



SAN JOSE PIPINGS
 SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF THE AGO
 November 2016 www.agosanjose.org



Chapter Officers

- Dean:** Michael Cala
- Sub Dean:** Carolyn Lamcke
- Secretary:** Kay Lee
- Auditor/Budget:**
Christine Merjanian
Darryl Parker
- Handbook:** Kay Lee
- Education/Resources & Historian:** Valerie Sterk
- Members at Large:**
David Snook-Luther
Susan Snook-Luther
Melody Bast
- Membership:**
David Snook-Luther
- Newsletter:** Kenneth Talbot
(408) 732-6094
kitalbot@pacbell.net
Issue Deadline: 25th of month
- Professional Concerns:**
Dick Coulter
- Substitutes:** Dick Coulter
- Treasurer/ Registration:**
Janet Parent
- National Executive Director:**
James E. Thomashower
jet@agohq.org
- National AGO President:**
Michael Bedford
- Region IX Councillor:**
Matthew Burt
matthewburt@gmail.com
- Northern CA District Convener:**
John Karl Hirten
jhirten@comcast.net

Dean's Message

Cheers, fellow San Jose Chapter members! This Dean's column is short, sweet and to the point. Please, please support your chapter programs! It really seems like member support for our programs has dwindled greatly. This year and next, we have many wonderful programs that you're Sub-Dean and Board members have worked diligently to put together. To highlight some; a recital by Gayle Martin early next year at Sunnyvale Presbyterian; our annual Alzheimer's benefit concert in Morgan Hill; Organ and hand bells program and a joint choir festival!

These programs will all be highlighted in our newsletters with dates, times and locations. Your Board puts a lot of time and effort into making the programs the best possible and we are doing them for you, so please come to them. Bring your family, friends and neighbors if you can. Your Board thanks you for your support!

Michael Cala, Dean

UGO SFORZA IN RECITAL OCT. 14



Ugo Sforza presented a great organ recital on **Friday evening, October 14, at the Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church.** This is the third year that Mr. Sforza has presented a wonderful recital for us. Ugo has earned degrees in organ performance, composition, piano, and cultural heritage (historic keyboard instruments) in Italy and Austria. He has performed organ recitals for concert series and organ festivals in Europe and the U.S.A.

Ugo's program included a broad variety of exciting organ repertoire. He opened his recital with Reger's monumental *Phantasie und Fuge über B.-A.-C.-H., op. 46*. Throughout the dense, virtuosic fantasy and the extended double fugue, Ugo showcased the variety of tonal colors in the 57-rank Balcom and Vaughan instrument. His colorful, contrasting, and masterful registrations engaged his listeners in Reger's complex settings of the Bb-A -C-B motif, and created a dramatic performance of this impressive work.

Next, Mr. Sforza and Valerie Sterk (piano) presented César Franck's exquisitely beautiful *Prelude, Fugue et Variation en Si mineur, op. 18*, the version for organ (*harmonium*) and piano. And yes, Ugo made the organ sound like a harmonium. The piece started with a gentle *Andantino* B-minor melody on the organ, accompanied by gentle triplets in the piano, leading to the key of F-sharp minor.

A subsequent solo soliloquy in the piano began strong and then ended in pianissimo, ushering in a quiet fugue in B minor, led by the organ. This fugue built to a fortissimo that segued immediately into a restatement of the *Andantino* melody from the beginning, this time with the piano accompaniment in 16th notes, returning the piece to its initially gentle mood. This work was excellently performed.

Ugo closed his program with three of his original compositions: *Organum Vox Dei, op. 3* (2003), *Sunshine, op. 9* (2012), and a first performance of a new composition, *Triumphal March, op. 18*(2016).

“*Theme and Variations in honour of Saint Walburga,*” the first of three pieces in *Organum Vox Dei, op. 3*, was inspired by the saint’s life. As a servant of God, Walburga spent her life caring for the poor. Ugo featured expressive dynamics and colors of the organ throughout this piece. The second piece in his op. 3, “*Meditation for the Good Friday,*” arose from the composer’s deep reflection upon the meaning of the Passion and Death of the Lord Jesus Christ. The final piece in *Organum Vox Dei*, “*Regina Caeli,*” is a tribute to the Virgin Mary.

Ugo's next composition was “*Sunshine,*” composed in 2012 after completing his postgraduate organ studies in Edinburgh, Scotland. In this piece, he aimed to depict the picturesque landscapes of Scotland, long a source of inspiration for composers.

The last of Mr. Sforza's compositions was “*Triumphal March,*” which combined elements of traditional organ repertoire with influences from 20th-century film music.

