



Central Arkansas Chapter *American Guild of Organists*

The *Clarion* February 2017



And if you can't be with the one you love, hon-ey, love the one you're with

www.cacago.org

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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DINNER RESERVATIONS

Robert Lindley

From the Dean

Greetings!

I was thrilled to have the fine crowd at our January meeting. If you asked someone to attend, or you brought someone, Thank You! If you didn't, then February is your chance. Our meeting will be on February 3 at Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church. It would be wonderful to have a nice crowd on hand to hear Damin Spritzer. Please encourage your friends and peers to come.

As you know, Wayne always has spectacular programs for us every month. I am sure that you will agree with me that this year has been a stellar year for our programs. When you see him, please thank Wayne for all his hard work.

Our programs are known around the country and the world. This is quite an accomplishment for a small group in Arkansas. This week we received a very nice

e-mail letter from a major organ contest winner that wants to be on our program schedule. He has been predominantly playing in Europe, but he is anxious to have more dates in the states. He noted that he has played one Nichols & Simpson organ and is looking forward to trying some more.

I was hoping to report to you that my little physical issues were all behind me. That is not the case. The pesky kidney stone is still in residence. My urologist thinks he may have to go in and grab it in the next couple of weeks if it does not pass on its own. Currently, it must be in a good spot, at it is only an annoying pain. Nothing like it was.

I hope to see you all on the 3rd, at Pulaski Heights.

Mike

Upcoming Newsletter

The March 2017 *Clarion* will be published Monday, February 27. If you have any items to submit (news, events, announcements, job postings, personal ads, opinion pieces, prayer requests) please send them to adam@cacago.org. The deadline is Friday, February 24.

Upcoming CACAGO Programs

Friday, February 3

Damin Spritzer, organist
Pulaski Heights UMC
4823 Woodlawn Dr.
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, March 3

David Baskeyfield, organist
Cathedral of Saint Andrew
617 Louisiana St.
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, April 28

**The 14th Annual Concert
Celebrating the Life of
Robert Young Ellis
Monica Czauasz, organist**
First Presbyterian Church
800 Scott St.
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, May 5

Joby Bell, organist
First United Methodist Church
200 W. 6th Ave.
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

FEBRUARY MEETING

Organ Concert Damin Spritzer, *organist*

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 🕒 Friday, February 3, 2017 | 📍 Pulaski Heights UMC |
| 6:15 P.M. – Punchbowl | 4823 Woodlawn Dr. |
| 6:45 P.M. – Dinner & Meeting | Little Rock, Arkansas |
| 8:00 P.M. – Concert | |

DINNER RESERVATIONS: The cost for dinner is \$15.00. For dinner reservations, contact Robert Lindley via e-mail (dinner@cacago.org), or phone (501) 217-6735, or complete the dinner reservation form on the chapter website. ***Please provide the names of your guests so that nametags may be printed for them.***

**Dinner reservations are due by
noon, Wednesday, February 1!**

RECEPTION: Following the concert, you are cordially invited to attend a reception at the home of Jim Maase, 1900 Fair Park Blvd.

MARCH MEETING

Organ Concert David Baskeyfield, *organist*

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 🕒 Friday, March 3, 2017 | 📍 Cathedral of Saint Andrew |
| 6:15 P.M. – Punchbowl | 617 Louisiana St. |
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Biography of Damin Spritzer

After an appointment as Visiting Professor of Music at the University of Oklahoma for Fall 2014, Dr. Damin Spritzer has been appointed full-time Assistant Professor of Organ, beginning in Fall of 2015. She continues to serve the Cathedral Church of Saint Matthew in Dallas as Artist-in-Residence for the Cathedral Arts series, and was recently Adjunct Professor at the University of North Texas teaching Organ Literature and Sacred Music.

Praised for “enormous sensitivity and musicianship” by the AAM Journal and hailed as “elegantly assured” by the Dallas Morning News, recent recital appearances include the 2012 Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina; the University of Houston 2012 Conference on Historical Eclecticism: Organ Building and Playing in the 21st Century; recitals in Kentucky, California, Arkansas, New York, Oregon, Georgia, and numerous appearances in Texas, including the Meyerson Symphony Center and the Big XII Trombone Conference in Lubbock. She was a featured artist at the AGO Regional Convention in Austin, TX in July of 2013, giving both a recital and a separate lecture on the life and music of R. L. Becker (1882-1956). In October of 2011 she was a guest lecturer at the University of Michigan 51st Annual Conference on Organ Music, and gave a similar lecture and performance about Becker’s music in Louisville, KY in May of 2012. She has written an extended preface for a forth-coming multi-volume critical edition of Becker’s organ works (Wayne Leupold Editions) and is writing a monograph on Becker as well.

