



e-Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2003

www.agosanjose.org
Bob Birnstihl, e-Editor, bobb@envsys.com



NOVEMBER PROGRAM

David Conte

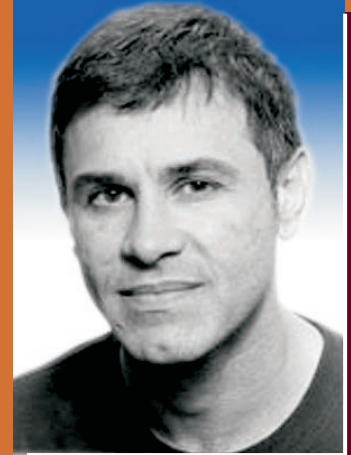
Composer/Conductor

Saturday, November 15, 2003, 10 AM—NOON

Immanuel Lutheran Church

14103 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga

FREE FOR CHAPTER MEMBERS; NON-MEMBERS \$2



Coffee will be available for late starters, so get there early. Our guest speaker/clinician will be David Conte from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

He has been Professor of Composition at San Francisco Conservatory of Music since 1985. He has received commissions from Chanticleer, San Francisco Symphony Chorus, Dayton Philharmonic, Oakland-East Bay Symphony and Stockton Symphony and has composed songs for Barbara Bonney, Thomas Hampson and Phyllis Bryn-Julson. David has composed four operas, works for orchestra, and numerous works for solo organ, chorus and organ, solo voice and organ, and chorus and orchestra. Conte's music is published exclusively by Schirmer Music Co., Boston. His music is represented on numerous commercial CDs.

Conte earned a B.M. degree from Bowling Green State University and M.A. and D.M.A. from Cornell where he studied with Karel Husa and Steven Stucky. He studied with Nadia Boulanger in Paris on a Fulbright Scholarship and worked with Aaron Copeland in 1982 in preparing a study of the composer's manuscript sketches.

He received a conducting fellowship at Aspen Music Festival and the Ralph Vaughan Williams Fellowship. He has served on faculties of Cornell University, Colgate University and the National Music Camp at Interlochen, Michigan.

Dean's Column

Dear Colleagues,

Give Thanks by Henry Smith is a short chorus that most likely my congregation will be singing as part of worship on Thanksgiving Sunday. *Nun Danket*, *Kremser* and *Simple Gifts* are probably on many members' practice list these days. I hope indeed that we are thankful in innumerable ways.

At the top of my list of things that I am thankful for is the gift of music and the ability to share it with others. I know many of you share this thought. Our recipients may have received comfort, hope, joy, inspiration and even humor through our music, but I am sure we are also

humbled and buoyed by their appreciation and encouragement. Giving and receiving is a two-way street, after all.

I am thankful that we have the AGO where we of similar inclinations can come together and cultivate relationships. I can honestly say that our chapter members are a friendly and a chatty bunch. I am surely thankful to have friends and colleagues like you. Let us work together so that we can become more friends than colleagues. Happy Thanksgiving!

Mary Ann Gee, Dean
408-259-8923
mary_ann_gee@yahoo.com



Positions Available

Organist. Naval Postgraduate School, #1
University Circle, Monterey 93943. Sun. serv. 9 a.m. in Episcopal/Lutheran tradition and 11:15 contemporary praise service, keyboard style—3-manual Allen organ. Renewable yearly contract. Please contact Chaplain Mark Smith for the Statement of Work and info on the bidding process. Call 831-656-2241 or email pkalliso@nps.navy.mil

Organist/Pianist, P.T. First Unit. Methodist Church, Sunnyvale. Sun. serv. 8 & 10:30 ; Wed. choir. 30 yr. old Allen, 3 man., grand piano. Salary negotiable., vacation and health benefits. Contact Tim Riley 408-404-8593 days, or tim.riley@earthlink.net

Organist/Pianist. Bethany Lutheran Church, 1095
Cloud Ave., Menlo Park CA 94025. Salary negotiable. 1972 Wicks organ; Baldwin piano. Sun. serv. 9:30 a.m.; Choir prac. Wed. & Sun. 9 a.m. Require proficiency in piano & organ, contemp. & classical; choir and inst. accomp, small ensembles and children's concerts. Send letter and résumé to Deborah Sutherland at church or email: dsresound@bethany-mp.org

Pianist. First Presbyterian Church, 1667 Miramonte Ave., Mt. View, 94040. Steinway piano. Sun. serv. 10:30 a.m.; choir reh. Thursday eve. and Sunday 10 a.m. Require proficiency in sight reading of contemporary & classical choral music. Salary negotiable. Pos. begins Sept. 4th rehearsals; 1st serv. on Sept. 21st. Send letter and resume to K. Forrester, dir. of music, at the church or email katherine4ster@aol.com. Church contact: Margie Haines: 650-968-4473 or email: office@fpcmv.org.