For more information on Ugo, including recordings of some of his other compositions, visit his website: ugosforza.jimdo.com. 🎵



Valerie Sterk Ugo Sforza Pamela Sforza

Executive Committee Meeting

The next meeting Tuesday 15th Nov, 2016 at 7 PM at Valerie Sterk’s home, 2164 Talia Ave., Santa Clara

Recital Survey Results

For Ugo Sforza’s recital we asked each who attended to fill out a survey form. We asked them to indicate how many AGO recital they have attended, did they like the music, how did they find out about the recital, etc.

More than 80 people came to hear the Ugo Sforza’s recital and 34 of them completed the recital evaluation form. On the evaluation form we ask whether this is the first time they have been to an AGO recital and if not, how many recitals they have attended in the past. On this occasion, 8 (24%) respondents indicated this was their first AGO recital. Those who have attended 1 to 3 AGO recitals in the past was 16 (47%), 7 (21%) attended 4 to 9 recitals, and 3 (9%) have attended 10 or greater in the past. We also ask them to tell us how they learned about the recital. Most of the responses learned about the recital from a church member or the church’s bulletin. The next highest category was email or a friend. Three respondents attended because they received an Email and thirteen from a friend. Seven respondents wished to be placed on an e-mail notification list. A total of 100% of the people surveyed rated the recital overall as either “superb” or “excellent.”

We also asked each respondent for comments. Here are three of 13 comments:

“Nice variety to program. Piano – organ combo especially nice”

“I have attended concerts in which Valerie Sterk plays! Thanks to Valerie for organizing this evening concert!”

“I really loved to see young children at a concert. Perhaps some shorter pieces that would appeal to them.”

New Members

Benjamin Ayden Nathan
1097 Indian Summer Court, San Jose CA 95122
Home: 408-998-0959 rachel.r.nathan@gmail.com

Ruth Kamas
Home: 408-984-8583 kamas@dslextreme.com

Peter Sammel, Music Director, St. Timothy Mountain View
1897 Lakebird Dr, San Jose CA 95124
Home: 408-377-1206 peter@sttims.org

William Watkins, Organist, St. Timothy Mountain View
14275 Hilltop Way, Saratoga 95070
Home: 408-867-6063 wwatkins626@gmail.com 🎵

For Sale: small 1962 Moller Artiste pipe organ. We would be interested in taking offers from people as we do not have a fixed price for it. I believe it has 4 ranks. It is a relatively small organ that could potentially fit inside of a house or church. Contact Kristofer Cook, 510-631-6800 or kristofer.j.cook@gmail.com. Also, if you know of any church that would be interested in it, contact Kristofer. 🎵

For Sale: small **Conn Theater Organ, Model 642** with 2 manuals, 25 pedals and Leslie speakers: a rhythm section built in and an additional external one added. We are remodeling our house in the near future and the next step cannot be done until the organ is removed from it's space. It needs two white keys (broken); the audio is fine, it just needs two white key covers.

This organ could be a good fit for a small church. If so it would be donated. Thank you very much. Please feel free to call if you wish.

Delphine Wishart
408-379-7565 delphinew70@att.net ♪

For Sale: BABY GRAND PIANO FOR SALE - Kawai Model 500 (S/N 93513) approximately 60 years old. Asking price \$500, in place, Sunnyvale. Contact: Marilyn Crosby mscrosby@comcast.net". ♪

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

A reminder that if you have not renewed your AGO membership take a few minutes and log into the AGO headquarters' web page (www.agohq.org – membership link – log into the ONCARD area) where you can renew you membership.

If you need help you can give me a call.

As of 20 October only 68 of 79 members (86%) have paid their membership dues for the coming year.

AGO Members that Compose

We have a number of chapter members that compose. Here is a list of them that will share their music:
Lothar Banderman, www.lotharbandermann.com
Harold Stuart, www.theorganispraise.org
Valerie Sterk, valeriesterk@gmail.com
Paul Rosas, tpaulrosas@comcast.net

If any of you would like to have your names added to this list, please let me know

LOTHAR BANDERMANN MUSIC

Lothar Bandermann's website contains all recorded works of his; including all pieces for organ or piano, and the latter have also PDF files of the scores **except those currently in publication** (like the recent "Litanies for Organ"). So if you find any interesting enough, copy the PDF files before they are published! Published music is getting more and more expensive.

