International Concert Organist Gail Archer

Saturday, November 11, 10:00 a.m. - Noon – Lecture and Performance
Sunday, November 12, 3:00 p.m. – Concert
Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Eagan

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Eagan, and the TCAGO are pleased to host international concert organist, recording artist, and choral conductor Gail Archer.

Archer was the first American woman to play the complete works of Olivier Messiaen for the centennial of the composer’s birth in 2008. She serves as director of the young organ artist recitals at historic Central Synagogue in New York City. She is also the founder of Musforum, an international network for women organists to promote and affirm their work.

On Saturday, November 11, Archer will present a lecture and performance on Music by Women Composers for the Organ. Hospitality and check-in will be at 9:30 a.m. This event is free, and all are welcome. Registration is encouraged for the Saturday event. Please visit tcago online or contact Jeremy Haug.

Archer will present a concert on Sunday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are $10, and students may attend free. A reception will follow.

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church
3930 Rahn Road, Eagan
Erik Routley’s quip about church musicians being denominationally promiscuous, which I referenced at the end of this column last month (and which James Brumm verifies from a class Routley taught at Westminster Choir College in September of 1980), deserves further comment. This quip points, as is typical of Routley, to pretty important values that lie under its surface. It points to the constructive ecumenical, trans-, and counter-cultural work of organists and other church musicians for the common good, which has perdured in spite of battles that were raging elsewhere. I’ve touched on this before in these columns and keep being struck by it.

For example, the Craighead-Saunders organ at Christ Church in Rochester, New York, featured by Michael Barone on Pipedreams of October 22, represents a six-year international (Swedish, Japanese, and American) reconstruction of a 1776 organ built by Casparini for a church in Lithuania. That organ and its church benefited from the expertise at nearby Eastman School of Music. Such expertise is not adjacent to every church, but other churches have access to such sources, have benefited from them, and have done similar things. Augustana, here in West St. Paul, with its organ the subject of our TCAGO DVD, is such a place.

Churches with fine organs, small or large, tend to have a common characteristic, namely, that people with widely different responsibilities (musical, pastoral, physical, artistic, acoustic, liturgical, and communal) actually have talked to each other about important matters that transcend our period. In the case of organs this means not only the organ and its literature from a wide past and present cultural terrain, but also congregational and choral song plus other instruments. The organ is perhaps one of the strongest symbols of pulling together this rich counter-cultural mix of literature, groups, talents, backgrounds, and expertise.

I have been asked repeatedly in this five-hundredth anniversary year of the Reformation to explain a Lutheran view of music. I have had to say that it is constructively ecumenical, even when other battles stemming from the Reformation, largely created by states with their concerns for power, control, and money, have destructively turned neighbors into enemies.

Fortunately, after fifty years of work, Lutherans and Roman Catholics are attempting to do better, imitating our musical instincts. Common documents have been forged and conversations set in motion. Musicians have been among the
first to pick up on the cue. So, on October 22, in the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., the National Lutheran Choir sang Palestrina, Bach and a premiere of the Holy Spirit Mass by the Norwegian composer Kim André Arnesen for a representative gathering of Lutherans and Roman Catholics. As I write this, a similar gathering is scheduled at the Basilica here in Minneapolis on October 27 with the same music. Arnesen’s Mass was commissioned in an ecumenical spirit for just such gatherings. On October 28, the St. Olaf College and Basilica choirs are joining in a similar venture.

This is not just a Lutheran and Roman Catholic phenomenon. The Protestant world itself also illustrates it. Baylor University sponsored a colloquium on church music and the Reformation. Many of us who spoke were Lutherans. Isabelle Demers and her organ students played settings of chorales from Bach’s Clavierübung III very well on a fine organ, and we sang the chorales – at a Baptist school. Westmont College is in the midst of a “Cloud of Witnesses” series for its chapel services. The “witnesses” in this series span the church’s history. I was asked to speak about Bach in a chapel service when the orchestra played the last movement of Mendelssohn’s “Reformation” Symphony and the choir joined it with the third movement of Bach’s Cantata 79. Those pieces were performed complete at a concert that night at which I gave a pre-concert talk – all of this in a non-denominational evangelical school.