Organist/Choir Director. St. Mary's by the Sea Episcopal Church 146 12th St., Pacific Grove, CA 93950. 4 rank 1997 Schantz organ. 20 member SATB adult choir. Quality, organized music library. Children's music program awaiting director. Salary negotiable. Contact Rector, Rev. Richard Leslie at 831-373-4441 or email rbl111@scualum.com

Organist. Trinity Presbyterian Church 3151 Union Ave., San Jose, CA 95124. Salary for Sun. serv. at 9:30 a.m.: \$150, for Thurs. choir practice: \$50. Rodgers 3 man. organ plus MIDI-12 yrs. old. Additional choir warmup 9 a.m. Sun. No choir July & Aug. Send resume to Vern Tegger at the church.

Position Wanted: Professional Organist seeks Sunday afternoon church position. Call Raymond Ruckle at 831-601-4951.

November Music Calendar

Sat. / 1st / 8 pm

Robert Huw Morgan, organ, Church Choir, Greg. Wait, dir., Beethoven: Mass in C, Poulenc: Organ Concerto. Memorial Church, Stanford campus, Palo Alto. \$10/\$5

Sun. / 2nd / 2:30 pm

Ron Reseigh, Wurlitzer Organ (Milwaukee, Wis.) Nor-Cal "Pops" concert at Berkeley Community Theatre, Kittredge & Milvia Sts., Berkeley. \$12 at the door.

Sun. / 2nd / 4:30 pm

Douglas Bruce, organ (Switzerland). St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 20 University Ave., Los Gatos. fwo

Fri. / 7th / 7:30 pm

Sophia Chang, organ. Music of Bach, Mendelssohn, Widor, Vierne, others. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 14103 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga, fwo

Fri. / 7th & Sat. / 8th / 8 pm

SJSU Concert Choir, Chorale, Mission Chamber Orch., Soloists & Tutti Flutti, E. Sharkova, cond. 28th Annual Scholarship Concert of great operatic choruses & Brahms: *Nänie*. Cathedral Basilica of St. Joseph, 90 S. Market St., San Jose. \$50/\$25/\$15

Fri. / 7th / 8 pm

David Briggs, organ. (England) St. Mary's College Chapel, Moraga. San Francisco Chapter Event. **Master Class on Sat.** at First Presbyterian, Berkeley. (650-368-6684)

Sun. / 9th / 4 pm

Thomas Hazleton, organ. Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos, 16575 Shannon Road. FREE.

Fri. / 14th / 8 pm

Stanford Chamber Chorale, S. Sano, cond. An evening of virtuoso choral music. Memorial Church, Stanford campus, Palo Alto. \$10/\$5

Sun. / 16th / 3 pm

Symphony San Jose Silicon Valley and Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley, Lynda Alexander, organ, Dan Levitan, harp. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 13601 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga. \$10

Sun. / 16th / 5 pm

Janice Fehér, organ. Rededication of Organ Series (Casavant Frères) co-sponsored by Redlands School of Music and Inland Empire AGO. Memorial Chapel, Univ. of Redlands

Thurs. / 20th / 8 pm

Joan Lippincott, organ. Works of Bach, Mozart and

Alain. Memorial Church, Stanford campus, Palo Alto. \$10/\$5

Fri. / 21st / 8 pm

Stanford Symphonic Chorus, Peninsula Symphony. Fauré: *Requiem* and Puccini: *Messa di Gloria*. Memorial Church, Stanford campus, Palo Alto. \$20/\$10. Repeat program Sunday, 11/23, 1:30pm

Sat. / 22nd / 8 pm

Musica Antiqua Köln, and soloists. Pergolesi: *Stabat Mater*, plus works of Vivaldi, Caldara and Albinoni. First Congregational Church, Berkeley. \$46

Sat. / 22nd / 8 pm

Baroque Choral Guild, S. Dole, dir. Bach: Mass in B minor. First Unit. Methodist Church, Hamilton at Webster, Palo Alto. 650-424-1410

Tues. / 25th / 8 pm

Early Music Singers, Wm. Mahrt, dir. Chansons and madrigals. Memorial Church, Stanford campus, Palo Alto. FREE

A LOOK AHEAD—January 2004

We need some members to play for our January program, "Play-back Bach," on January 11, 2004, at 2 pm. at Los Gatos Presbyterian Church.

Several organists will play the same chorale prelude from the *Orgelbüchlein*, followed by a discussion about phrasing, tempi, registration, etc. Tentative choices of chorales are #s 7, 22, 27, 29 and 44. Call or email me if you would like to play.

Carolyn Pryor, Co-Subdean

Board Meeting

There will be no board meeting in November.

