



NEXT EVENT IN THE CHAPTER : OCTOBER 31

Sing Along with Internationally Renowned Composer - Conductor

Stephen Paulus



Internationally known composer and former Tucson Symphony Composer in Residence Stephen Paulus will discuss his composition style and conduct the audience in two original choral works— *Psalm 84* and “Pilgrims’ Hymn” from his chancel opera *The Three Hermits*. Don’t miss this unique opportunity **October 31** in the Bloom Music Center.



Sponsored by the
Southern Arizona Chapter
American Guild Organists

Reservations for Singers by October 15 to
KBKtwo@cox.net
Reservations for lunch by October 24 to
joycees@cox.net

October 31, 10 a.m.
Bloom Music Center
St. Philip’s in the Hills Episcopal Church
4440 N. Campbell Avenue
LUNCH \$5

www.agoaz.org

See p.7 for more on Stephen Paulus

**AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
SOUTHERN ARIZONA CHAPTER
2215 E. SECOND STREET
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85719**



DEANS MESSAGE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DEAN

Jeffrey Campbell 465-3768
Jeffrey_Campbell@stphilipstucson.org

SUB-DEAN

Ken Kelley 572-4206
KBKtwo@comcast.net

PAST DEAN

Dusty Johnson 323-7856
Dustyskj@cs.com

SECRETARY

TREASURER

Maxine Fifer, SPC 743-7993
WeTypeFast@aol.com

PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS

Garmon Ashby 297-8423
garmon.ashby@stphilipstucson.org

PLACEMENT

Norene Walters 529-9193
Norene.walters@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Robert Foltz 299-5307
foltz@alum.rpi.edu

PROGRAMMING

Fern Hieb 321-4080
barryfern@cox.net
Pat Kaltenberger 744-4917
Pkalten@comcast.net

HOSPITALITY

Joyce Swinehart 207-0785
joycees@cox.net

EDITOR, *THE CYPHER*

Derek Redmore 319-1319
derekredmore@msn.com

CHAPLAIN

The Rev. John Cheek 327-7121
jcheek@northminstertucson.org

DISTRICT CONVENER, GRAND CANYON DISTRICT

Paul Hesselink H: 702-242-1940
7917 Leavorite Dr., Las Vegas NV 89128
paulshesselink@peoplepc.com

Fall reflections

Weddings, memorial services, consultations, rehearsals with soloists. These are some of our responsibilities as organists outside of the normal choir rehearsals, music planning, meetings and Sunday services that make up the majority of our vocation. I find that I am constantly looking for ways to make each of these services more meaningful to the individual families, by choosing music that, while often "familiar", takes on a particular relevance as a response to a particular reading or reflection in a service; perhaps choosing music that seems to suit the "tone" of a hymn that is sung (or a chorale-prelude based on that hymn); or, after talking with a family, finding that piece of music that seems to reflect their thoughts. This is music and musician performing a pastoral role, sometimes quietly (Vaughan Williams "Rhosymedre" at a memorial) sometimes joyfully (Handel or Widor at a wedding ceremony). Many times, I have the opportunity to speak at length with brides (and their mothers, but that is often another story!) and am quietly grateful that I can frequently steer them clear of the "old standbys" and see tears of happiness as they hear Handel, Bach or Purcell, this music's eternal gift of bringing joy. Often, we might reflect that music at weddings is secondary, that the real celebration gets underway at the Arizona Inn, or wherever the reception may be, and yet, when we can see the power of great music to transform people's lives, often in those hard to schedule meetings with brides-to-be, then we have recognized in ourselves a clear vocation. The meetings with bereaved families can be very difficult of course, and yet one senses again, the transformative power of the great hymns of Resurrection and assurance, of the plaintive melody of even the simplest Bach chorale. These moments are we hope affirming for those that celebrate a life, and affirming for us as church musicians, for the great gift of music that we share.

Cont. on p.3

AGO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
James Thomashower
212-870-2311

NATIONAL PRESIDENT
Eileen Guenther
202-885-8628

REGION IX COUNCILOR
Dr. Frances Nobert
562-699-2526

Dean's message cont.

I would encourage all of us to look anew at the music that we play at such occasions, and perhaps to share with our colleagues some newly discovered piece of music that "works" for us, whether it be wedding or memorial service. Why not submit a list of favorite pieces? We could publish your favorites in an upcoming "Cypher" to share with all of us. Or maybe it is time for a workshop where we can play for our colleagues!