Upcoming and recent performances include Sainte-Croix in Orléans, France; Dallas, Texas with *Pipedreams*; Texas Camerata; Chicago, Illinois at Loyola University; Ft. Worth, Texas at Broadway Baptist; Methuen Memorial Music Hall in Massachusetts; New York City at St. Malachy’s, “The Actor’s Chapel”; a lecture on Becker at the 2016 National AGO convention in Houston; with Aaron David Miller at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles; in Sao Paulo, Brazil at Igreja Nossa Senhora de Fátima and Paróquia Nossa Senhora da Boa Viagem in January of 2016; Oklahoma City at St. Paul’s Episcopal Cathedral; Trinity Episcopal Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma; at St. Philips Episcopal Church in Ardmore, Oklahoma; and the organ dedication recital at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Plano, Texas.

Her second volume of Becker’s organ music was released in November of 2014 for Raven Recordings, and was recorded in Orléans, France in April of 2013 at the Cathédrale Sainte-Croix d’Orléans. It received four stars from *Choir & Organ*, and the following praise from *Classical Music Sentinel*: “... Spritzer jumps right into the action with an assured confidence and refined musicality that quite simply reinforces the high level of craftsmanship and beauty inherent to the music of composer René Louis Becker... The opening Toccata in B-flat alone, which could easily intimidate many organists with its

agitated left-hand and busy pedal work, moves forward at quite a pace under Spritzer’s command, and thus reveals its determined musical lines all leading to a powerful finish... her choice of registration for the softly tender *Cantilène*, Op. 63 demonstrates an organist who knows how to balance colors on a sonic canvas... Both volumes belong on the shelves of all organ music enthusiasts.”

In April of 2011, she released a world premier commercial international recording of the music of René Louis Becker. Recorded in Pithiviers, France in 2010 at the newly renovated historic Cavaillé-Coll organ of the church of Saint-Salomon-Saint-Gregoire de Pithiviers, the disc has received glowing reviews. The 2011 September/October issue of *Choir & Organ* magazine gave the disc a full five stars, writing further that “Damin Spritzer serves both instrument and music well, alert to the music’s lyrical mien and harmonic muscle, negotiating the III/49 machine with an easy command of drama and a real feeling for Becker’s melody-led, cleanly-executed music... A second volume is eagerly awaited.” The AAM Journal wrote, “The music comes alive under her touch!... This recording is a delight...” And a review from *Classical Music Sentinel* praised the recording, saying “... Damin Spritzer drives the music along with plenty of forward momentum which adds a singing quality to the melodic lines and an assured rhythmic movement to the toccatas and marches... the final glorious chord of the *Marche Triomphale* will make you glad you’re alive.”

Dr. Spritzer has been heard on Michael Barone’s nationally-syndicated *Pipedreams* radio broadcast on programs including: *Historical Eclecticism* in Houston, *Prayers and Alleluias*, *Twenty-Somethings*, *Merriment* at the Meyerson, and *Pipedreams: Live!* performances at the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas, Texas in 2005, and at Saint Michael and All Angels in November of 2014. Tracks from her first CD for Raven have also been broadcast on *With Heart and Voice* out of Rochester, New York (program 1309, *Psalms of Lament*, *Psalms of Reflection*), on RVM radio in Montreal, Quebec, in the Netherlands on HET ORGELUUR op GROOTNIEUWSRADIO 1008 AM, in interview and broadcast on the Catholic Channel, SiriusXM 129, radio talk and music show, *Sounds from the Spires*, with Dr. Jennifer Pascual, Director of Music at Saint Patrick’s Cathedral in New York, and on WRR 101.1 in Dallas, Texas.

Her Doctor of Musical Arts degree was received from the University of North Texas, and she received her MM in Organ Performance from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York and her BM in Organ Performance from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Leupold Foundation, which is dedicated to the preservation of pipe organ music and culture, and has also been Active in the Dallas Chapter of the AGO in various roles and participates in Oklahoma chapters of the AGO.

Biography of David Baskeyfield

David Baskeyfield is an English concert organist and church musician living in Upstate New York. He has earned a solid reputation built upon astonishing facility, tempered by intelligent interpretation and informed above all by sheer, expressive musicality; he takes his place at the forefront of his generation of performing musicians. *“The youthful energy with which Baskeyfield negotiates the transitions is complemented by expressive maturity which, frankly, many musicians with considerably more years to their credit do not exhibit.”*

Mr. Baskeyfield specializes in the music of the French composers of the 19th and 20th centuries; this is complemented by research interests in organ improvisation as taught by the apostolic succession of teachers and students at the Paris Conservatoire, and in the design, construction and voicing of the instruments of that school. However, his concert repertoire in general is varied and eclectic; a special affection for the Old Masters of the 17th-century North German School in no way detracts from his interpretations of the music of the great 19th-century virtuosos and he has, occasionally, given theatre organ recitals. He is increasingly renowned for improvised accompaniment of silent films. Hallmarks of his music making are a compelling sense of rhythm, incisive and crystalline articulation and, above all, a truly seamless, soaring legato.

