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# Keeping Tabs

www.agorochester.org

Deadline for submission: the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month  
(please submit info as email text, not attachments)

**October 2009**

## From the Dean

Our AGO new season has started with a bang!

First, we held the premiere concert of our Rochester Celebrity Organ Recital Series featuring Todd Wilson. Both the concert and master class were great successes. Todd Wilson's playing



Todd Wilson at the console

and teaching were inspirational! I particularly enjoyed "A Song Without Words" by Craig Phillips (b.1961) for cello and organ, written in honor of the composer's brother, who died at a young age. The mighty Skinner and cello created such a beautiful mood that the audience did not want to break the moment with applause. I think this is the highest form of praise for presenting a piece of music and it was well deserved for the collaboration between cellist Lisa Caravan and Todd Wilson.

Many people need to be thanked for their efforts in making this concert a success. I would like to take this opportunity to thank St. Paul's Episcopal Church and their music director, Robert Poovey, for hosting this concert,



Todd Wilson's master classes

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## *From the Dean (continued)*

and for all of the support their congregation gave to ensure the success of this concert. A special thank you to the Eastman School of Music Organ Department for all of their motivation and support in making this concert possible. Annie Laver, an Eastman student, worked tirelessly to keep all of us on task and helped to solve all of the problems that arose along the way in making this series happen. Our co-promoter, WXXI, also deserves a thank you for promoting this concert, which resulted in 255 people attending. Thanks to our guild members' support and all who gave donations, this celebrity organ recital series will have the necessary funds to continue to bring world-renowned organists to Rochester to play our treasure of pipe organs. Our hope for this series is that in the future it will continual to grow and showcase all of the spectacular organs in Rochester.

Second, we had our Opening Service at the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford. A special thank you to Pastor Bruce Boak; James Douthit, Music Director at Pittsford



Eunyoung Kim, Organist,  
Pittsford Presbyterian  
Church

Presbyterian Church; and Eunyoung Kim, organist at the church, for presenting our chapter with a beautiful, peace-filled and inspiring Evening Prayer service in the Presbyterian tradition. The new Taylor and Boody Opus 57 pipe organ was beautiful! It was a delight to

have so many of our guild members attend and catch up with each other, and have the opportunity to meet some of our new area organists. Thank you Peter DuBois, our very own talented sub-Dean, for playing the Handel Concerto in F Major, Opus 4, No. 4 for the prelude!



James Douthit,  
Director of Music,  
Pittsford Presbyterian  
Church

EROI (Eastman Rochester Organ Initiative) will be held October 29 through November 1. This year's festival, "Felix Mendelssohn & the Contrapuntal Tradition," will pay tribute to Mendelssohn on the 200th anniversary of his birth. The complete works of Mendelssohn will be performed on the Craighead-Saunders organ, which represents an organ with a "sound" that Mendelssohn would have known. Individual tickets for all concerts will be available for purchase through the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra Box Office (108 East Avenue, 585-454-2100). Any unsold seats go on sale one hour before concert time at Christ Church. The Eastman School of Music, the Organ Historical Society and the Westfield Center are sponsoring this event. Our AGO chapter does give a donation to help defray the cost of this endeavor. So, thanks to your membership, we are able to support EROI. Information for registering for the festival can be found on our website at [www.agorocheater.org](http://www.agorocheater.org). Just click the tab for the link to EROI on our home page. Volunteers are needed for ushers, staffing registration tables, housing and rides for some of the presenters are needed. Please contact Anne

Laver at 469-4089 or anne.laver@rochester.ed if you can help.

Our next AGO event is a "Choral Showcase" on Friday, November 13, 7:30 p.m. at Incarnation Episcopal Church. David McCarthy is organizing a sing-through of choral music composed by local composers. The music will be of varying degrees of difficulty. This is also an opportunity for us organists to be the "choir." This will be a fun evening of singing. Afterwards we will have time to meet the composers while having some light refreshments. So, if you are looking for

some new music for your choir to sing at church, set this time aside and come hear what choral music is being composed right here in Rochester!

Also in November is the first of three lessons in our Lesson Series. On Saturday, November 7, Stephen Kennedy will be instructing those who signed up for the series on "Bach to Mendelssohn" using the Craighead-Saunders organ at Christ Church. See details listed below in this newsletter.

Best wishes,

– Ron

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### *From the Sub-Dean*

We certainly have started this season with a bang! Todd Wilson's kick-off concert for the new Rochester Celebrity Organ Recital Series was a great success on September 13th, and the opening Guild Service on the 20th was a lovely way to start our program year "officially." Thanks to Robert Poovey and the staff and congregation of St. Paul's Episcopal Church for helping make possible Todd's recital. And thanks to James Douthit and the clergy and congregation of First Presbyterian Church in Pittsford for their hospitality and planning of the service.

Next on the horizon is this year's edition of the EROI Festival, focusing on organ and choral works of Felix Mendelssohn, the 200th anniversary of whose birth we celebrate this year. More details on this year's conference and concerts can be found elsewhere in this newsletter, and full details are on-line at <http://www.esm.rochester.edu/eroi/festival-2009.php>.

