



VOX OCEANA

JUL/AUG 2010

NEWSLETTER OF THE RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS | VOLUME XLIII, NO. 7

RI CHAPTER OFFICERS AND APPOINTMENTS 2009-2010

Dean, Stephen Martorella
885-0623
steve.fbc@verizon.net

Sub-Dean, Kevin DiLorenzo
847-0475
kdilorenzo@stmarynewport.org

Secretary, David Cranmer
781-3359

Treasurer, Alfred Casinelli
338-0535; 942-6969

Membership, Doris Alberg
365-7273

Auditor, Joe Gama
942-6144

Auditor, Jean Richard DuPont
434-8476

Education, Brink Bush
245-4065

Historian, Peter N. LaMoria
723-6974; 726-2600

Placement, Brian Larkin
272-8318; brianlarkin1@cox.net

Newsletter, Althea Allard
728-4431; aallard@ccri.edu

Website, Doris Alberg
dalberg1@cox.net

Chaplain, Fr. Doug Spina
434-4060; 434-7030

Regional Councillor,
Lary Grossman
elg@bradygrossman.com

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

2011
Jeff Allard: 447-9035
Laura Jensen: 787-3032

2012
Kathy Hart: 837-8873
Philip Martorella: 885-3431

2013
Joe Gama 942-6144
Jean-Richard DuPont 434-8476

www.riago.org

www.agonewengland.blogspot.com

FROM THE DEAN

MODELS: WHAT'S ON YOUR IPOD?

There is a somewhat romantic (or should I say Romantic with a capital R) notion that the most memorable performances are the spontaneous ones. The performer walks out completely blank and is ignited by a burst of inspiration, as if the heavens themselves had suddenly opened up with artistic revelation. How often do we hear the teaching "Play the piece with more feeling" or "Feel the phrase more this way (or that way – from someone else's point of view)"?

The fact is that the most memorable performances, both on record and in recorded memoirs of listeners ever since the time of the Apostles,* are those whose interpretations point out the artful architecture of a piece. From analysis and study, one can shape an interpretation of a piece that is not only inspiring, but expresses what the composer intended, as a composer often has a specific idea in mind and gives it shape through musical structure of a piece, of a melody, or of a shorter motive or even a single note or harmony.

This was the idea behind the analyses of Heinrich Schenker, who is so much taught, yet so little understood. Awash in diagrams full of "Hintergrund, Mittlegrund und Vordergrund" (translation: small notes in every direction with lots of odd beaming, arrows and numbers), we can easily forget that Schenker made the notes small to show their lesser importance to the notes he drew as larger half or whole notes, which showed those as the structurally more important tones of a work. Gradually, all the notes were made to disappear, and one would be left with what Schenker called the "Ursatz" or "elemental" from "Ühr" (literally "earth.") Schenker had only a handful of elemental musical structures for all the music ever written, and the most common one is $\wedge^3 - \wedge^2 - \wedge^1$ or "Three Blind Mice", something of a famous joke among Schenker scholars.

So if understanding the structure and shape of a musical line creates a more beautifully crafted phrase, to whom should we look for role models? I put together a compilation of recorded pieces for my students to listen to for one of my lectures that I call "The Art of Melodic Craft". These particular recordings to my mind represent some of the most beautifully performed phrases of music in the literature, and not surprisingly, are a compendium of some of the finest artists ever recorded. These are on my iPod, and make for good summer listening. (See next page for the list.)

ALLEN ORGAN DONATION

Mison Hodkinson of Barrington is offering an Allen organ with full pedalboard to anyone who can use it. The instrument "works fine"; it just doesn't fit through the doorway of her house. Interested persons may contact her at 246-2215 to view, play, and measure the organ.

MARTORELLA'S LISTENING LIST

Fritz Wunderlich

Beethoven *Zärtliche Liebe* ("Ich liebe dich")

Schubert *An die Musik*, D547

Schumann Im Monat Mai

Nicolai Gedda

Gounod *Salut! Demeure* (Faust)

Birgit Nilsson

Sibelius *Var et en dröm?*

Jaqueline du Pré (with Barbirolli, London Symphony Orchestra)

Elgar *Adagio* (Cello Concerto)

Gregor Piatagorsky w/Rubenstein

Brahms *Sonata No. 1 in E Minor* (1st movement)

Nathaniel Rosen & Arturo Delmoni

Beethoven *Andante in F* (the "Andante favori" rescued from a fiery death in Beethoven's fireplace by his biographer, in a version for trio)

Arturo Delmoni ("Songs My Mother Taught Me" album)

Vieuxtemps *Romance Desespoir*

Faure *Après Un Rêve*

Anything by David Oistrach

Jascha Heifetz (with Reiner, Chicago Symphony Orchestra)

Mendelssohn *Andante* (Violin Concerto)

Maxim Vengerov

Massenet *Meditation* from "Thaïs"

Murray Perahia (with Haitink, Concertgebouw)

Beethoven Concerto No. 5, *Emperor* (2nd movt.)

Artur Rubenstein

Chopin *Romance* from Concerto No. 1 in E Minor

Simon Barere

Felix Blumenfeld *Etude for the Left Hand* (Blumenfeld was Horowitz's teacher in Moscow)

Alexis Weissenberg

Rachmaninov *Prelude* Op 23, No. 2 B-flat

A few footnotes to the list:

- I generally prefer Paul Tortellier's recording of the Elgar Concerto
- My favorite pianist is Horowitz, despite that he is not on the list
- There are no organists on this list (hmmm...!!!)

*And finally, on the Apostles as music critic read Paul's famous letter to the Corinthians extolling love (I Cor. 13:1) "If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal."

