

WINDLINES

The newsletter of the AMERICAN ORGAN INSTITUTE *at*
The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA SCHOOL OF MUSIC

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From the Top



Each time we prepare a new edition of our newsletter, we are given the opportunity to reflect on events and achievements that have occurred, to evaluate where we are currently, and to look forward to the things that are to come. You'll read about these things in this edition, and I hope you will enjoy catching up on all of our news.

After sixteen years of collegiate teaching, I am looking forward to my first sabbatical leave this fall. The American Organ Institute has seen phenomenal growth and suc-

cess in the eight years since my appointment – the result of much work by many people. Given our very solid foundation, I now feel comfortable in taking time this fall to step away from my day-to-day duties and focus on a number of artistic and scholarly projects which I have been anticipating. I expect it will be a period of refreshing growth, and I am sure I will welcome returning to my normal duties with renewed energy and new insights in the new year.

In the meantime, the work of the AOI will continue without slackening. You will read of two new exciting appointments to our faculty, as well as some commonsense restructuring that ensures that the Institute will not miss a beat. The new academic year will bring new faces among the students and the faculty, and we will continue our growth and evolution. As ever, there are exciting things happening in this most unique and wonderful place. I invite you to come and see for yourself!

Meet the Team!

We are happy to announce to new faculty and staff appointments that take effect in the new academic year.

Damin Spritzer has been appointed visiting professor of music for the fall semester, during John Schwandt's sabbatical. Spritzer will teach applied lessons and conduct studio classes. Rapidly gaining international acclaim as a performer, she is well known for her rediscovery of the music of René Louis Becker, her performance of new compositions, and for her extensive background as a church musician. Her degrees were earned from Oberlin, Eastman and North Texas, respectively. Her first volume of the music of Becker was recorded on the Isnard/Cavaillé-Coll

organ in the church of Saint-Salomon et Saint Grégoire in Pithiviers, France. The second volume, due to be released imminently, was recorded on the Cavaillé-Coll organ in the Cathédral Sainte-Croix in Orleans, France. She can be heard in upcoming concerts at Methuen Memorial Music Hall, Cathédral Sainte-Croix in Orleans, France, and St. Malachy's, New York City.



Adam Pajan has been appointed instructor of music and shop technician at the AOI. Pajan will teach applied lessons and coordinate and team-teach coursework in organ technology. Additionally, he will continue work in the AOI shop, particularly in the area of voicing. Pajan is the winner of multiple prestigious competitions, and received his degrees from Furman, Yale, and the University of Oklahoma, respectively. In addition to a growing concert career, he continues his career in church music at St. Mark's Church, Norman, where he is director of music and organist.

Other changes within the AOI include restructuring of staff roles. Jeremy Wance has been appointed associate director of the institute, continuing work in administration, programs, development and recruitment. John Riestler receives the new title of projects director, overseeing multiple endeavors undertaken by the institute. Daniel Sliger has been named shop manager, coordinating the daily operation of the institute's fully-functional organ shop. Continuing in their roles at the AOI are Craig Sproat, who teaches applied lessons and coursework in hymnody and organ literature, and Vicki Schaeffer, teaching courses in church music.



Damin Spritzer



Adam Pajan

American Organ Institute to host 2014 AIO Convention

The American Organ Institute at the University of Oklahoma is happy to host members of the American Institute of Organbuilders during their national convention, which will be headquartered in Oklahoma City and is scheduled for Oct. 5 through 8. Some 200 organbuilders from North America and Europe gather annually in convention for educational seminars, visits to notable pipe organs and general socializing. Drawing upon the interdisciplinary nature of the program at OU, lectures will be given by several OU professors. Suman Basuroy, from OU's Price College of Business, will present a lecture on marketing strategies. Brian Grady (pictured at right), College of Engineering, will present findings of a new study on the aging of organ leather, in conjunction with Jeremy Wance of the AOI and Benjamin Hall, an undergraduate research assistant.