See you there!

– Peter DuBois

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### *Lesson Series 2009 – 2010*

- \$50.00 for all three lessons (paid by the first lesson)
- Please send money to:
- \$25.00 to audit
- No refunds if you miss a lesson.

Paul Frolick, 36 South Main St., Pittsford, NY 14534

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November 7, 2009

- Saturday 10:00 a.m.
- Steve Kennedy
- Christ Church

*Bring "Bach to Mendelssohn" or whatever else you have in your fingers!"*

February 23, 2010

- Hans Davidsson
- Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
- Sacred Heart Cathedral

*Bring Buxtehude or "anything"*

April 24, 2010

- Duane Prill
- Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
- Asbury United Methodist

*Bring an anthem or something you are using to accompany a choir, soloist, instrumental solo, etc.*

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## **MAG Concerts**

- Sunday, Oct. 4—Esther Chun, graduate
  - Sunday, Oct. 11—Daniel Aune, graduate
  - Sunday, Oct. 18—*To Be Determined*
  - Sunday, Oct. 25—Nathan Davy, graduate
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## **Harpsichord Concert at Covenant United Methodist Church**

All are invited to hear Hsuan-Wen Chen (Priset) perform a harpsichord concert at Covenant United Methodist Church at 4:00P.M. Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.

Hsuan-Wen Chen (Priset) is an active soloist and chamber music player, Minister of Music at the Bellport United Methodist Church, NY., a founding member of Inégale, former teaching asst. to Prof. Arthur Haas at Stony Brook, and assistant director for the Baroque Academy, Amherst Early Music Festival. Among others, she has performed with the New York Continuo Collective, Sprightly Companions, and Stony Brook Baroque Players.

We invite you to join us as we bring good things in the arts to the city. The concert is free to all. Covenant United Methodist Church is located at 1124 Culver Road in Rochester.

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## **Moller Organ Dedicatory Recital**

Michael Fraser, Organist at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Perry, invites you to the dedicatory recital on their newly-installed Moller. The premiere starts at 7P.M. Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. No admission fee will be charged, and a reception with light refreshments will close the event.

Guest recitalist will be Jesse Ratcliffe, a native of Hinton, West Virginia. Jesse owes his love of the organ to the people, churches and instruments in this town. His musical career has always been in the

shadow of the church. Since the age of twelve, he has served as a musician in churches of several denominations. Currently he is the Music Director and Organist at First Presbyterian Church of Narrows, and Pearisburg Presbyterian Church, both located in Giles County, Virginia.

Currently a fifth-year senior at Concord University, Jesse plans to graduate in May 2010 with an Interdisciplinary degree in Organ and History. He has studied privately and in master classes with Dr. Robert Gary, professor of organ at Cincinnati Conservatory, Dr. Walden Moore, professor of Sacred Music at Yale University, and Robin Austin, Carillonneur of Princeton University.

The 2/9 Moller, formerly of St. Martin of Tours church in Buffalo, replaces a Galanti electronic organ, and complements the acoustics of the church without overwhelming the listener. "We found the instrument through the assistance of the Buffalo Diocesan music Director, Alan Lukas," reports Fraser. "The organ came to Perry in January, and installation started in May. The project took approximately 3 months." He helped Phil Schlueter, curator of organs at Holy Trinity Lutheran in Buffalo, with repairs and installation.

For more information, call the church office at (585)237-2625.



Moller console being hoisted from the main floor into the gallery

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## *Legendary Organist Thomas Murray Performs in Utica*

World-acclaimed organist Thomas Murray, University Organist and Professor of Music at Yale University, will be performing an organ concert at Grace Episcopal Church in Utica on Sunday, October 18th, beginning at 4 p.m. Professor Murray will perform on Grace Church's Holtkamp Organ, installed in 1983, which consists of three manuals and pedals that control 63 ranks of pipes.

The concert is free and open to the public. The church is located on the corner of Genesee and Elizabeth Streets in downtown Utica. Parking for the church is available in nearby off-street lots.

"Thomas Murray is one of the legendary musicians of our time, and it is a very special honor to welcome him to Utica," said Grace Church Organist and Choirmaster Bruce Smith. "The organ is an instrument that has amazing potential at the hands of a master. Professor Murray is one of the most honored and respected organists of our time through his ability to bring a richness and vibrancy to the music he plays. This concert will be a wonderful treat not only for those of us who enjoy the organ, but for all music lovers who enjoy hearing the works of great composers played on a great instrument and performed by an artist with consummate skill."

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### *Guild Events*

October 29 – November 1, EROI "Felix Mendelssohn & the Contrapuntal Tradition"

November 7, Saturday, 10:00 A.M. Lesson Series at Christ Church with Steven Kennedy

November 13, 7:30 P.M., Choral Showcase (Sing through local composed songs). David McCarthy hosting this event at Incarnation Episcopal Church, 1957 Five Mile Line Rd., Penfield.