His first album was recorded on the landmark Casavant organ of 1914 at St. Paul’s Church, Bloor Street, Toronto. At its installation the largest in Canada, the instrument combines elements of English and French voicing with an unusually developed palette of characterful orchestral voices; seeking to showcase these characteristics, the CD features music by Canadian, English and French composers. It was released on the ATMA Classique label to highly favorable reviews.

Mr. Baskeyfield was an organ scholar at St. John’s College, Oxford, where he read Law and studied organ with John Wellingham and David Sanger. On the encouragement of David Higgs he crossed the Atlantic to begin graduate work at the Eastman School of Music, where he was awarded a doctorate, studying under Higgs and William Porter. His dissertation explores the boundary between written composition and improvisation among the Parisian organist-

composers under Louis Vierne and Marcel Dupré. Between Oxford and Eastman he spent a year as organ scholar of Christ Church Cathedral and St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Dublin, accompanying or directing the choirs of professional mixed voices, and men and boys respectively. He is currently Director of Music at Christ Episcopal Church, Pittsford, the largest Episcopal congregation in New York outside the City. The recipient of an unusual number of first prizes in playing competitions, he was most recently the winner at the Canadian International Organ Competition 2014 (incidentally taking three other prizes including audience prize); earlier competition success includes first and audience prizes at St. Albans, Miami, Mader and the AGO National Competition in Organ Improvisation.

Some recent and upcoming recital engagements include Washington National Cathedral and the Basilica of the National Shrine; St. Thomas, 5th Avenue and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, NYC; the Oratoire St. Joseph, and the Basilique de Notre Dame, Montreal; King’s College, Cambridge; St. Albans Cathedral; St. Giles’ Cathedral, Edinburgh; Birmingham Town Hall; St. Bavo, Haarlem; Chartres Cathedral, and St. Sulpice; festivals, both as performer and teacher, include the Baylor Midwinter Organ Conference, the Calgary Organ Festival and the East Texas Pipe Organ Festival, where he is pleased to have been invited to return this coming November for the fourth year in a row.

Aside from solo performance he enjoys work as a collaborative pianist, continuo player, and occasional cocktail pianist. He has been broadcast a number of times on American Public Media’s *Pipedreams*, as well as NPR’s *With Heart and Voice* and, more locally, as part of the daily playlist on the classical station WXXI. Among other things, he is enthusiastic about cooking, brewing, sports fishing and aquarium fish, in particular the cichlids endemic to the east African rift lakes, Malawi and Tanganyika. Current projects include translation of writings by Dupré and Rolande Falcinelli held in a collection at the Sibley Music Library; training his English springer spaniel pup, Lucy; and designing and digging a 6000 gallon pond and filtration system to raise koi carp.

February Program

Damin Spritzer, *organist*

Fanfare

Arthur Wills
(b. 1926)

Cortège Académique

Ernest MacMillan
(1893-1973)

Trio super: Allein Gott in der

Höh sei Ehr, BWV 664

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Fantasia, Op. 188

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry
(1848-1918)

Piece d'Orgue, BWV 572

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Symphonie Domenicale, Op. 39,

No. 11

Aria

Léonce de Saint-Martin
(1886-1954)

Postlude de Fête: Te Deum

Laudamus

Léonce de Saint-Martin

Resurrection

Lament
Rising
The Ecstasy
Reflection

Larry King
(1932-1990)

Benedictus, Op. 54

Charles Valentin Alkan
(1813-1888)
arr. Spritzer

Cinq Invocations:

Pulchra ut luna
Elucta ut sol

Henri Dallier
(1849-1934)

March Program

David Baskeyfield, *organist*

Adagio and Fugue C minor, K. 546

W. A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

transcribed Jean Guillou
(b. 1930)

Plymouth Suite

- I. Allegro Risoluto
- II. Lantana
- III. Chanty
- IV. Salix
- V. Toccata

Percy Whitlock
(1903-1946)

The Sorcerer's Apprentice

Paul Dukas
(1865-1935)

transcribed by Marcel Dupré
(1886-1971)

INTERMISSION

Hymn: Christ is made the sure foundation

Variations sur un Psaume Huguenot

André Isoir
(1935-2016)

Introduction, Passacaglia and Fugue

Healey Willan
(1880-1968)

Position Available
Park Hill Presbyterian Church
North Little Rock, Arkansas

Position: Part-time Organist/Choir Director
Compensation: \$18,360 per year

Job Description: Park Hill Presbyterian Church on JFK Blvd. is seeking a part-time organist/choir director for Wednesday evening practices and Sunday morning worship at 11:00 a.m., as well as special services near Christmas and Easter. Compensation is \$18,360 per year. Additional income from weddings and funerals is also available. Please contact or mail a resume to:

Rev. Carol Clark
 3520 JFK Blvd.
 North Little Rock, AR 72116
 (501) 753-9533
E-mail: parkhillpres@sbcglobal.net

Arts @ Christ Church presents
Midwest Winds

Saturday, February 18, 2017 • 7:00 P.M.

