

# Principal Pipings

October 2020, Vol. 76, Issue 3



## Dean's Message

Hello AGO Friends,

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our kick-off picnic a few weeks ago. The setting and weather were perfect, and it was so good to have a chance to visit with people we haven't seen for some time. Thanks to Angela Hurley for hosting, and to Hospitality Co-chair Gwen Frazier for procuring some delicious cupcakes to celebrate the chapter's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

We are trying something completely different for our October meeting. The Kentucky Theatre has temporarily closed due to the pandemic, and the Allen digital theatre organ that has been providing intermission music has been stored until the theatre reopens. So our October meeting has been retooled by Tim Jones and our own Bill Webber, president and vice-president of the Bluegrass Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society. Through the magic of video, compiled masterfully by Lynn Vera, we will present virtually what we had planned to bring you in person from the theatre. You can find all the details elsewhere in this newsletter. We hope you'll tune in!

Until next month, stay well,

Jane

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75th Anniversary Celebration Picnic and Installation of Officers 9-26-2020

# Upcoming AGO Events

Your Executive Committee has come up with a terrific slate of chapter events which we hope we will be able to hold, particularly during this, our 75th anniversary year. Watch your upcoming chapter newsletters for updates on these and other area programs as we continue to cope with Covid-19 and its impact on the arts.

Week of October 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	<b>Behold the Theatre Organ!</b> Due to the temporary closing of the Kentucky Theatre this event has been reworked into a new video, to be released during the week of October 18th. <a href="#">Look for more information under "Announcements" (next page).</a>
Friday, 11.06.20 7:30pm	<b>Jillian Gardner, AGOYO Convener Recital</b> Cathedral of Christ the King, Lexington <a href="#">Look for more information under "Announcements" (next page).</a>
Sunday, 12.06.20 2:00pm	<b>Christmas Pipes Member Recital</b> Southern Hills United Methodist Church, Lexington
Friday, 02.05.21 7:30pm	<b>Marcelo Giannini Recital</b> Cathedral of Christ the King, Lexington
Saturday, 02.27.21 9:30am	<b>Pedals, Pipes and Pizza</b> Central Christian Church (DOC), Lexington
Saturday, 03.06.21 9:30am	<b>Choral and Organ Reading Session</b> First Christian Church (DOC), Winchester
Saturday, 04.17.21 12:00pm	<b>Elizabeth George, Director of Member Engagement and Chapter Development, AGO National Headquarters</b> Location TBA
Friday, 05.21.21 7:00pm	<b>Katie Minion Scheetz Recital</b> Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington

For inclusion in the newsletter calendar for local music events, please contact Lynn Vera at [LynnVera@ymail.com](mailto:LynnVera@ymail.com) by the 20th of the month prior to the publication date. Due to space limitations, events will be listed for the current and following month. You can find events beyond that timeframe on our website, [www.agolexington.org](http://www.agolexington.org).

# Announcements

## **OCTOBER VIDEO EVENT: “Behold the Theatre Organ!”**

As you've already heard, our in-person October event “Behold the Theatre Organ!” that was to be held at the Kentucky Theatre has been canceled due to the pandemic and temporary closure of the theatre. In its place a video is being created by Lynn Vera. The video will feature local, national and international theatre organists and will cover the same topics that would have been presented at the live event, with the added bonus of being able to watch and learn in the comfort of your favorite chair! As of this writing the video is not yet complete, but we expect to release it during the week of October 18<sup>th</sup>. Everyone who receives Principal Pipings via email will receive another email from Jane Johnson containing a link to the video. The video link will also be posted on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/AGOLexington>.