The state, states, and their allies are doing what is not atypical for them: making hatred for the neighbor normative. Organists and the church’s musicians are doing what is not atypical for them: making counter-cultural care for the neighbor normative. This is no small thing, perhaps best expressed by John Eliot Gardiner with Bach as its symbol.

Bach, in fact, makes it a great deal easier for us to focus on the injunction to love one’s neighbor than on all the filth and horror of the world. We emerge from performing or listening to a Bach motet chastened, maybe, but more often elated, such is the cleansing power of the music.
The Three Hermits - 20th Anniversary Concert

Thursday and Saturday, November 2 and 4, 7:30 p.m.
The House of Hope Presbyterian Church, Saint Paul
With music by Stephen Paulus and libretto by Michael Dennis Browne, The Three Hermits is a church opera based on a short story by Leo Tolstoy.

Matthew Culloton is the conductor and choirmaster. Aaron David Miller is the Director of Music, Motet Choir and soloists. Andrew Kane will portray the Bishop, and Krista Costin the Mother.

No tickets are required. A free-will offering will be taken.

House of Hope Presbyterian Church
797 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul

David Fienen Organ Concert

Friday, November 3, 7:00 p.m.
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Bayport

David Fienen is Emeritus Professor of Music at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, having retired in 2011 after 38 years as Cantor at Christ Chapel and Professor of Music. He continues an active performance career in the United States and Europe, performing at venues such as the Castle Church in Wittenberg and St. Jacob’s Church in Lübeck, Germany. He holds degrees from Indiana University, Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, and the University of Minnesota.

His concert will feature diverse music of German and American composers including J.S. Bach, Jan Bender, Larry Long, Paul Manz, Hans Friedrich Michelseen, and Gerald Near.

The concert is free and open to the public; a free-will offering will be taken. All are welcome to attend!

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
490 N. Fourth Street, Bayport

Wes A. Huisinga
Oboe, English Horn
and
Oboe d’Amore
612-872-9838
available for solo and accompanimental service playing
Bach & Bluegrass Jamboree
Friday, November 10, 8:00 p.m.
Roseville Lutheran Church, Roseville

Get ready for toe-tappin’, knee-slappin’ fun as choral group VocalEssence breathes new life into J.S. Bach and the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation with special guest bluegrass quintet, Monroe Crossing. Hear VocalEssence perform some of Bach’s most jubilant music alongside gospel bluegrass tunes and a regional premiere of Carol Barnett’s *Bluegrass Te Deum* with Monroe Crossing and the VocalEssence Ensemble Singers.

Tickets start at $20 at VocalEssence.

Leonard Danek Recital
Sunday, November 12, 4:00 p.m.
Calvary Lutheran Church, Golden Valley

Resident organist Leonard Danek will present a program of works by Liszt, Langlais, Gigout, Messiaen, and his own original compositions on the 1975/1997 Holtkamp organ.

Free, with reception to follow.
Calvary Lutheran Church
7520 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley

A Festival Evensong
Sunday, November 19, 3:30 p.m.
St. George’s Episcopal Church, St. Louis Park

The choir of St. George’s Episcopal Church will present *A Festival Evensong* on Sunday, November 19. Former Miss America, Dorothy Benham, who serves as Artist-In-Residence at St. George’s, will be featured in Mendelssohn’s cantata, *Hear My Prayer*. She is considered to be one of the finest lyric sopranos of her generation and has sung in major cities across America and internationally. She continues to be associated with the Robert Schuller Hour Of Power ministries in Los Angeles.

A recital by celebrated Minnesota harpist, Rachel Brandwein, will precede Evensong. Brandwein, who is based in Minneapolis, is gaining an international reputation as a performer, educator and composer.

Other featured vocalists will include mezzo-soprano Elizabeth Woolner, and tenor Philip Eschweiler. Randall M. Egan, Organist and Choirmaster, will direct.

The event is free and open. A reception follows. For further information: 952-926-1646.
St. George’s Episcopal Church
5224 Minnetonka Blvd., St. Louis Park

Kraig Windschitl Concert
Sunday, December 3, 3:00 p.m.
Holy Trinity Cathedral, New Ulm

New Ulm native Kraig Windschitl will present a concert as part of a dedication series inaugurating the large new Nordlie pipe organ. The Nordlie replaces the 1981 Jaeckel organ, recycling some of the existing pipes.

The concert will feature solo organ repertoire by Böhm, Bach, Vierne, Collar, and Locklair. Of special interest, members of the
Minnesota Compline Choir will sing Gregorian Chant in alternatim with Kraig at the organ. The Minnesota Compline Choir is directed by Adam Reinwald, who works in music ministry at Wayzata Community Church.

The concert is free. A festive reception will follow. Kraig's latest CD from the Holy Land will be available.

Holy Trinity Cathedral
605 North State St., New Ulm

Calendar of Events

November
Thursday and Saturday, November 2 and 4, 7:30 p.m.
The Three Hermits - 20th Anniversary Concert
A Church Opera by Stephen Paulus
The House of Hope Presbyterian Church
797 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul

Friday, November 3, 7:00 p.m.
David Fienen Organ Concert
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
490 N. Fourth Street, Bayport

Thursday, November 9, 12:30 p.m.
St. Barnabas Lunchtime Organ Recital Series
Jim Hild, organist
St. Barnabas Lutheran Church
15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth

Friday, November 10, 8:00 p.m.
VocalEssence: Bach & Bluegrass Jamboree
Roseville Lutheran Church
1215 Roselawn Ave. W., Roseville

TCAGO Event
Saturday, November 11, 10:00 a.m. - Noon
Lecture-Performance: Gail Archer
Music by Women Composers for the Organ
Mount Calvary Lutheran Church
3930 Rahn Road, Eagan

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Calvary Lutheran Church
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A Festival Evensong
St. George's Episcopal Church
5224 Minnetonka Blvd., St. Louis Park

December
Sunday, December 3, 3:00 p.m.
Kraig Windschitl Organ Concert
Holy Trinity Cathedral
605 North State Street, New Ulm

Thursday, December 14, 12:30 p.m.
St. Barnabas Lunchtime Organ Recital Series
Mary Newton, organist; Julie Simonson, soprano
St. Barnabas Lutheran Church
15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth

January
Thursday, January 11, 12:30 p.m.
St. Barnabas Lunchtime Organ Recital Series
Matt Tylutki, organist
St. Barnabas Lutheran Church
15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth

Saturday, January 13, 9:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
Together We Sing Festival
VocalEssence Event
Creative Arts Secondary School
65 East Kellogg Blvd., Saint Paul

February
Thursday, February 1, 7:30 p.m.
Organ Concert
Wilma Jensen, organist
Cathedral of Saint Paul
239 Selby Avenue, Saint Paul

TCAGO Event
Saturday, February 3, 9:30 a.m. - Noon
Seminar: Wilma Jensen Lecture-Demonstration
Musical Freedom in Various Periods of History
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
900 Stillwater Road, Mahtomedi

Sunday, February 4, 4:00 p.m.
Winter Organ Concert Series
Thomas Ferry, Resident Organist
Como Park Lutheran Church
1376 Hoyt Avenue West, Saint Paul

Thursday, February 8, 12:30 p.m.
St. Barnabas Lunchtime Organ Recital Series
Ben Kerswell, organist
St. Barnabas Lutheran Church
15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth
Sunday, February 11, 4:00 p.m.
Winter Organ Concert Series
Phillip Radtke, Organist at
Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church
Como Park Lutheran Church
1376 Hoyt Avenue West, Saint Paul

Sunday, February 18, 4:00 p.m.
Winter Organ Concert Series
David Jenkins, liturgical music director at
The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity,
University of St. Thomas
Como Park Lutheran Church
1376 Hoyt Avenue West, Saint Paul

TCAGO Event
Saturday, February 24, 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Pipe Organ Discovery Day
Trinity Episcopal Church
322 Second Street, Excelsior
Mount Calvary Lutheran Church
301 County Road 19, Excelsior

Sunday, February 25, 4:00 p.m.
Winter Organ Concert Series
Gregory Peterson, Professor of Music at
Luther College
Como Park Lutheran Church
1376 Hoyt Avenue West, Saint Paul

March
TCAGO Event
Saturday, March 1, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Before Bach’s Birthday Bash
Thursday, March 8, 12:30 p.m.
St. Barnabas Lunchtime Organ Recital Series
Geoff Olson, organist
St. Barnabas Lutheran Church
15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth

April
TCAGO Event
Saturday, April 14, 9:30 - Noon
Masterclass: Vincent Warnier
University of St. Thomas Chapel
Cleveland and Laurel Aves., Saint Paul
Thursday, April 12, 12:30 p.m.
St. Barnabas Lunchtime Organ Recital Series
Sharon Kleckner, organist
St. Barnabas Lutheran Church
15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth

TCAGO Event
Sunday, April 15, 3:00 p.m.
Recital: Vincent Warnier
University of St. Thomas Chapel
Cleveland and Laurel Aves., Saint Paul

TCAGO Event
Saturday, April 21, 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Student Competition
Augustana Lutheran Church
1400 South Robert Street, West St. Paul

May
Thursday, May 10, 12:30 p.m.
St. Barnabas Lunchtime Organ Recital Series
Jungjoo Park, organist
St. Barnabas Lutheran Church
15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth

TCAGO Event
Saturday, May 4, 7:30 p.m.
Annual Members Recital

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Pipenotes
Pipenotes is the official publication of the Twin Cities Chapter, American
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Deadline date
Information for Pipenotes should be received no later than the
fifteenth of the month preceding publication.
Materials may be sent to Merritt Nequette, editor.
Letters to the Editor
Signed Letters to the Editor are always welcome.
Mail letters to Merritt Nequette,
2748 Lexington Avenue N., Saint Paul MN 55113

Pipedreams
For a listing of organ events statewide, access the Pipedreams
Organ Calendar. For both on-air and website listings of organ-related
activities, please send information to Michael Barone, or
to Pipedreams Calendar, 480 Cedar St., Saint Paul, MN 55101.

MPR
Classical Minnesota Public Radio encourages you to enter your
classical music performance events in the MPR online calendar.
On the top bar of the general MPR web page, click on “Events,”
then “Events Calendar,” then “Classical Music.” However, if you find your-
self on the Classical MPR main page, click on “More,” then “Events,” then
“Classical Music.”
In either case, once on the page that lists Classical Music Events, if
you wish to add your own upcoming activity, under the headline for “Cal-
endar Events Home” at the top of the page you should find an additional
prompt for “Submit Event.” Fill in all appropriate boxes (and check to see
if your venue is already logged into the system, which might save you
some time).

Note that this MPR Calendar information will reach a different audi-
cence than that submitted to Barone for posting on the TCAGO/
Pipedreams calendar pages. Both are free, the one a self-service feature
and a separate vehicle by which you can let people (including the Classi-
ical MPR program hosts) know about your classical music concerts.
By all means, continue to send information directly to Michael
Barone too!!
We also encourage you to regularly request organ selections on the
“Friday Favorites” show with Steven Staruch. Encourage and promote the
inclusion of more organ music in MPR’s programming!