



Central Arkansas Chapter *American Guild of Organists*

The *Clarion* January 2014

Mission Statement

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music. To achieve this, we encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music; inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors; provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support; nurture future generations of organists; promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

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From the Dean

Hello All,

Happy New Year to all of you! May you have a safe and blessed New Year.

Richard Hixson is sponsoring (for the 20th year!) a recital in honor of his birthday. Thank you, Richard, for allowing all of us to participate in your birthday party! This is a very special event for our chapter, and one that I look forward to each year. The program by Nathan Laube will be a can't-miss event. Put it on your calendar: Friday, January 10, 2014 at Christ Episcopal Church in downtown Little Rock. (Yikes! Did I just write 2014? Time is going way, way too fast.) Nathan is, among other things, one of the youngest if not *the* youngest professor of organ ever appointed at Eastman. Nathan's bio can be found elsewhere in the *Clarion*, and I encourage you to read it.

The weather simply did not cooperate with us for our December program; I was

disappointed, as I'm sure you all were, to not hear Joby Bell play. Wayne tells me he is trying to arrange another time for Joby to present his recital for us.

One last thing—it is always wonderful to see a good crowd at our organ recitals, but it is also very special to visit with many of you at the dinner beforehand. If it is not your custom to attend the dinners, let me encourage you to begin. There is something very special about sharing a meal and time of fellowship with fellow CACAGOers and friends. On a personal note, I hope to see you all there and have an opportunity to visit with you a bit.

Happy 2014!
Betty Cohen, Dean

Upcoming CACAGO Programs

Friday, January 10

**20th Annual Richard Hixson
Birthday Recital**
Nathan Laube, *organist*
Christ Episcopal Church
509 Scott St.
Little Rock, Arkansas

February: TBA

Friday, March 7

**A Benefit Concert for the
Pediatric Injury Prevention Center
Arkansas Children's Hospital**
Alan Morrison, *organist*
First Presbyterian Church
800 Scott St.
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, April 4

**Eleventh Annual Recital
Celebrating the Life of
Robert Young Ellis**
Thomas Gaynor, *organist*
Cathedral of St. Andrew
617 S. Louisiana St.
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, May 9

Monica Czauz, organist
Cathedral of St. Andrew
617 S. Louisiana St.
Little Rock, Arkansas

JANUARY PROGRAM

Friday, January 10, 2014

The 20th Annual Richard Hixson Birthday Recital

Nathan Laube, *organist*

Punchbowl — 6:15 P.M.

Dinner & Meeting — 6:45 P.M.

Recital — 8:00 P.M.

Christ Episcopal Church

509 Scott St.

Little Rock, Arkansas

DINNER: The cost for dinner is \$15.00. For dinner reservations, contact Robert Lindley via e-mail (dinner@cacago.org) or phone (501) 217-6735. Robert is accepting reservations until noon on Wednesday, January 8. Your reservation will be confirmed via phone or e-mail. If you do not receive a confirmation, please contact Robert to assure your reservation has been received.

Biography of Nathan Laube

A star among young classical musicians, concert organist Nathan J. Laube has quickly earned a place among the organ world's elite performers. His brilliant playing and gracious demeanor have thrilled audiences and presenters across the United States and in Europe, and his creative programming of repertoire spanning five centuries, including his own virtuoso transcriptions of orchestral works, have earned high praise from critics and peers alike.

In addition to his busy performing schedule, Mr. Laube is dedicated to mentoring the next generation of young organists, and beginning in the fall of 2013 he joined the faculty of The Eastman School of Music in Rochester New York as Assistant Professor of Organ, where he teaches with distinguished Professors David Higgs and Edoardo Bellotti.

Recent and upcoming performances by Mr. Laube include major venues in the United States and Europe: Walt Disney Concert Hall (Los Angeles), Washington National Cathedral, The Mother Church (Boston), Schermerhorn Symphony Center (Nashville TN), Verizon Hall (Philadelphia), Overture Hall (Madison WI), Spivey Hall (Morrow, GA), the Sejong Center (Seoul, Korea), the Cankarjev Dom (Ljubljana, Slovenia), the Stiftskirche (Stuttgart, Germany), Notre-Dame-du-Taur (Toulouse, France), and the Cathédrale Saint-Alain (Lavaur, France). Mr. Laube has performed five tours of the United Kingdom, which included concerts at York Minster, Canterbury Cathedral, Southwark Cathedral, Exeter Cathedral, and Truro Cathedral, amongst others. He has also appeared at many of Europe's great music festivals, including the 2011 Lahti Organ Festival (Finland), and the opening concert of the 2012 Dresden Music Festival (Germany) at the Frauenkirche in a performance with the Curtis Symphony Orchestra. In 2013 he performed at the Orléans Organ Festival (France) on the Cavallé-Coll organ in Orléans Cathedral, at the Lapua Festival (Finland), and at the Stuttgart Internationaler Orgelsommer (Germany). Additionally, he recorded the Stephen Paulus Grand Organ Concerto with the Nashville Symphony Orchestra for the Naxos label.

Mr. Laube was a featured performer at the 2009, 2011, and 2012 national conventions of the Organ Historical Society. For the American Guild of Organists, he was featured at their national conventions in 2010 (Washington DC), and in 2012 (Nashville TN) where he performed with the Nashville Symphony Orchestra. Many of his live performances have been featured on American Public Media's "Pipedreams."