## **NOVEMBER PROGRAM EVENT: Jillian Gardner to present Recital on November 6<sup>TH</sup>**

Jillian Gardner will present a recital for our members on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm on the Randall Dyer organ at Cathedral of Christ the King in Lexington. Jillian is an award-winning performing organist with an international touring schedule. She is also the AGO National Councillor for Young Organists as well as the Director of Music at First United Methodist Church in Huntsville, AL. A graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory and Baylor University, she has performed concerts in venues including Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago; St. Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco; St. Thomas 5th Avenue, New York City; St. Paul's Cathedral in London, and has been a featured artist for OHS and AGO Conventions. This will be Jillian's first trip to Lexington! Her program will include works by Bach, Vierne, Tchaikovsky, and Elgar among others. Covid-19 protocol will be observed, so audience members will be socially distanced and masks will be required. At this time we are also investigating the possibility of live-streaming Jillian's concert for members who are unable to attend in person. If we are able to work this out, an email with details will be sent to the membership a few days prior to the recital.

## **A THIRD NEW FEATURE FOR OUR 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR!**

Last month we announced two new features in celebration of our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year: Ted Gentry's “History Corner” and Lynn Vera's “Portable Pipes”. This month we're adding a third new feature on the last page: “Divertimento”. This one will make you smile. Enjoy!

## ST. THOMAS FIFTH AVENUE IS OFFERING AGO DISCOUNTS FOR ONLINE FALL 2020 CONCERT SERIES

Patrick Fennig, Concert Series Manager at Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue (NYC), has offered us an AGO discount for watching this virtual concert series. Mr. Fennig writes:

*“Like many in our industry, we have spent the spring and summer reimagining our concert series for this extraordinary time. Our [Fall 2020 season](#) is being presented entirely on a digital platform. Of course, this format of presentation is not ideal but it has created new opportunities for viewership. Our concerts are now available to those who cannot travel to be with us in person. Many of our biggest supporters are members of the American Guild of Organists. For that reason, we would like to offer a discounted ticket (50% off) to all AGO members for our Fall 2020 season. In order to purchase a discounted ticket, one can simply visit our [ticketing page](#) and enter the **promo code: AGO**. Details of our season are below. We hope you and your members will be able to join us for any or all.”*

### CONCERTS AT SAINT THOMAS FALL 2020 DIGITAL SEASON

*IMPORTANT NOTE: The events below are video presentations. Instructions for viewing each concert will be included in your ticket purchase confirmation email. Events are “premiered” at a specified time and available on-demand for a limited time after the premiere. All concerts are pre-recorded in Saint Thomas Church in compliance with recommendations from the CDC and Episcopal Diocese of New York at the time of the recording.*

#### [Les Compositrices Françaises: 20th Century French Organ Music by Female Composers](#)

*Saturday, October 3, 2020 @ 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Digital Presentation **AGO DISCOUNT: \$2.50***

#### [The German Chorale: Masterworks of Bach, Distler, and Reger](#)

*Saturday, October 17, 2020 @ 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Digital Presentation **AGO DISCOUNT: \$2.50***

#### [The Complete Beethoven Sonatas I: Early Gems and the Waldstein](#)

*Saturday, October 24, 2020 @ 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Digital Presentation **FREE***

#### [The Complete Beethoven Sonatas II: Humor and Passion](#)

*Saturday, October 31, 2020 @ 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Digital Presentation **FREE***

*Heroic Music of Handel and Purcell (as of 10/11 link not available)*

*Thursday, November 12, 2020 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm, Digital Presentation **AGO DISCOUNT: \$5***

#### [The Complete Beethoven Sonatas III: Fantasies and the Moonlight](#)

*Saturday, November 21, 2020 @ 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Digital Presentation **FREE***

#### [Messiaen: La Nativité du Seigneur](#)

*Saturday, December 5, 2020 @ 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Digital Presentation **AGO DISCOUNT: \$2.50***

# Member News

**Dr. Barbara Rogers** had her organ composition *Pastorale, Meditation and Toccata* performed by **Dr. Wesley Roberts** on the organ at Ransdell Chapel on the campus of Campbellsville University for the KMTA virtual state convention. Each movement is based on the hymn tune Ein' feste Burg (A Mighty Fortress). Barbara says that she wrote the piece for her sister, who premiered it on the huge organ at the Cadet Chapel in celebration of her 25 years in music ministry at West Point. Here's a link to the YouTube recording: <https://tinyurl.com/y57kor8d>



Welcome to Central Kentucky, **Don and Gwen Thornbury Frazier!** Don and Gwen have settled in Versailles after leaving their long-time home in Manassas, VA. Gwen is no stranger to our area, having studied organ at UK. Don is originally from Kansas City. We look forward to having Don and Gwen as part of our chapter!