Directory Changes

Welcome! New Members:

SKACHKOV, Konstantin N. (Student)
575 Hacienda Ave, #114, Campbell, 95008
408-374-1533
kskachkov@yahoo.com

Konstantin is working on a Master's degree in Computer Science at S.JSU

CONDIE, Michael W. (Friend of Guild)
51 Bay Tree Lane, Los Altos, 94022
650-948-3435
michaelcondie@sprintmail.com

MURRAY, Mona (Reg.)
330 N. Matilda Ave., #305, Sunnyvale, 94085
408-830-0706
Mona is organist at Cambrian Park United Methodist Church

Reinstated:

FOSTER, Donald H. (Reg.)
2480 Fairglen Drive, San Jose, 95125
408-266-3279
dhfooster@attglobal.net

Convention Reports

(This concludes the reports of the 2003 Regional Convention in Salt Lake City.)

Gala Closing Concert

LDS Conference Center
by Douglas DeForeest

We heard several new organs at the convention but the highlight had to have been the inauguration of the new Schoenstein organ in the new 21,000+ seat Conference Center in Salt Lake City. We were present in that huge place for the finale of a wonderful week. It was open to the public and there were probably at least 18,000 people there. They had the organ, the orchestra and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir on the program and an outstanding selection of music. I could not have picked a program more to my liking than their choice.

The console of the organ, probably for the convenience of the staff who play both venues, is set up like the Tabernacle organ. Stop-wise this one is not as large, but of necessity, the voicing is on much higher wind pressure in order to fill that huge space. It has the same overall sound of the famed Tabernacle organ.

The first half of the program was the magnificent Jongen *Symphonie Concertante*, wonderfully performed by organ and orchestra. The *Chichester Psalms* were done beautifully with a marvelous boy soprano singing the solo.

The show-stopper of the entire program was the Wilhousky arrangement of the *Battle Hymn of the Republic*. After only the first two notes of introduction the audience went wild. It was not listed on the program, so it came as a complete surprise—but not for long! This was the first time I had heard it played as a duet by two organists. Surely this was a magnificent way to end a wonderful week.

LDS Conference Center

by Pat Milstead

At 2 pm every day there was an organ recital at the new Conference Center in Salt Lake City, but the facility itself stole the show. The building of

1.4 million square feet seats 21,300 people and has no support piers between the audience and the stage. Each level seats 7,000 people.

The extensive sound control console is on the ground floor just in front of the stage area and there are two 21x17 ft. screens above each side of the stage. The seats onstage can be folded back to make the stage area large enough to hold two full symphony orchestras.

It is now the largest theatre-type building in the world that houses a pipe organ and AGO was privileged to be part of the inaugural broadcast from this hall.

The Schoenstein organ is the star of the concert hall with its 5 manuals and 130 ranks of pipes. The electro-pneumatic instrument sits up above the stage behind the 300+ seats reserved for the Tabernacle Choir and stretches across an area as wide as two normal size houses. The lighting system changes throughout the programs casting the pipes in different colors. This organ, with gold and silver pipes and a cherry case, is smaller than the Tabernacle organ, thus planned not to overshadow the "pioneer."

This building also has another 850-seat concert hall, 2 smaller auditoriums, meeting rooms, offices and many large gathering areas with extensive artwork. The roof garden covers 3.5 acres and contains trees and fields of native grasses and wildflowers. Flowers are replanted twice yearly. The planting mix is peat moss and utelite so the weight does not cause the roof to collapse. When you visit Salt Lake City, make a tour of this building a priority on your sightseeing list.

SPECIALIZED ORGAN LIBRARY

by Carol Griffin

When I was in Ottawa for the RCCO, I met Bill Vineer, archivist of a special organ library. He gave me the library catalogue which is available on CD for a small fee of about \$3 which will be mailed to you on request. If copies can be made of things in the library that you would like to have, Bill is willing to do that for a small fee, as well. You are also welcome to visit the library when in the Ottawa area. He can no longer loan items as, too often, they were not returned.

The Vineer Organ Library is a private collection of books and other printed material, recordings and videos pertaining to the art of organ building and organ performance in North America and beyond. It was established in Canada's Centennial year, 1967, and currently contains more than 600 books, 800 CDs, 600 LPs and more than 3,000 files on specific pipe organs. Detailed information on organs in churches, concert halls, universities, theatres and private residences is included. The library also has textbooks, magazines and journals, convention booklets, video tapes, DVDs, CDs, cassettes and reel to reel tapes.

The library is continually expanding. Contributions to enhance the collection are always welcome and will be gratefully received. For information contact Bill Vineer, 89 Canter Boulevard, Nepean, Ontario, Canada, K2G2M4 or call 613-224-1553 or email billyin@travel-net.com.

Jean Drahmann, Newsletter Editor
16239 Jacaranda Way
Los Gatos, CA 95032
408.356.2813
Next copy deadline: November 20, 2003



*From the
Oct. 19
Members'
Concert.*



*Front to back,
left to right,
Berdie Bowsby,
Anita Graves,
Cecilia Lung,
Libby Codd,
Alishan
Merjanian,
Pat Milstead,
Lothar
Bandermann,
Carol Griffin,
Carolyn Pryor.*