Hope to see you all at the Stephen Paulus workshop on October 31! Thanks to Ken Kelley and the program committee for making this special event a reality.

Jeffrey Campbell, Dean

MEMBER NEWS

Northminster Presbyterian Church

Scottish Heritage Weekend—

Kirkin' O' the Tartan Service. Friday, October 23, 2009, 7:00 pm.

A unique service accompanied by pipes, drums and pageantry, it recognizes Presbyterian roots in Scotland. Includes family blessings, a pipe band, organ and anthems based on traditional Scottish tunes.

Reformation Sunday, October 25, 9:30 & 11am

Festive services, celebrating Presbyterianism's Scottish heritage, with stirring music and processions accompanied by full pipe band in Scottish regalia.

Evensong Service, November 8, 5:00 p.m.

Loosely based on the Anglican Evensong tradition, the service will feature favorite choruses, solos and ensembles from *Elijah* in recognition of the 200th Anniversary of Mendelssohn's birth.

St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church

Organ á la Carte presented by St. Philip's in the Hills Friends of Music; "Four Centuries of Great Organ Music" performed by Jeffrey Campbell. Dates; October 18, music of Brahms, Bruhns, Hasse, Hindemith; December 20, Music for the Season, with guests Patricia Harris, harp, and Sandy Schoebel, flute.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

A part-time choir director position is available at Lutheran Church of the Foothills, 5102 N. Craycroft Road, Tucson. Interested parties should contact Holly Hope, Music & Worship Chairperson at (520) 299-5631 or hollyhopeaz@gmail.com.

A part time organist position is available at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Nogales, AZ. Contact Jean Moehlman at (520) 281-1523 or standrew@qwestoffice.net.



**SEPTEMBER 13, 2009
KICK-OFF EVENT**

← **REFRESHMENTS**

The home of David Wachter and Bruce Anderson provided a delightful venue for the season kick-off event, "*Your Colleagues Suggest*". The five pre-

senters, David Wachter, Eric Holtan, Norene Walters, Garmon Ashby, Janet Tolman and Ken Kelley, shared their suggestions of repertory for keyboard and choir in smaller churches. Each presenter performed (in the case of David Wachter, Brahms on his home pipe organ) or led the attendees in performing a choral work from their "suggested" list. The program was preceded by a very well received light meal coordinated by the new Hospitality Chair, Joyce Swinehart.



↑
**READYING
PRESENTATIONS
And the
WACHTER ORGAN**

← **THE MUSIC**

WE MET THE CHALLENGE!

In the last *Cypher* we asked for your financial assistance in funding the Roger Foreman commission of a work for trombone and organ. You responded generously, and the goal of \$750 was met. Thanks to the following contributors: Mary Lou Barker, Jane Brandt, Kathryn Conner, Charlotte Cordes, Bob Foltz, Wesley Green, Fern Hieb, Dusty Johnson, Pat Kaltenberger, Ken Kelley, Derek Redmore, and Janet Tolman.

Roger is completing the composition at this time. The work will get its premiere performance at Pamela Decker's faculty organ recital on Saturday, November 14, at 7 pm in Holsclaw Hall, with Patrick Lawrence, trombone.

If the work is published in the future, the dedication will read like this:

*Commissioned by Patrick Lawrence and the Southern Arizona Chapter
of the American Guild of Organists.*

Pamela Decker's recital will also include the world premiere of Decker's *On This Day: Five Hymn-Based Works for Advent and Christmas*; her *Elegy and Dances*, for alto saxophone and organ (with Michael Keepe, saxophone); and works by Gerald Near and Jean Langlais.

Thanks to our generous Southern Arizona Chapter Members

For contributions to the Roy Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund--

During this year's membership renewal period the following members made contributions: Mary Lou Barker, Kathryn Conner, Keith Hege, Dusty Johnson, Pat Kaltenberger, Isabel Mikelaitis, Joan Pepe, Derek Redmore, Raymond Ryder, Kathryn Snodgrass, Joyce Swinehart, Leonard Taffs, Janet Tolman and David Wachter.

This past summer Matthew Whitehouse received funding from the Scholarship Fund to attend the AGO Region VII Convention held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The chapter hopes that during this coming year awards will be made to qualified students for organ study.