It saddens me to report to you the death of long-time Lexington AGO member **Priscilla Hepburn**. Priscilla celebrated her 89<sup>th</sup> birthday this past June. An organ graduate from UK, she served many churches in the area including St. Michael's Episcopal and Second Presbyterian, where she was a member. In more recent years she substituted for many of us. Priscilla was always a bright spot, whether teaching one of her many piano students or serving on the organ bench, and she will be missed. AGO National President Michael Bedford sent this note to the chapter:

*AGO Friends,*

*My sincere condolences on the death of Priscilla. I never had a chance to know her, but it sounds like she was a beloved and important part of the musical life of Lexington. I know she will be missed.*

*Sincerely,  
Michael*

In accordance with the family's wishes, our chapter has made a donation to Central Music Academy in Priscilla's memory.



Our chaplain the **Rev. Larry Sivis** was to have conducted the officer installation service at our September picnic, but was sidelined due to a traffic accident a few days before. Larry reports that he was broadsided by someone who ran a stop sign, totaling his car. Luckily he escaped with only bruises. We're glad you're OK, Larry!

If you have any member news that you would like to report, please email it to Jane Johnson: [jhjohn@email.uky.edu](mailto:jhjohn@email.uky.edu)



## by Dr. Ted Gentry, Lexington AGO Chapter Historian

Starting with a small group of 15 members in 1945, the Lexington Chapter had a remarkably busy calendar during the early years. Meetings and programs were scheduled nearly every month from September through May. The early winter dinner meeting at the Lafayette Hotel quickly became established as an annual event.

In the late 1940s, monthly chapter meetings included celebrity organists of the day. Finances were extremely tight in those years. The last reported treasury balance of the decade was only \$18.15. Therefore, like we do now, the chapter often "piggy-backed" on other institutions and churches for programming. On October 13, 1946, the regular meeting was at UK's Memorial Hall for a recital by Marcel Dupré. The recording secretary, Myrtle V. Kesheimer, noted that the hall was so packed that she was unable to find a seat. In March, 1948, she wrote that E. Power Biggs played a "thrilling recital" in Hughes Auditorium at Asbury College. The chapter hosted a reception for him after the program. Even lesser known organists drew crowds in those days. For example, Oswald Regatz, organ instructor at Indiana University, played a recital at the Presbyterian Church (no mention of which, presumably First?) in February 1949. In discussing preparations for the recital at the chapter's January meeting, the membership decided to print 500 programs for the event. This was an era when organ music was considered to be an integral part of musical life in central Kentucky.



**E. Power Biggs**

This photo is licensed under [CC0 1.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).



**Marcel Dupré**

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## A Virtual Concert Series for our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year

During this time of social isolation many of us are sorely missing live organ performances. Every month during our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary program year we'll present a set of video links of organ performances selected according to various themes. Because our October program event is a celebration of the theatre organ, these selections from Lynn Vera highlight the more dramatic qualities of The King of Instruments. To watch the videos do a Ctrl + Click on each blue link.