Mr. Laube holds a Master's Degree in Organ from the Musikhochschule in Stuttgart, Germany where he was a student of Ludger Lohmann, and recipient of a German

DAAD Fellowship Study Scholarship for his studies there. While in Stuttgart, he also studied improvisation with Jürgen Essl, and Harpsichord with Jörg Halubek.

As a recipient of a William Fulbright Grant, Nathan spent the 2010-2011 academic year studying with Michel Bouvard and Jan Willem Jansen at the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional de Toulouse where he earned Prix de Spécialisé with the mention "Très Bien" and "Félicitations du Jury" – the two top honors – in addition to the Prix François Vidal from the city of Toulouse.

Nathan earned his Bachelor of Music Degree at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, where he studied organ with Alan Morrison and piano with Susan Starr. Upon graduating, he received the Institute's two highest awards, the Landis Award for Excellence in Academics and the Aldwell Award for Excellence in Musical Studies. During his time at the Curtis Institute, Nathan also served as an Assistant Organist at the Wanamaker Grand Court Organ at Macy's Department Store in downtown Philadelphia.

A native of Chicago, Mr. Laube's early studies were with Donna Fortney (piano), Dr. Elizabeth Naegele (organ), and Dr. Louis Playford (piano and music theory) at the Chicago Academy for the Arts.

Mr. Laube has won top prizes at several distinguished competitions. Most recently he was awarded the "Stipendium des Bundespräsidenten" (Scholarship of the President of Germany) at the 2012 Felix Mendelssohn Preis in Berlin, which also included a performance in the Berlin Konzerthaus. In addition, Nathan won First Place at the National Albert Schweitzer Organ Competition in September 2004.

As a church musician, Nathan most recently served from 2011-2013 as Artist-in-Residence at the American Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Paris, France. Previously, he served as Organ Scholar at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia.

Nathan has performed with numerous orchestras, chamber ensembles, and choruses including The Philadelphia Orchestra, The Nashville Symphony, the Choral Arts Society of Philadelphia, The Chicago Master Singers, and collaborations with Chicago Symphony Orchestra principal trumpeter Chris Martin in acclaimed chamber music recitals in Chicago.

Mr. Laube frequently serves on the faculty for Pipe Organ Encounters in the USA, and he has also taught at the Oberlin Summer Organ Academy in Ohio and at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts Summer Organ Academy in Philadelphia.

Other interests include medieval and modern architecture, gardening, international travel, exotic cuisine and cooking, as well as sketching and drawing.

January Program

Nathan Laube, *organist*

Cantata 29, "Wir danken dir," BWV 29 Johann Sebastian Bach
Sinfonia (1685 – 1750)
 Transcribed by Marcel Dupré

Partita diversa sopra "Sei gegrüßet, Jesu gütig," BWV 768. J. S. Bach

Passacaglia in C minor, BWV 582 J. S. Bach

INTERMISSION

Phantasia und Fuge, S. 259 Franz Liszt
über den Choral "Ad nos, ad salutarem undam" (1811 – 1886)

Treasurer's Report

INCOME		EXPENSES	
REVENUE		ADMINISTRATIVE	
Dues	\$4,216.00	Dues to National	\$2,448.00
Ad Sales	\$220.00	Catering/Reception	\$871.00
Meals	\$1,142.00	Marketing/Public Relations	\$104.99
Carry Over (FY13)	\$8,809.51	Remaining Expenses	\$411.74
Reception/Postage	\$11.00		\$3,835.73
	\$14,398.51		
SUPPORT		ARTISTIC	
Individuals	\$747.99	Artist Fees/Housing	\$6,122.00
Corporate/Church	\$0.00	Remaining Expenses	\$0.00
Endowment	\$300.00	Tech/Production	\$0.00
	\$1,047.99		\$6,122.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$15,446.50	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$9,957.73
		BALANCE	\$5,488.77

Arts Calendar

Saturday, January 25 – 8:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Masterworks
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sunday, January 26 – 3:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Masterworks
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas

Tuesday, January 28 – 7:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Chamber Music
Clinton Presidential Center
Little Rock, Arkansas

Saturday, February 15 – 8:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Pops
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sunday, February 16 – 3:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Pops
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas

Thursday, February 20 – 7:30 p.m.

LR Chamber Music Society
Trinity United Methodist Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Thursday, February 27 – 7:30 p.m.

Little Rock Wind Symphony
Second Presbyterian Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Saturday, March 1 – 8:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Masterworks
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sunday, March 2 – 3:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Masterworks
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas

Tuesday, March 4 – 7:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Chamber Music
Clinton Presidential Center
Little Rock, Arkansas

Saturday, March 8 – 8:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Pops
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sunday, March 9 – 3:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Pops
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, March 14 – 7:30 p.m.

Arkansas Chamber Singers
St. James United Methodist Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sunday, March 16 – 4:00 p.m.

Pine Bluff Symphony
Pine Bluff Convention Center
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Wednesday, March 26 – 7:00 p.m.

Men and Boys Choir from St. Thomas NYC
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Fayetteville, Arkansas