



PIPE NOTES

a publication of the Vermont Chapter
of The American Guild of Organists

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JUNE VERMONT AGO EVENT FEATURES SUSAN SUMMERFIELD AS VERMONT AGO ARTIST-OF-THE-YEAR

On Sunday, June 12 at 3 p.m. in the Chapel of St. Michael the Archangel, One Winooski Park, Colchester, Vt. (St. Michael's College) Dr. Susan Summerfield will present her Artist-of-the-Year 2016 organ recital. A Reception and Annual meeting of the Vermont Chapter AGO will follow in the McCarthy Arts Center. A music exchange will also be available. Bring music to share and take some new pieces home with you. The event is free, and everyone is most welcome to attend. Vermont AGO members are especially encouraged to come and support this recital by one of our own.

DORIS HUGHES MEMORIAL RECITAL IN ST. ALBANS ON MAY 15

A nice gathering of church members, choir members, friends, community folk, and fellow musicians attended the Doris Hughes Memorial Recital on May 15 at the First Congregational Church of St. Albans. It was a fitting tribute to a lovely lady and dedicated organist who had served that church for almost 20 years. The console was ably handled by Jennifer Bower, a graduate geology student at the University of Vermont and an accomplished organist who plays on an 1879 Hook and Hastings tracker organ in a church in Vergennes, and Vaughn Watson of Addison, Vermont, a seasoned organ recitalist with a long list of performances and church organ positions held. A pleasing diversity of pieces was presented:

Jennifer Bower: works by Bach, A Herbert Brewer, Nadia Boulanger, and
Buxtehude

Vaughn Watson: works by Roger C. Hannahs, Jehan Alain, Messiaen, and Dubois

A faulty leather nut in the organ received a temporary fix by Robert Newton from the Andover Organ Company who happened to be in the audience for this recital so that the recital could resume and be completed. Bower and Watson ably provided organ commentary and beautiful presentations of each organ selection for a most satisfactory music experience. The First Congregational Church Choir and The Community Singers combined for two selections directed by Linda Smith and accompanied by Bower and Watson. A sumptuous display of refreshments afterwards with time with the performers completed the afternoon. Many thanks to Jennifer

Bower and Vaughn Watson, the church and community choristers, and the people of the church for such a lovely event.

CHAPTER NOTES

Thank you to all members who have helped demonstrate organs or given recitals to insure the smooth running of Chapter events and to promote organs throughout our region. Your talents and willingness to share them are very much appreciated.

Thank you, also, to members who have sent in articles for inclusion in our newsletters, as Esther Nui and Kevin Bishop have done for this issue, to enhance the offerings of this publication.

Kedra Greaves has a change of address. She has moved and is now at:
 Brookside Nursing Home
 1200 Christian Street
 White River Junction, Vermont 05001

For those of you who can receive VPR and listen to Pipedreams, on July 3rd their program no. 1625 features as the first piece of the evening Charles Ives "Variations on 'America'" played by E. Power Biggs on the 1875 Hutchings-Plaisted at the Universalist Church in Woodstock.

COMING EVENTS

On **June 5 at 3 p.m.** at the **First Baptist Church in Burlington, Vermont** new Vermont AGO member **Adam Schneider** will offer a **short organ recital/tour of the organ chamber**. The church is located at 81 St. Paul Street. All are most welcome.

The Executive Committee of **St. John's Episcopal Church in East Poultney, Vermont** shares its plans for **worship services** during the summer months. All services will begin at **4:00 p.m.**:

On **Saturday, June 11** a **service of thanksgiving** will honor the contributions of the Welsh immigrants who have played an important part in the history of the area. The service will include traditional Welsh hymns and readings and prayers in the language of Wales.

On **Saturday, July 2**, a **service of thanksgiving and celebration of our national independence** will include prayers for our national life and hymns of thanksgiving in anticipation of the July 4th holiday.