### ~~ "Autumn" + "PipeScreams" ~~

**"Ride of the Valkyries"** by **Richard Wagner**, arranged and performed by **Josh Perschbacher** on a 4 manual 108 rank 1927 Casavant rebuilt by Schantz in 2001 and installed at St. Andrews Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi, MN.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4x9Qlt\\_fqQE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4x9Qlt_fqQE)

**"Autumn Leaves"** performed by **Reginald Dixon** on the Tower Wurlitzer (1964) This is an old jazz standard, starting with a French song with music by Joseph Kosma and lyrics by poet Jacques Prévert, called "Les feuilles mortes." It was adapted with English lyrics in 1947 by American songwriter Johnny Mercer.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cre7wTFqSHI>

**"In the Hall of the Mountain King"** by **Edvard Grieg**, transcribed and performed by **Jonathan Scott** at the organ of Béla Bartók National Concert Hall, Müpa Budapest (Palace of Arts), Hungary.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dBoGdJ54oWI>

**"Phantom of the Opera Medley"** by **Andrew Lloyd Webber**, arranged and performed by **Dr. Jeremy Peterman**. Played on the Berghaus Pipe Organ (IV/91) at La Casa de Cristo Lutheran Church in Scottsdale (Phoenix), Arizona.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r5LOSypjRIs>

**"Toccatà and Fugue in D minor"** by **J.S. Bach**, performed by **Xaver Varnus** on the great Sauer Organ of the Berliner Dom. Dedicated in 1905, this organ was the largest in Germany, with 7269 pipes and 113 registers distributed across four manuals and pedals.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FHNLdHe8uxY>

November's themes are **"Harvest"** and **"Giving Thanks"**. Please email your submissions for the November newsletter to Lynn Vera at [LynnVera@ymail.com](mailto:LynnVera@ymail.com).

# Concerts

## GREAT MUSIC at Christ Church Cathedral October 2020



### Evensong

*Online Presentation*

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020**

4:00pm with the Cathedral Choir



### Concert

*Online Presentation*

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020**

4:00pm

Concert with Katharine Dain, soprano



*Please visit our website [www.ccclex.org/music](http://www.ccclex.org/music) for more information on the Cathedral Choir, Great Music Series, and Friends of Cathedral Music.*

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# Campbellsville University

13th Annual Noon Organ Recital Series

2020-2021

## ANNOUNCEMENT:

*The Noon Organ Recitals on October 13 and November 3 have been cancelled, as the chapel is being used as a classroom this Fall to accommodate physical distancing.*

**February 2**..... Our Lady of Perpetual Help

*Marcelo Giannini*

Organist, Temple of Carouge

Professor, Haute École de Musique

Geneva, Switzerland

There will also be an Evening Recital in Ransdell Chapel at 8:00 p.m.