Lothar has compiled 40 toccatas on 2 disks (one for old masters, one for contemporary composers). The main purpose was to put together a number of

toccatas, some of which are famous (and difficult), others also great (but easier). Most of them he recorded on the organ at his church, St. Joseph of Cupertino, and half-a-dozen downloaded from the internet (too difficult for Lothar and played by great organists on fabulous organs here and in Europe). Your students or even yourselves may be interested in having this collection (which also contains Toccatas Lothar has written, of course). Email him if you want copies of the CDs which he is giving away for free (lwbandermann@att.net). ♪

CHOIR FEST

The San Jose Chapter of AGO is inviting all church choirs to participate in a great choir festival at **Westminster Presbyterian Church**, 1100 Shasta Ave., San Jose, on **7 May 2017** with the program beginning at **4 p.m.**

We would like each choir, big or small, to sing two songs. In addition, all choirs will do two anthems together, conducted by Mary Ann James, choir director at Westminster Presbyterian Church. One title is *God of Heaven* by Heather Sorenson. The other will be decided with a group session of all choir directors.

Please consider participating, no matter how small your choir is. If you are a small choir and would like to join with another small choir you know, you are more than welcome to do so. **Please notify Christine Merjanian, christinemer@sbcglobal.net, if you have questions, are interested, or are going to participate.** ♪

Dates to Remember

Feb 10, 2017, Friday, 7:30 PM. Student Recital will be held at the **Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church**. Contact Diane Keller, (408) 835-6454, diane.keller@gmail.com.

Friday February 24th, 2017, 7:30 PM Gayle Martin, organ and sackbut recital at **Sunnyvale Presbyterian**, Free, with reception following.

Saturday March 4th, Alzheimer's Benefit Concert, **Advent Lutheran, Morgan Hill**, 6870 Murphy Ave, Morgan Hill. Free, no reception.

March 11th?, BYU Organ Workshop, TBD

Sunday May 7th, Choir Fest, Westminster Presbyterian Church, free, Christine Merjanian has details (page 3).

June TBD, Annual Meeting – Member Recital.

OPEN POSITIONS

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Santa Clara, 1957 Pruneridge Ave, Santa Clara, CA, is looking for a **Music Director**.

We are a dynamic parish in the heart of Silicon Valley looking for a creative church musician with imagination, love of collaboration, and an eclectic passion for different genres of music.

We are looking for a music and choir director to work with us on Sunday mornings and one choir rehearsal per week (currently on Thursday evenings, though the day/time is negotiable). This is a part-time position that we hope will grow in time. The ability to help lead the choir and congregation through change with love and pastoral spirit is absolutely necessary. We are trying some creative and different approaches to worship and are open to new things as well as old. We have an acoustically beautiful space, enthusiastic choir, lovely grand piano, and 36-rank pipe organ, and we want to make a bold, joyful, fun noise with all kinds of music from jazz to chant, Bach to soul, world music to traditional hymnody.

Want to have fun? Come help us expand our understanding of sacred music and help us to fall in love with lusty singing!

An M.A. in Organ or Piano Performance or Choral Conducting or equivalent proficiency is required, and we are able to offer an annual salary for this position that is within AGO guidelines.

Deadline for applications is December 1, 2016. For a detailed job description and application instructions, email us at: saintmarkssantaclaramusic@gmail.com 🎵

Unitarian Universalists of San Mateo, CA, 300 Santa Inez Ave., San Mateo, CA 94401, www.uusanmateo.org, is seeking a part-time (~15-17 hours/week), **Music Director**.

Supervisor: The Reverend Ben Meyers, Minister

We are seeking an experienced Music Director / Minister of Music. He/She must be able to work with: choral, sacred, classical, gospel, folk, global, contemporary (pop), and instrumental. They will collaborate with the minister and worship leaders in planning, possesses effective leadership and people skills, ensures that musicians, singers, and choirs are properly engaged and prepared, and develops other leaders to assist in accomplishing ministry tasks through the music program.

- Bachelor's Degree (or equivalent) in Music required; advanced degree preferred.
- Knowledge of, experience in: choral repertoire, choral and instrumental conducting.
- Strong written, oral communication skills, administrative, planning, and organizing skills.

Compensation is based on experience and competitive with similar positions. Send a **cover letter** addressing the questions below, **and attach your resume** and **contact information of three references** to music-search@uusanmateo.org

Please briefly address the following in your cover letter:

- Describe your experiences building, sustaining and administering a music program.

- Describe your experiences directing adult and children's choirs
- Describe your keyboard skills, including ability to play, sight read, accompany and compose.
- Describe the variety of musical genres in which you are skilled, experienced or interested.
- Describe your vision/perspective on the role of music in a vital, pluralistic spiritual community.
- Describe what you do to create musical experiences that touch and inspire people, taking them beyond music as entertainment.
- What are your favorite websites or other sources for musical ideas or procurement?
- Optional: Provide a link to webpage or other online material to support your application.