Christ Episcopal Church
 509 Scott St.
 Little Rock, Arkansas

The Midwest Winds, the woodwind quintet from the United States Air Force Band of Mid-America. The concert is free and open to the public.

Treasurer's Report

INCOME	EXPENSES																																																				
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">REVENUE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dues</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$3,473.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ad Sales</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Meals</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,775.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Carry Over (FY15)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$9,068.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other/Mail</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">\$15,670.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"> SUPPORT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Individuals</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$7,670.77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other (ACH)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Endowment</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">\$7,670.77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL INCOME</td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 3px double black;">\$22,987.47</td> </tr> </table>	REVENUE		Dues	\$3,473.00	Ad Sales		Meals	\$2,775.00	Carry Over (FY15)	\$9,068.70	Other/Mail			\$15,670.70	 SUPPORT		Individuals	\$7,670.77	Other (ACH)		Endowment			\$7,670.77	TOTAL INCOME	\$22,987.47	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">ADMINISTRATIVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dues to National</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1,054.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Catering/Reception</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$3,279.10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Marketing/Public Relations</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Remaining Expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$71.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">\$4,404.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"> ARTISTIC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Artist Fees/Housing</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$8,070.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Remaining Expenses (ACH)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tech/Production</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">\$8,070.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 3px double black;">\$12,475.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td> BALANCE</td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 3px double black;"> \$10,512.27</td> </tr> </table>	ADMINISTRATIVE		Dues to National	\$1,054.50	Catering/Reception	\$3,279.10	Marketing/Public Relations		Remaining Expenses	\$71.15		\$4,404.75	 ARTISTIC		Artist Fees/Housing	\$8,070.45	Remaining Expenses (ACH)		Tech/Production			\$8,070.45	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$12,475.20	 BALANCE	 \$10,512.27
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Arts Calendar

Tuesday, January 31 – 7:00 P.M.

ASO Chamber: Strauss & Debussy
Clinton Presidential Center
Little Rock, AR

Friday, February 3 – 8:00 P.M.

CACAGO: Damin Spritzer, organist
Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church
Little Rock, AR

Saturday, February 11 – 7:30 P.M.

ASO Pops: Rock On!
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, AR

Sunday, February 12 – 3:00 P.M.

ASO Pops: Rock On!
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, AR

Saturday, February 18 – 7:00 P.M.

Midwest Winds
Christ Episcopal Church
Little Rock, AR

Thursday, February 23 – 7:30 P.M.

Little Rock Wind Symphony
Second Presbyterian Church
Little Rock, AR

Thursday, February 23 – 7:30 P.M.

LRCMS: Parker Quartet
UALR: Stella Boyle Smith Auditorium
Little Rock, AR

Saturday, February 25 – 7:30 P.M.

ASO: Mahler's 2nd
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, AR

Sunday, February 26 – 3:00 P.M.

ASO: Mahler's 2nd
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, AR

Tuesday, February 28 – 7:00 P.M.

ASO Chamber: Tchaikovsky
Clinton Presidential Center
Little Rock, AR

Friday, March 3 – 8:00 P.M.

CACAGO: David Baskeyfield, organist
Cathedral of Saint Andrew the Apostle
Little Rock, AR

Saturday, March 4 – 7:30 P.M.

ASO Pops: John Lennon
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, AR

Sunday, March 5 – 3:00 P.M.

ASO Pops: John Lennon
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, AR

Friday, March 17 – 7:30 P.M.

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

Tuesday, March 28 – 7:00 P.M.

ASO Chamber: Haydn & Brahms
Clinton Presidential Center
Little Rock, AR

Saturday, April 8 – 7:30 P.M.

ASO: Beethoven & Blue Jeans
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, AR

Sunday, April 9 – 3:00 P.M.

ASO: Beethoven & Blue Jeans
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, AR

Tuesday, April 11 – 7:00 P.M.

ASO Chamber: Airs & Dances
Clinton Presidential Center
Little Rock, AR

Thursday, April 20 – 7:30 P.M.

Little Rock Wind Symphony
Second Presbyterian Church
Little Rock, AR

Sunday, April 23 – 3:00 P.M.

River City Men's Chorus
Second Presbyterian Church
Little Rock, AR

Monday, April 24 – 7:00 P.M.

River City Men's Chorus
Second Presbyterian Church
Little Rock, AR

Thursday, April 27 – 7:00 P.M.

River City Men's Chorus
Second Presbyterian Church
Little Rock, AR