Members of the AIO also will tour the AOI shop and hear a demonstration of the Mildred Andrews Boggess Memorial Organ and the practice organs utilized by students. Following a dinner in the Sandy Bell Gallery of the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, a gala concert, featuring students and faculty of the institute, will be presented on the "Mini-Mo" in Sharp Hall. At the conclusion of the convention, the AOI shop will host a two-day seminar on reed voicing, featuring Eric Johnson (pictured below) of Quimby Pipe Organs, Warrensburg, Missouri, David Hall of F. Booth & Son, Leeds, England, and David Schopp of A.R. Schopp's Sons (pictured at left), of Alliance, Ohio. Participants will voice a number of differing reed pipes under various parameters and discuss practical matters with acknowledged masters of this art.



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Members of the AIO may choose instead to spend a day on the OU campus, visiting such points of interest as the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, the National Weather Center, the Mewbourne College of Earth and Energy, the Western History Collection and the Carl Albert Center, among others.



POE-A / POE-T

The AOI, in conjunction with the Southern Plains Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (SPAGO), will host a Pipe Organ Encounter Advanced (POE-A) and Pipe Organ Encounter Technical (POE Tech) in June 2015. The Pipe Organ Encounter programs were developed by the American Guild of Organists to diversify the educational opportunities available to organ students of all ages. Overseen by the national Committee on the New Organist, each POE program is designed for students of a specific age range and experience level, spanning high school to adults. Only one AGO chapter is selected each year to host a POE-A, targeted at high-school students with previous playing experience. The AOI and SPAGO will welcome 20 students to campus and Norman-area churches, where they will have the opportunity to study with the foremost pedagogues from the most lauded institutions across the country. Such a setting allows these young students to immerse themselves in the practice of the art of organ-playing and build friendships with other organists their age – a most important element of the POE experience.



Lectures and masterclasses will augment individual lessons to provide a comprehensive, rewarding experience for these young musicians.

Concerts will be offered throughout the course of the week and will be open to the public. All are encouraged to attend!

At the same time, approximately the same number of students drawn from high school and undergraduate students will spend the week in the AOI Shop in the POE Tech program. The Tech program was created for young people interested in organbuilding and maintenance, and the AOI Shop is the ideal location to host such an event. Visiting faculty members from leading organbuilding firms along with our own shop personnel will guide the students through a series of workshops encompassing a variety of topics, including historical principles, tonal regulation, tuning, and design, among others. Trips within Norman to visit instruments will demonstrate the various elements in their final organization. The Tech students will combine with the Advanced students for discussions and lectures with combined faculty members. Having both programs in Norman simultaneously will give Advanced and Tech students the superior opportunity to meet each other and begin the all-important dialogue between performers and technicians that is at the heart of the mission of the American Organ Institute.

Archive News

The American Organ Institute Archive and Library continues to grow. Building on the successful work of student archivists James Richardson and Bailey Hoffner, the American Theatre Organ Collection is being cataloged and placed in archival quality storage systems by Michelle Merriman, master's student in Library and Information Studies, and Andrew Schaeffer, doctoral student in organ performance.

Below: Student archivist Andrew Schaeffer holds one of the freshly sorted collections.



Above: Source materials for David Junchen's books are sorted and catalogued.



Opus 5819

Restoration of Möller Opus 5819 in the AOI shop continues at a steady pace. Following the complete restoration of the Great division, which was subsequently carefully packed away awaiting eventual installation, the Swell division is now underway. The entire division will be playable on the shop floor in early October, in time for the convention of the American Institute of Organbuilders.



Left: Early Swell division assembly on the shop floor.

Above: John Schwandt (left) and Adam Pajan (right) regulating swell reeds in the voicing room.