For additional information contact Sheila Sandow, sheilasandow@yahoo.com, 650-341-5621. 🎵

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 1040 Alameda de Las Pulgas, Belmont, California is looking for a **part-time accompanist**, proficient on both piano and organ. Applicant would work with our Music Coordinator and requires a Thursday evening rehearsal and 11:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. Position would be regularly 2-3 hours a week with additional hours on an as needed basis. Salary based on experience. Contact: gtes@ihmbelmont.org or call 650-593-6157 and ask for Gail Tesi. 🎵

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 149 Manzanita, San Carlos, is seeking a **Part-time, Organist/Pianist** who shall work closely with the Pastor, the Worship and Music Team, and the Choir Director focused on providing quality music for congregation worship. This person shall work an average of 3 – 5 hours per week and will be an active member of the church staff. This is a temporary position while a new pastor is called. The position is to start as soon as possible and extend through May 2017, with the possibility of extension or permanent hire. Compensation is \$175 per service/per diem.

Submit resumes to: office@sancarloshtlc.org. Website <http://sancarloshtlc.org/>

Responsibilities include: Play organ and piano/keyboard fluently; Understand the music needed to enhance the worship experience; Play for all regularly scheduled worship services, choir rehearsals and other services as needed. Select and prepare 2 to 3 appropriate music pieces to perform during each service; and Assist the Pastor, Worship and Music Team when requested, in planning music and liturgy for the worship services. 🎵

The **Choir Director position** for the Chancel Choir (30+ voices) at **Los Altos United Methodist Church**, 655 Magdalena Avenue, Los Alto, is now open. Interviews will be held beginning September 2016 with expected hiring date at the beginning of January 2017. There is one Thursday evening rehearsal, a Sunday morning rehearsal, and one Sunday morning service, alternating between 9:30

and 11:15 every other month. For more information contact: T. Paul Rosas at tpaulrosas@comcast.net or Dirk Damonte at dirkdamonte@laumc.org. 🎵

The **Foothill Presbyterian Church**, 5301 McKee Road, San Jose, CA, is looking for an **Organist/Pianist**.

The organist is responsible for providing organ/piano music at all regular worship services at the church and other special services. The organist is responsible to the Director of Music Ministries and will work under the supervision of the pastor/head of staff and will meet with them as necessary.

- Rehearse once weekly with chancel choir.
- Four weeks paid vacation annually.

Director of Music Ministries, fcpcmusic@gmail.com, 831-291-2289. 🎵



We wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving. Let us remember to thank the Lord for the many and marvelous blessing that He has given us. Let us also remember those less fortunate than we, that we may bless their lives as He

has blessed us.

Let us also praise Him in the music that we play.

Ps. 147:7 *Sing unto the Lord with Thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God:*

Ps. 150:4 *...praise him with stringed instruments and organs.*

George Washington said in his October 3, 1789, Thanksgiving Proclamation:

“Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; both Houses of Congress have, requested me to recommend to the people of the United States a Day of Public Thanksgiving and Prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.”

Music Calendar Continued

December 2016

3 Saturday

Annual Crèche Exhibit, James Welch, organ, **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**, 3865 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, **4:30 PM**, Free

4 Sunday

Sandra Simich, Piano, **CSMA**, **4 PM**

4 Sunday

Sunnyvale Presbyterian Christmas Choir Concert, with chamber orchestra, harp, and organ (**Valerie Sterk**). **Vivaldi's Gloria, Mechem's Seven Joys of Christmas**, and more. 728 W. Fremont Ave., Sun, **7 PM**

9 Friday, 8 PM and

11 Sunday, 4 PM

The Santa Clara Chorale, James Welch, accompanist, **Mission Church, Santa Clara University**, Santa Clara, **For tickets: scc.org**

10, 17 Saturday & 11, 18 Sunday, 3 PM

A Cathedral Christmas, GC

11 Sunday

Vytėnis Vasyliūnas (Germany), organ, Works by Wesley, Wood, Vasiliauskaitė, & Ginastera, **CSMA**, **4 PM**

Parker Ramsay (*Christ and St. Stephen's Church, NYC*), organ, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, **6:05 PM**

12 Monday, 7:30 PM

A Cathedral Christmas, GC

18 Sunday

Robert Huw Morgan, organist, annual holiday recital, **Memorial Church**, Stanford University, **1:30 PM**