—Steve

EVENTS - JULY & AUGUST

Saturday, July 10, 2:00 pm:

Wickford Art Festival Organ Concert. **Mark Steinbach**, (Brown University Organist) plays music of Mozart, Rameau, P. Glass, da Bergamo at St. Paul's Church, 55 Main St., Wickford. Free will offering. 401-294-4357

Sunday, July 25, 4:00 pm:

Ecclesia Consort performs the Monumental Motets of J. S. Bach at Emmanuel Church, Newport. Tickets, \$20.

Saturday, July 31, 7:30 pm:

Newport Baroque offers **Ensemble Altera** with countertenor **Christopher Lowrey** and soprano **Lydia Brotherton**. St. Columba's Berkeley Memorial Chapel, Middletown. www.newportbaroque.org.

Sunday, August 1, 8:00 pm: Ensemble Altera, (see above) repeats the performance at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, 179 Academy Avenue, Providence. \$25 general, \$20 seniors and military, \$15 students.

RSCM Newport - 2010

Monday, August 2, 8:00 pm:

Emmanuel Church, Newport with Evensong

Wednesday, August 4, 5:00 pm: Trinity Church

Friday, August 6 at 5:00 pm: Emmanuel Church

Sunday August 8, 10:00 am: Emmanuel Church Festival Eucharist. Details: <http://www.emmanuelnewport.org/rscm-newport-course-2010/#Galleries>.

Sunday, August 22, 4:00 pm:

The First Baptist Church in America's *Music at the Meetinghouse* series presents, from NYC, **Threds Oboe Trio**: Kathy Halvorson, Katie Scheele and Mark Snyder (*pictured below*). Free-will offering. Sound clip of Threds playing an Alexander Tcherepnin trio: <https://secure.logmein.com/f?qtvI4d-BqL.MYbMfpIpE5tKZyi1G-FukcgX5gamSujd>



ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 13, 2010

The annual meeting of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Guild of Organists was held on Sunday, June 13, 2010 at The First Baptist Church In America, Providence, Rhode Island. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Dean Stephen Martorella. The minutes of the 2008 annual meeting were distributed and approved by those in attendance.

Janice Aubin, treasurer pro-tem, presented the treasurer's report showing income in the High Yield Money Market Account of \$873.04 and expenses of \$11,617.58, with a balance as of May 31, 2010 of \$29,791.47. The Small Business Checking Account had income of \$13,594.58, expenses of \$13,589.93 with a balance of \$399.54 as of November 30, 2009 after the final transfer of all funds from Citizens Bank to Pawtucket Credit Union. It was agreed that it was expedient to have an audit after the change in treasurers.

David Clyde Morse (in absentia), Howard Phelps, Jan Aubin and Jackie Gourd (in absentia) were thanked for their faithful service to the Guild.

The next order of business was the election of new chapter officers. Stephen Martorella called for nominations from the floor. There were none., so a motion was made and seconded for the secretary to cast one ballot for the slate of officers. The motion was carried. Officers for the 2010-2011 year, installed by Janice Aubin, are:

Stephen Martorella, dean

Kevin DiLorenzo, sub-dean

David J. Cranmer, secretary

Alfred Casinelli, treasurer

Joseph Gama & Jean-Richard DuPont, members-at-large through 2013.

The next order of business was to review votes taken by the Board during 2009-2010. The following outstanding items were finalized by motions and approval votes:

- To eliminate the separate "convention funds" designation and fold those funds into the general funds.
- To support the 2010 Regional POE in Fairfield with a grant of \$100, \$50 to be taken from the general treasury and \$50 from the general fund.
- To define a quorum as a majority of the members present and a simple majority of those present be required for a motion to pass.

Under new business, Stephen announced that National will be creating programs and educational opportunities to support part-time organists. He asked for members to offer ideas for workshops to address those themes.

The business meeting adjourned at 7:45, followed by a slide and music sampling presentation by Stephen on Welsh hymns, particularly those bearing Welsh place-names as titles.

Respectfully submitted,
Doris Alberg, for the Secretary

PLACEMENT LISTING

Contact Brian Larkin (272-8318) for more information.

St. John's Episcopal Church 4/10
3 Pleasant Street, Sutton, MA 01590
The Rev. John D. Betit: 508-865-3103; 508-277-0685
O/D \$12500-\$13000 2 Manual Tracker

Mathewson Street United Methodist Church 5/10
134 Mathewson Street, Providence, RI 02903
Theil Ramsbey: 401-231-4196
O/D \$275/week Allen Renaissance, 4 man, 138 stops

First Congregational Church of Sharon (MA) 6/10
10AM Sunday & holiday worship; cantata concert; adult & children's choirs; September start.
Martha MacMillin 781-784-2631; mmacmillin@uwalumni.com
Organist Salary negotiable Roche pipe organ, 1983

The following positions on the Open Bench Listings have been filled: Calvin Presbyterian Church, Cumberland, RI - Derek Doura; Emanuel Lutheran Church, Norwood, MA - Keri Knecht

NOTE: The Substitute List is available online at www.riago.org.

SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: 20th of each month
Submissions: Send Word or Text files to aallard@ccri.edu or to Althea Allard, 166 Suffolk Ave., Pawtucket, RI 02861.
Advertising: Word doc, PDF (print ready), JPG (high resolution), TIFF, or EPS. All files should be grayscale at 300 dpi resolution.
Email to camacphee@gmail.com.

ADVERTISING RATES

1/4-page ad (3.5"W x 5"H): \$18
1/8-page ad (3.5"W x 2.5"H): \$10
Flyers you provide (for RIAGO members): \$10
Make checks out to RIAGO and mail to Althea Allard by the 20th.