In The Wind

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of distinguished alumnus Clyde Holloway ('57, '59). Initially appointed to the faculty of Indiana University in 1965, Holloway (pictured at left) founded the organ program at Rice University in 1977, where he remained until his retirement in 2010, and was organist and choirmaster at Houston's Christ Church Cathedral from 1977 until 1993. One of Miss Andrews's most successful students, he excelled early by winning the National Young Artists Competition in Organ Playing (NYACOP) competition in 1964 and received a Fulbright for study in the Netherlands with Gustav Leonhardt. A gifted artist, teacher and scholar, he carried on the legacy of Miss Andrews and was instrumental in the design of the organ that bears her name here at her alma mater.

On May 27, Donald Dumler (pictured at right) was honored at a gala dinner to mark the occasion of his retirement as principal organist of St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City. He was given the title of principal organist emeritus. A native of Okeene, Oklahoma, Dumler's first public appearance as an organist was at the age of 12 at the annual Rattlesnake Roundup in his hometown. He eventually made his way to OU to study with Mildred Andrews, and then to the Juilliard School, where he studied with Vernon de Tar and received his Artist's Certificate. The longest-serving organist in St. Patrick's history, he was first appointed associate organist in 1970, principal organist in 1990. He played for popes and presidents and was a distinguished concert artist. We at the AOI wish him all the best in his retirement!



We Are Proud to Present...

With great joy, we celebrated the graduation of five students at ceremonies in May. Pictured left to right, Adam Pajan received his D.M.A. in organ with an emphasis in church music; James Richardson received his M.M. in organ performance; Mayu Hashigaya received her M.M. in organ with an emphasis in organ technology; Alvez Barkoskie IV received his M.M. in organ performance; Nolan Reilly received his B.M. in organ performance. This is the largest graduating class since the retirement of Mildred Andrews Boggess, and we feel certain she would be pleased!



Oklahoma, Hail!

We are proud to announce the production of our third CD. *Oklahoma, Hail!* features students in performance on the Mildred Andrews Boggess Memorial Organ (C.B. Fisk, Opus 111, 1999) and the Möller Municipal Organ (Opus 5819, 1931, nicknamed “Mini-Mo”).



Musical repertoire extends from Bach to Victor Herbert, with something for everyone. Copies are available at AOI events or by emailing aoi@ou.edu.

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our Facebook Page!**

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Mark Your Scores!

—8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 22, Sharp Hall – Silent Film – Buster Keaton's *The Cameraman*. Peter Krasinski will provide live accompaniment on the Möller Municipal Organ.

—8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 7, Sharp Hall – Gala concert for the national convention of the American Institute of Organbuilders, featuring faculty and students of the American Organ Institute and the Möller Municipal Organ.

—3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16, Gothic Hall – J. Craig Sproat, adjunct instructor of music, presents a concert on the Mildred Andrews Boggess Memorial Organ.

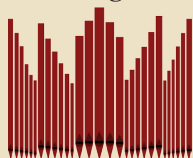
—8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Gothic Hall – John Schwandt reprises his annual *Holiday Pipes* concert on the Mildred Andrews Boggess Memorial Organ.

Student Success

Among the many recent successes of our students, we note proudly that Christopher Ganza was named one of five semi-finalists in the National Competition in Organ Improvisation. A biennial initiative of the American Guild of Organists, the semi-final and final rounds will be held in Boston during the AGO national convention June 23 through 27. Ganza is a DMA student originally from Waterville, Maine. His undergraduate study was at St. Olaf College, with his master's work at OU. He serves as director of music at the parish of St. Charles Borromeo in Oklahoma City. Ganza previously won first prize in the Paul and Ruth Manz Competition, the Albert Schweitzer Competition and the Rodland Competition.

A new hymn titled “God, We Gather” by Alvez Barkoskie IV was chosen to celebrate the 300th anniversary of Bruton Parish, Williamsburg, Virginia. The hymn competition was open to students from across the United States. Barkoskie is a native of St. Augustine, Florida. He completed his bachelor's degree in organ and theory/composition at Stetson University and a master's degree in composition with a secondary emphasis in organ from the University of Texas at Austin, where he studied organ with Gerry and Judith Hancock. He received a master's degree in organ from OU, where he is currently pursuing a doctorate.

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