On **Saturday, August 13**, the church will be open for the celebration of **East Poultney Day**. This annual event encompasses many activities around the village green. Those who join in the worship service for a time of prayer and reflection may afterwards walk across the green to the Baptist Church which invites all to dinner from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. A perfect way to spend an afternoon in historic buildings and small-village living.

James Cassarino, professor of music at Green Mountain College and director of music at Trinity Church Rutland, will be in charge of music for all services with the assistance of guest musicians. Enthusiasts of historic organs may experience one of the few remaining 1860 William Nutting organs, hand-pumped and still in the state in which Nutting made it. The venerable instrument has lovely tone and to hear it is an experience not often available, a trip back in time. The church is a completely unchanged 1831 gem, with gated pews under globed kerosene lamps and an original antique organ.

The **Essex Community Church in Essex, New York** announces its **2016 Season Performances**. Evening concerts are at 7:00 p.m. and Mid-Day concerts, on Thursdays, are at 11:30 a.m. Their website, www.essexcommunityconcerts.org, offers their complete concert listings. Their organ events are:

July 28 Dr. Bill Tortolano, organist Thursday at 11:30 a.m.
 August 12 Vaughn Watson, organist Friday at 7:00 p.m.

The **Artist-of-the-Year Recital** will be presented by **Susan Summerfield** on **Sunday, June 12 at 3 p.m. at St. Michael's Chapel**, one Winooski Park, Colchester, Vermont. A Reception and Annual meeting of the Vermont Chapter AGO will follow in the McCarthy Arts Center. A music exchange will also be available. Bring music to share and take some new pieces home with you.

A **silent film program** featuring Ben Model will be presented in the **Congregational Church** on Main Street in **Rupert, Vermont** on **Saturday, June 25 at 3 p.m.** Hailing from the Museum of Modern Art in NYC, Ben will play an original score for the films which will be projected on a very large screen in the blacked out sanctuary. The organ is a 1929 Estey with a BIG tremolo. This will be the second such film event at the church. The first was very successful and heavily attended. More information on this event is included in this newsletter.

ESTHER NUI SHARES WITH US HER EXPERIENCE AT A CAMERON CARPENTER PERFORMANCE

I had the pleasure of watching and listening to Cameron Carpenter perform at the Theatre Maisoneuve in Montreal on March 29th, 2016. Since I have become acquainted with the pipe organ, I have heard Cameron Carpenter's name spoken with positive praise or negative derision and I was really interested to form my own opinion.

Before the program, I attended a workshop by Carpenter that featured two organ students from the McGill University. Carpenter spoke about his objectives and his ideas and I was impressed by a man, who did not come across as arrogant to me, but as a man who was steadily moving in the direction he felt suited him best. He does want to make a living as a performing organist and he wants his music to be enjoyed by those who are familiar with or unfamiliar with the organ repertory. He is definitely moving in the symphonic direction.

There were no program notes for the performance. He announced the titles either after or before the performance of each piece. I regret to say that I was unable to hear all the titles and I have no way of verifying that what I heard is correct. Carpenter said he was beginning his performance in C major and would end his program in C minor. I heard the titles for the first part of his program and they included:

Overture from Wagner's Die Meistersinger (arranged by Carpenter)
 Oblivion Tango by Astor Piazzolla (arranged by Carpenter)
 Prelude and Fugue in B minor by J.S. Bach
 Naiades and Carillon de Westminster by L. Vierne

After the intermission, I was unable to catch all the titles. It was a more eclectic mix and included an arrangement of a Scherzo movement from a Tchaikovsky Symphony, his arrangement of a Duke Ellington composition, Carpenter's own composition written for an imaginary film and he ended with the Passacaglia and Fugue in C Minor by J. S. Bach. J. S. Bach is the "Sun" in Cameron Carpenter's world. As an encore he played a John Sousa march.