**March 2**.....Ransdell Chapel

*Colleen Ames*

Organist, Memorial Methodist Church, Elizabethtown

Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church, Finley

**April 13**.....Ransdell Chapel

*Wesley Roberts*

Professor of Music

with Faculty from the School of Music

Campbellsville University

1875 Pomplitz Organ in Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
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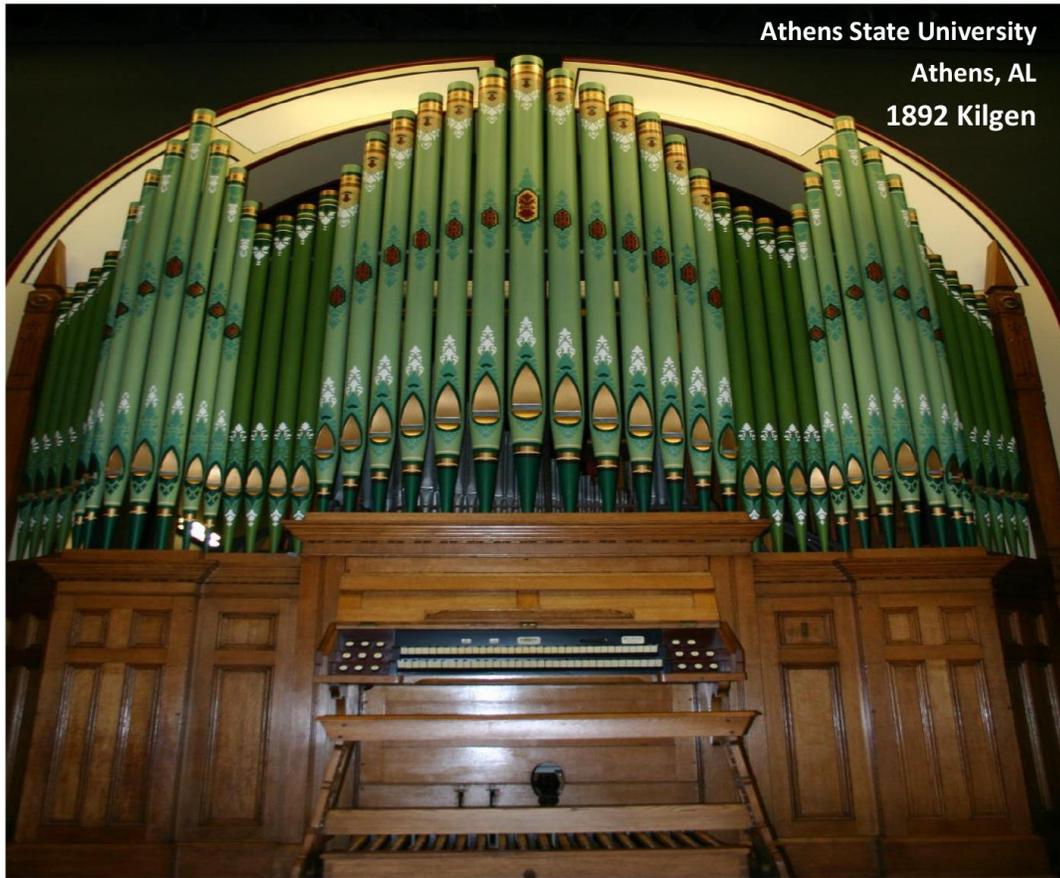
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# GREAT MUSIC

at Christ Church Cathedral



## Evensongs

*Digital Presentations*

Sunday, September 20, 2020

Sunday, October 11, 2020

*All Souls Evensong*

Sunday, November 1, 2020

4:00pm

The Cathedral Choir

## Concerts

*Digital Presentations*

Sunday, October 18, 2020

4:00pm

Concert with Katharine Dain, soprano



Sunday, November 15, 2020

4:00pm

Organ Concert with Maxine Thévenot

The Cathedral of St. John

Albuquerque, New Mexico

*Please visit our website [www.ccclex.org/music](http://www.ccclex.org/music) for more information on the Cathedral Choir, Great Music Series, and Friends of Cathedral Music.*

166 Market Street • Lexington, Kentucky • 40507

# Divertimento

During this challenging season of Covidtide we all need a chuckle now and then! Thank you to Jane Johnson for this submission and inspiration for this new monthly feature. Do you have a good one for the next newsletter? Please email it to Lynn Vera at [LynnVera@ymail.com](mailto:LynnVera@ymail.com).

## #OpenYourHymnal #holydistaning h/t the Very Rev. Canon Greg Larkin

So Quickly Has This Week Flown By

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
Zack Stachowski

1. So quick-ly has this week flown by! Set up the tri-pod, it is  
2. Three min-utes now un - til we start, this is the time the Wi-Fi  
3. Now that the live-stream mass is done, sit back, re-lax, en-joy the

time for your week - ly Sun - day live - stream! Hook  
stops. Who's the first - hand saint of broad - band? Up  
sun. All is pos - ted, stream's been hos - ted. Think

up your i-Phone or i - Pad, un - tan - gle ev - 'ry wire you  
til this point it all worked fine. This makes me lose my \* & - # \$  
of the ser-vice you pro - vide: You bring mass to those stuck in -

have. Find that one thing that you're mis - sing, that one  
mind! Wait, it works, no, "dis - con - nec - ted", this all  
side. Though the task is not your go - to, we give

i - tem you re - ly on, you re - ly on.  
makes me a - po - plec - tic, a - po - plec - tic.  
thanks for all you go through, all that you do.