anthology *Aria* contains several useful and very approachable pieces of easy to moderate difficulty, suitable for both preludes and postludes. *Choral March* is a good generic postlude. As the name implies *Festive March* is suitable for bigger, more festive occasions. Both marches are in ABA' form (ABA with coda). *Solemn Procession* - which I've yet taken the time to master because it calls for a big Tuba stop - also appears in an anthology of modern English organ music. *Communion* and *Vesper Hymn* are soft and lovely. Ironically, the title piece *Aria* is too short to be used on its own for anything other than an interlude or "traveling music."

This book contains a total of thirteen selections and is published by Kevin Meyhew LTD.

If you have a "go to" voluntary, anthology or treatise, write an article and tell us about it. My only request is that the item still be in print and available to the rest of us!

Advent Noon Recitals at Grace Church Brooklyn Heights — 12:30 — 1:00 pm

December 5, 2017 - Paul Richard Olson

Chorale Variations on Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland	Anton Heiller (1923-1979)
The Manger Throne: Peace (Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming)	Francis Routh (born 1927)
Esquisses Byzantines: <i>Noël</i>	Henri Mulet (1878-1967)
A Christmas Cradle Song (based on a Bohemian carol)	Arthur W. Poister (1898-1980)
Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

December 12, 2017 - Craig Whitney

Fantasia in C minor, BWV 537	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Noël sur les Flûtes (IX)	Louis Claude Daquin (1694-1772)
Magnificat noni toni	Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)
Fugue on the theme of the Carillon at the Cathedral at Soisso	ons Mauricé Durufle (1902-1986)

December 19, 2017 - Judith Hancock

In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 729, BWV 608	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Two settings on Veni, Emmanuel	Paul O. Manz (1919-2009)
	Gerald Near (born 1942)
Wachet Auf! (Wake, Awake!)	Paul O. Manz (1919-2009)

Organum Plenum - Allegretto - Moderato

Partita: Freu Dich Sehr, O Meine Seele Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

Magnificat I

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

Magnificat IV

He hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble and meek.

Magnificat VI

Gloria

CALL FOR PERFORMERS — Brooklyn Chapter's Third Not-the-Superbowl Concert,

Sunday, February 4th, 2018

The light is returning with a glimmer of Spring

A fundraiser for our Scholarship Competition, the Brooklyn Chapter of the AGO will be presenting its "Not-the-Superbowl Concert" at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Carroll Gardens on Sunday, February 5th at 5:00 pm.

The church offers a three-manual Austin organ, a grand piano and a 2-manual harpsichord. We strongly urge you, our chapter members, to volunteer your services as solo or ensemble performers to entertain refugees from the Superbowl as well as to help young musicians with their music school tuition.

Is there a something you've always wanted to perform, but have never found the right occasion? This is your time! We seek your most curious repertory: music to lift our spirits at the end of winter.

Would you sing a part in an ad-hoc vocal group? Do you have amusing part songs in your closet?

Please don't hesitate to contact John Collis, chair of this event, at (917) 754-2845 or ficollis@gmail.com to let him know what you can offer, or just to talk about possibilities.

Gratefully yours,

The Board of the Brooklyn Chapter

Calendar

12/5/2017 - 12:30 PM Advent Noon Recital Paul Richard Olson, Organist Grace Church - Cobble Hill

12/10/2017 - 4:00 PM
Community Carol Sing
Nick Martellacci, Organ/Piano
Grace Lutheran Church - Forest Hills

12/12/2017 - 12:30 PM Advent Noon Recital Craig Whitney, Organist Grace Church - Cobble Hill

12/17/17 – 4:00 PM
The Glory of Christmas – A Yuletide Concert
St. Augustine's Church - Brooklyn

12/17/2017 - 5:00 PM
Festival of Christmas Lessons and Carols
Grace Church - Cobble Hill

12/19/2017 - 12:30 PM Advent Noon Recital Judith Hancock, Organist Grace Church - Cobble Hill 1/7/2018 - 5:00 PM January Banquet - Enoteca

1/28/2018 Pedals, Pipes, & Pizza Workshop

2/4/2018
"Not-the-Super Bowl" Concert

3/4/2018 Paul Olson Recital Grace Church - Cobble Hill

3/17/2018 Scholarship Competition

> 5/6/2018 Members' Recital

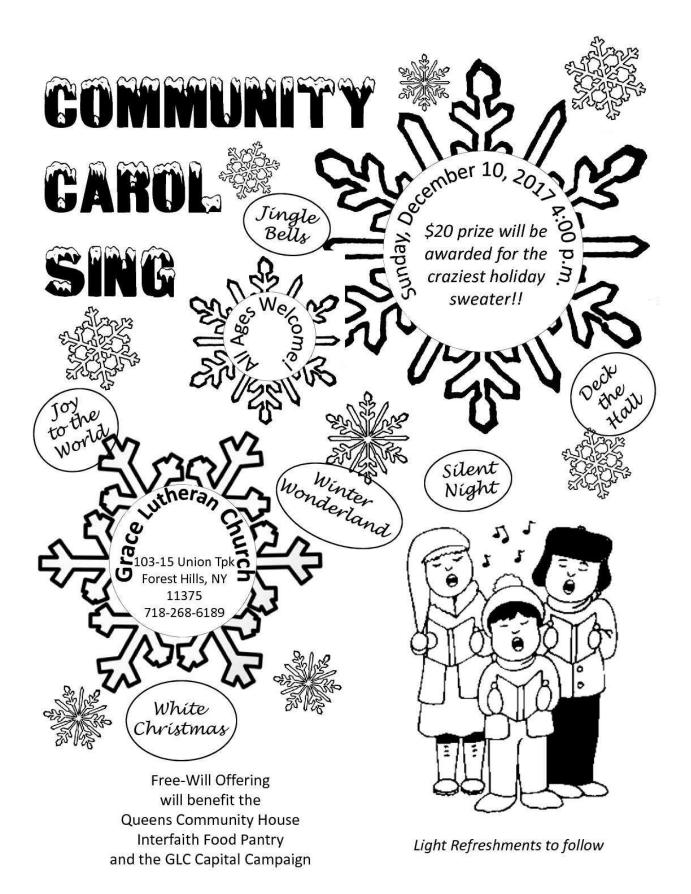
5/13/2018 Greenwood Cemetery Tour

6/3/2018
Banquet & Installation of Officers

From the Editor

Please feel free to send along any articles, advertisements, and calendar submissions to me at nm11201@aol.com.

Word, PowerPoint, and JPG files work best. PDF files are very labor intensive to import.





The American Guild of Organists Brooklyn Chapter Invites You To Our

January 2018 Banquet



Sunday, January 7th, 2018 at 5:00PM Enoteca on Court 347 Court Street, Brooklyn, NY 11231 (Take the F or G Trains to Carroll Street Station)

\$55 per person

Including beer/wine, appetizer, salad, entree, dessert, American coffee, and tip.

There will be a vegetarian option and members may bring quests.

Please make checks payable to "AGO Brooklyn Chapter" and mail to:

The Brooklyn Chapter AGO

% John Collis 350 Union Street Brooklyn, NY 11231-4912

For more info please contact

Dean John A. Wolfe at johnwolfe@johnwolfemusic.com



Best wishes for a blessed Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!