I, personally, did not like his interpretation of the Passacaglia and Fugue but it provided a different approach to this very famous opus. Mr. Carpenter is truly what the writeup below states and whether you agree with his views or not, he is certainly an organist of note in this century. I was glad I was able to both watch and hear him perform in person. The traveling organ is astounding in its reproduction capabilities but it is difficult to beat, in my opinion, the reverberating frequencies and tonalities of a well maintained pipe organ.

The following is the information listed on Cameron Carpenter on the CIOCM website. "Cameron Carpenter is an American organist known for his virtuosity, showmanship, technique and arrangements for the organ.

Carpenter has bachelor's and master's degrees from The Juilliard School in New York having studied with Gerre Hancock, John Weaver, and Paul Jacobs. A virtuoso composer-performer unique among keyboardists, Cameron's approach to the organ is smashing the stereotypes of organists and organ music in general. The "extravagantly talented" (The New York Times) Carpenter has generated a level of acclaim, exposure, and controversy unprecedented for an organist. Renowned for his virtuosity, showmanship, technique and arrangements for the organ--as well as his own digital International Touring Organ--Carpenter occupies a unique place in today's classical music landscape. "No other musician of Carpenter's generation has more adeptly fused shrewd showmanship, dazzling technique and profound thinking about his instrument and his place in the musical cosmos," says The San Francisco Chronicle.

"The realization of a dream more than a decade in the making, the International Touring Organ (Marshall & Ogletree, the Needham, Massachusetts organ builders) allows Cameron Carpenter to bring ever more compelling performances to any venue in the world.

This formidable and boundary-breaking artist is sure to put on quite a show!"

BEN MODEL WILL PLAY A RUPERT, VERMONT ESTEY IN A SILENT FILM SHOWING

"Steamboat Bill, Jr.", starring Buster Keaton will show Saturday, June 25 at 3 p.m. at the Congregational Church, Main Street, in Rupert, Vermont. This is the white church next to the village cemetery.

Buster Keaton was one of the top three movie comedians in the 1920's and his popularity with classic film fans today often finds him neck-in-neck with Charlie Chaplin.

Ben Model, resident silent film accompanist for the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) in NYC and the Library of Congress will introduce the film and perform his original musical score on the church's beautiful Estey pipe organ.

Organ enthusiasts will be happily surprised at the Estey's ability to sound like a theatre organ.

The sanctuary will be blacked out and the film will be projected on a large screen.

KEVIN BISHOP SHARES A SALEM, NEW YORK RECITAL

A grand organ recital given by Lubbert Gnodde was heard in the village of Salem, New York, just across the border from Rupert, Vermont.

The event was held Friday, May 20 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church and was very well attended. The organ is an 1855 Elias and George Hook. Originally installed in the Unitarian Church, Dorchester, Mass., and relocated to St. Paul's in 1888. It enjoyed a restoration by A. David Moore in 2006.

Mr. Gnodde's program began and ended with Bach pieces. We enjoyed two pieces by J. P. Sweelinck, three by Theodore Dubois, one each of Franck and Louis Vierne. Mr. Gnodde is a master organist. All pieces were delivered beautifully.

The organ's specifications:

Great	Swell	Pedal
Open Diapason 8	Bourdon Treble 16	Dbl Open Diapason 16
Melodia Treble 8	Bourdon Bass 16	Bourdon Ped 16
Stp. Diapason 8	Open Diapason 8	Couplers
Viol D'amour 8	Stp Diapason Treble 8	Swell to Great
Principal 4	Stp Diapason Bass 8	Great to Pedal
Wald Flute 4	Dulciana 8	Swell to Pedal
Twelfth 2 1/2	Principal 4	
Fifteenth 2	Flute 4	
Sesquialtra III	Fifteenth 2	
Trumpet Treble 8	Trumpet Treble 8	
Trumpet Bass 8	Trumpet Bass 8	
	Hautboy 8	

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the July issue of **Pipe Notes** will be June 20. It is not too late (yet) to get later summer events included in this newsletter. Please send them in soon. Members appreciate hearing about Vermont organs being featured in summer events when the weather is good for travel.