January/February, Mini Convention "Praise Band and Mainstream Churches" (All you wanted to know but were afraid to ask), St. Joseph's Church, Penfield, 9:30 – 2:00 (Date TBA)

February 12, Rochester Celebrity Organ Concert Series Friday, 8:00 P.M. Joan Lippincott at Christ Church Episcopal

February 13, Saturday Master Class with Joan Lippincott (Location and Time TBA)

February 23, Tuesday, 7:00 P.M. Lesson Series at Sacred Heart Cathedral with Hans Davidsson

March: High School Competition (Date, Location and Time TBA)

April 26 – May 2 Master Classes with Michel Bouvard (Location and Times TBA)

April 27, Tuesday, 7:00 P.M. Lesson Series at Asbury United Methodist Church with Duane Prill

April 30, Friday AGO Banquet at Sacred Heart Cathedral 5:30 -7:40

April 30, Rochester Celebrity Organ Concert Series, Friday, 8:00 P.M. Michel Bouvard at Sacred Heart Cathedral

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### *Non-Guild Events*

October 4, Sunday, 1:00P.M. and 3:00P.M. Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Ave., Rochester, "Going for Baroque" mini-recital by Esther Chun, graduate student.

October 9, Friday, 7:00P.M. St. Joseph's Church, 71 Leicester St., Perry. Dedicatory organ recital by Jesse Ratcliffe for newly-installed 2/9 M.P.

Moller organ. Free admission. Reception with light refreshments to follow.

October 11, Sunday, 1:00P.M. and 3:00P.M. Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Ave., Rochester. "Going for Baroque" mini-recital by Daniel Aune, graduate student.

October 17, Saturday, 4:00 – 7:00P.M. East Penfield Baptist Church, 2635 Penfield Rd., Fairport (corner of Salt & Carter). Spaghetti Dinner with LIVE organ music (Italian songs, big band & swing). Adults \$7/children \$4.

October 18, Sunday –

- 1:00P.M. and 3:00P.M. Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Ave., Rochester. "Going for Baroque" mini-recital. Recitalist to be determined.
- 2:30P.M. Sunday, the New Auditorium Theatre, 885 E. Main St., Rochester. "Pops on Pipes" – Ron Reseigh, \$15/door. Coupons available. Bio at <http://www.theatreorgans.com/rochestr/ArtistBiography.htm>
- 4:00P.M. Grace Episcopal Church, 16 Elizabeth St, Utica, NY. Thomas Murray in recital on Grace Church's 3/63 Holtkamp Organ. Free and open to the public.

October 23, Friday, 7:00P.M. Rochester Christian Reformed Church, 2750 Atlantic Ave,

Penfield. EROI Community Recital series Opening Recital with Performers Benton Blasingame, Malcolm Matthews, John Morabito, Ryan Enright.

October 25, Sunday –

- 9:30A.M. – 4P.M. RTOS members' Open Console session at Eisenhart Auditorium, East Ave. at Goodman behind Rochester Museum & Science Center. Free admission for public.
- 1:00P.M. and 3:00P.M. Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Ave., Rochester, NY, "Going for Baroque" mini-recital by Nathan Davy, graduate student.
- 4:00P.M. Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 1130 Webster Rd, Webster. EROI Community Recital series, Performers Aaron James, Meg Harper, John Allegar.
- 4:00P.M. Hsuan-Wen Chen (Priset), Covenant United Methodist Church, 1124 Culver Rd, Rochester, NY. Harpsichord Concert. Free Admission.

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**Positions**..... please email Ron at [RFABRY@dor.org](mailto:RFABRY@dor.org) each month for your listing to stay in

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC POSITION, Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church, 1200 Winton Road South, Rochester, NY, 14618, seeks an individual to fill the position of Director of Music. This is a part-time position with negotiable hours and salary. The incumbent will provide organ and piano music during church services, accompany the congregation, and direct an adult voice choir. Experience with bell choirs is desirable. The incumbent will be expected to coordinate all music offerings and support church functions that include music.

The Church owns a Casavant Frères pipe organ and several pianos. In 2005, the Casavant Frères organ was completely refurbished and restored by the manufacturer. Music is very important in the life of our church and we are committed to maintaining and seeking a variety of professional music offerings.

Please send résumés and letters of interest to the address above or to [office@twelvecorners.org](mailto:office@twelvecorners.org). Search committee contact persons are Carol Deinhardt, 585-482-1177,

[caroldeinhardt@frontiernet.net](mailto:caroldeinhardt@frontiernet.net); and Charles Krusentsjerna, 585-442-3249, [ctck@frontiernet.net](mailto:ctck@frontiernet.net).

ORGANIST/WORSHIP ACCOMPANIST POSITION, Hilton United Methodist Church is seeking a committed, dynamic individual to fill a position as Organist/Worship Accompanist, part-time. Responsibilities include rehearsing (Wednesday evenings) with choir, playing for blended Sunday morning worship services and special services throughout the year. Requirements include specific training in music theory, proficiency in organ and piano, and ability to work with different age groups and volunteers. Previous worship planning experience is preferred.

Submit resume to: [hume98@rochester.rr.com](mailto:hume98@rochester.rr.com). Telephone inquiries: (585) 392-8761.