Victor Xie, Viola, & **Xiyan Wang**, Piano, **CSMA**, **4 PM**

19 Monday

A Brass and Organ Christmas, The Bay Brass, GC, **7:30 PM**

31 Saturday

James Welch, **Annual New Year's Eve Concert, St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 600 Colorado Ave, Palo Alto, **8 PM**

January 2017

8 Sunday

Epiphany Lessons and Carols, sung by the **St. Mary's Cathedral Choir School** and the **Golden Gate Boys Choir** and **Bellringers, CSMA**, **4 PM**

Paul M. Ellison (*Church of the Advent of Christ the King, San Francisco*), organ, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, **6:05 PM**

15 Sunday

Jeanette Wilkin Tietze, Piano, **CSMA**, **4 PM**

22 Sunday

Jerome Lenk, Organ, **GC**, **4: PM**, \$10

Chiu Yu Chen, Piano, **CSMA**, **4 PM**

29 Sunday

Oxford Street Brass, Music for Brass Quintet, First Congregational Church in Palo Alto, 1985 Louis Road, Palo Alto, **3 PM**

February 2017

5 Sunday

Hans Uwe Hielscher, Organ, **GC**, **4: PM**, \$10

26 Sunday

James O'Donnell, Organ, **Davies Symphony Hall**, **3: PM**, Tickets: sfsymphony.org

Music Calendar

Locations

CSMA: Cathedral of St Mary of the Assumption, 1111 Gough St., San Francisco
GC: Grace Cathedral, 1100 California St. San Francisco
SJCAGO> San Jose Chapter Event
MEM> San Jose Chapter Member

Every Saturday & Sunday

Organ, 4 PM, Calif. Palace of the Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 34th Ave & Clement St., San Francisco.

D. Hegarty: - Nov 5/6 - Dec 3/4

Johnathan Dimmock: Nov 11 - Veterans Day Recital

Johnathan Dimmock: Nov 12/13 - Dec 10/11

John Walko: Nov 19/20

Angela Kraft Cross: Dec 17/18

Ennio Cominetti: Nov 26/27

No Concerts: Dec 24/25

October 2016

30 Sunday

"Sing to the Lord a New Song",

Joe Guthrie, organ, **First Congregational Church in Palo Alto**, 1985 Louis Road, Palo Alto, **3 PM**

"Creative Arts Series", R. Monty Bennett, organ, **Resurrection Parish**, 303 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, CA, **3:30 PM**, \$15 donation.

John Canon (Estes Park, CO), organ, **CSMA, 4 PM**

31 Monday

James Welch, organ, **Erin McOmber**, soprano, **Brent Hall**, keyboard, **Annual Halloween Concert, St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 600 Colorado Ave. Palo Alto, **8 PM**, \$10, students under 18 free.

November 2017

6 Sunday

Xiyang Wang, Piano, **CSMA, 4 PM**

Jerome Lenk, Organ, **GC, 4:15 PM**, \$10

13 Sunday

Congregational Oratorio Society and Orchestra, **Gregory Wait**, director, "Hallelujah", Great Sacred Choruses, **First Congregational Church in Palo Alto**, 1985 Louis Road, Palo Alto, **3 PM**

David Hatt, organist, **CSMA, 4 PM**

David Auerbach, organist, **Mission Dolores Basilica**, 3321 16th St, San Francisco, **4 PM**, Map: www.missiondolores.org Contact Directions

Katherine Crosier, (Honolulu Hawaii), organ, **St. Mark's**

Episcopal Church, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, **6:05 PM**

16 Wednesday

Robert Huw Morgan, organist, Complete works of Maurice Durufle, part II, **Stanford Memorial Church**, Stanford University, **7:30 PM**

18 Friday, 7:30PM

20 Sunday, 2:30 PM

Stanford Symphonic Chorus, **James Welch** accompanying **Durflé Requiem**, **Craig Jessop** conductor, **Bing Concert Hall, Stanford, Stanford Students free with ID**, Tickets: <https://sto.stanfordtickets.org/single/SelectSeating.aspx?p=7185>

20 Sunday

Angela Kraft Cross, organist, **CSMA, 4 PM**

27 Sunday

Xiyang Wang, Piano, and **Victor Xie**, Viola, **CSMA, 4 PM**

December 2016

3 Saturday, 8 PM & 4 Sunday, 2:30 PM

Beethoven's Pastoral & Scheherazade, **Symphony Silicon Valley, California Theater**, 325 South First Street, San Jose

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American Guild of Organists

San Jose Chapter

582 Dublin Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087-3323



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS