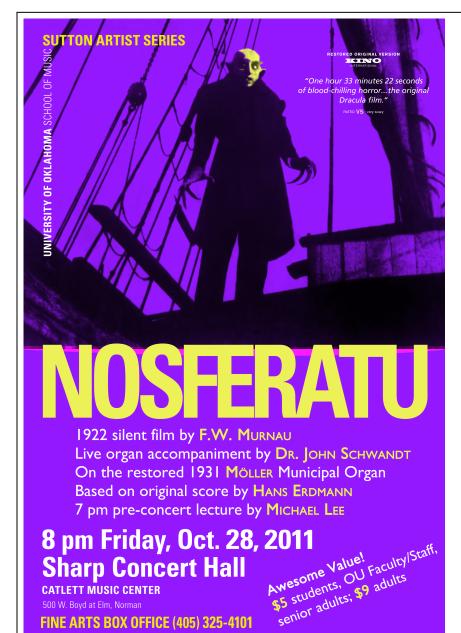


### October 2011 (Volume 5, Number 1)

#### http://aoi.ou.edu/



FINE ARTS BOX OFFICE (405) 325-4101

## **Principal Chorus**

Autumnal greetings to all of you! This issue of Windlines comes to you a bit later than normal simply because so much is happening here at the American Organ Institute. You'll have to read closely so that you don't miss any of the exciting developments and events! At the top of list is the announcement of a \$1 million gift to the AOI from Wilton Webster of Altadena, Calif. It has been a pleasure to host Will while he spent time working in our shop and observing our students; he has become an important partner in the success of our program. His gift has allowed us to hire two new full-time staff members and supports plans for the full restoration and installation of Möller Opus 5819. I personally am very thankful for his friendship and his vote of confidence in the AOI. Likewise, I express my thanks for the gift of an endowed scholarship by Elaine George Ehlers (MM, '58), an esteemed student of Mildred Andrews Boggess. Scholarships such as this are vital as we work to bring the best talent to OU, and it brings me joy to see our alumni helping to keep the great organ tradition here at OU alive.

As of July 1, we were able to officially announce the hiring of Jeremy Wance as assistant to the director and Dan Sliger as shop foreman. Both individuals have an established history with both OU and the AOI, and in their new positions they will assist in the continued growth and operation of the Institute. I also am pleased to be able to announce the

appointments of Craig Sproat and Vicki Schaeffer as adjunct assistant professors in the School of Music. These two fine musicians and scholars are teaching new course offerings in church music and organ literature that greatly expand our curriculum. We also are happy to welcome a new group of students for this academic year. Each possesses admirable talent, and we look for great things from them.

I hope you will plan to join us on the evening of Oct. 28 for a special Hallowe'en treat as we present Friedrich Murnau's Nosferatu in Paul F. Sharp Hall. I will provide the accompaniment for this classic silent film based on fragments of the original score, on our beloved "Mini-Mo". Please join us preceding the film at 7 p.m. for a lecture by Professor Michael Lee as he provides history and context for this cinematic masterpiece from 1922. I hope to see you there!

Professor John Schwandt Director, American Organ Institute

## From the Swell...

The AOI was delighted to host internationally renowned organist-composer Stephen Tharp for his exciting concert Sept. 9 on the Mildred Andrews Boggess Memorial Organ in Kerr Gothic Hall. Tharp, who has performed extensively throughout the United States and Europe as well as commissioned and premiered many new works, performed selections by Mendelssohn and Guilmant as well as new works by Anthony Newman and George Baker. After the concert, Tharp joined the OU organ studio for an enjoyable dinner.

> For more information about Tharp please visit: http://stephentharp.com/html/about.php



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## **Piping In...**

We are happy to pass along an invitation from Dorothy Young Riess (BM, '53; MD '69) to attend the rededication of the Reuter organ at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church in Oklahoma City. A distinguished student of Mildred Andrews and recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship for study with Marcel Dupré in Paris, Riess played the Reuter's dedicatory concert in 1963. She will repeat the same program, with the noted addition of a newly commissioned piece by Callen Clarke for organ and violin, for which she will be joined by the talented Kyle Dillingham. The concert will be presented without charge at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 23, and is open to the public.





## Fanfare...

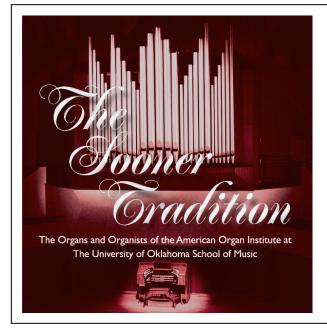
The faculty, staff and students of the AOI wish to congratulate Chris Ganza (left) on two recent competition wins. Ganza, a second-year master's student, was awarded first prize at the annual Albert Schweitzer competition. Only weeks later, he was announced as the winner of the Paul Manz Scholarship competition. Ganza was a finalist in the 2011 Arthur Poister competition, along with colleagues Julie Huang (not pictured) and Adam Pajan (center). Pajan received first prize in that competition. Together, they represent wins in three prestigious competitions and exemplify of the qualities and capabilities of AOI students.

## Vox Seraphim...

It is with sadness that we communicate the passing of Betty Powell, widow of The Rt. Rev. Chilton Powell, sometime bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma. Powell was an accomplished organist and was a student and close friend of Mildred Andrews Boggess, OU's legendary organ professor. Powell is particularly remembered by organists and church musicians for her leadership in the Evergreen Conference and her devotion to the finest standards in hymnody.

## Mark your scores...

- A Time for Singing Hymn Festival featuring John Schwandt and the choirs of OU and McFarlin Memorial United Methodist Church — 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, McFarlin Memorial UMC.
- Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28, Sharp Hall. Lecture by Professor Michael Lee preceding at 7 p.m.
- Sixth Annual Holiday Pipes Featuring John Schwandt and Friends — 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, Sharp Hall.



# Noteworthy...

The faculty and students of the AOI are pleased to announce the recent release of their first CD. *The Sooner Tradition* includes a wide variety of fine music-making performed on the Mildred Andrews Boggess Memorial Organ (C.B. Fisk, Op. 111, 1999) and the partial, temporary installation of Möller Opus 5819 (1931), known affectionately as "Mini-Mo." An eclectic program was chosen so that the full spectrum of organistic possibilities could be showcased: everything from Bruhns to "Boomer Sooner." Any friend of the Institute who makes a financial contribution of \$20 or more will receive a complimentary copy. If you wish to make such a gift, please contact the AOI. Copies also will be available at AOI events for purchase. We look forward to future releases, including a compilation of highlights from Dr. Schwandt's annual *Holiday Pipes* concerts.

 Please update us on your accomplishments and successes! Send in your news announcements for the next issue of *Windlines*. Alumni news can be mailed to:
 American Organ Institute 2101 W. Tecumseh Road, Suite C Norman, OK 73069-8253

 You may also email us at: aoi@ou.edu
 or call us at (405) 325-7829

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