HOW YOUR DUES HELP SUPPORT COMMUNITY MUSIC EVENTS AND PUBLICIZE THE AGO

The following notes of acknowledgement have been received:

"On behalf of the College of Fine Arts & the School of Music, thank you and members of the So. AZ Chapter of the AGO for your generous gift (\$750) in support of Gail Archer's recital on September 27th." -
-Joe Swinson, Associate Director of Development, College of Fine Arts

"On behalf of the Tucson Chamber Artists, thank you for your generous gift (\$100). It is deeply gratifying to know that we can rely on your partnership in supporting professional choral music in Southern Arizona. And it is particularly heartening that there are those who stand by us in this time of economic challenge."
--Josef Knott, Secretary, TCA, Board of Directors

"Musicians and audiences alike are so grateful for your generous support (\$100) of the Southern Arizona Symphony Orchestra. Without you, this orchestra would not be able to grow at nearly the same rate. This is a milestone season for SASO, including the grand celebration of our 30th anniversary! We are all so pleased that you selected us. We know there are many deserving musical organizations in our community and greatly appreciate your vote of confidence. Especially in these challenging times, it is important to keep the arts and their legacy alive."
-Dee Schroer, Treasurer

AGO SHOWCASE
Sunday, November 22, 3 pm
St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church
602 N. Wilmot

The Southern Arizona Chapter continues its tradition of giving organists in the Tucson area the opportunity to be heard. Come hear four of your colleagues play a broad range of selections for your enjoyment. This year we have the special privilege of hearing two DMA students playing their own compositions. Featured performers are:

Marilyn Van Roekel
Fantaisie by César Franck

Shinji Inagi
Prelude and Fugue in A Minor, BWV 543 by J.S. Bach
Wind of Ryukyu by Shinji Inagi

Norene Walters
Concerto in G Major (first movement) BWV 592
Wie soll ich dich empfangen (O Lord, How Shall I Meet You) by Ernst Pepping
Veni, Veni Emmanuel (2009) (O Come, O Come Emmanuel) by Pamela Decker
Chant de paix (Song of Peace) by Jean Langlais

Matthew Whitehouse
Astronomy-themed improvisation by Matthew Whitehouse
“Offrande et Alleluia final” (“Offering and Final Alleluia”) from Livre du Saint Sacrement by
Oliver Messiaen

Put this November event on your calendar.
Biographical sketches of the performers will appear in the November *Cypher*

Directory Changes.

Lars Andersen, new email address: L.andersen@q.com

David A. Horr, new address: P.O. Box 31511, Tucson, AZ 85751

Matthew Whitehouse, phone number correction: (520).906-1995

CYPHER DEADLINES FOR 2009-2010

The deadlines for submissions for the 2009-2010 season are: November 11;
December 10 (tentative); February 12; and April 12. The final product is expected to
appear within 3-4 days of the deadline.

Stephen Paulus

Paulus is best known to Southern Arizona's classical music fans from his service as Composer in Residence of the Tucson Symphony, and his commissioned work for The Tucson Chamber Artists, conducted by Eric Holtan. But he has won a worldwide audience for his commissioned works for the New York Philharmonic, among many others in the US, and performances of his works by the BBC Radio Orchestra and the National Symphony Orchestra, among others.

He has composed commissioned works for Doc Severinsen and Leo Kottke as well as many classical soloists. Chamber commissions have yielded works for, among others, The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Friends of Music at the Supreme Court and Arizona Friends of Chamber Music. He has been featured guest composer at the festivals of Aspen, Santa Fe, Tanglewood and, in the U.K., Aldeburgh and Edinburgh. As one of today's pre-eminent composers of opera, Paulus has written nine works for the dramatic stage, including *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, which was the first American production to be presented at the Edinburgh Festival. His choral works have been performed by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and dozens of other professional, community, church and college choirs.

Paulus' music has been described by critics as rugged, angular, lyrical, lean, rhythmically aggressive, original, often gorgeous, moving and uniquely American. Cleveland's *Plain Dealer* characterizes his musical language as “irresistible in kinetic energy and haunting in lyrical design.”

***The New York Times* says, “Mr Paulus often finds melodic patterns that are fresh and familiar at the same time. . . .His scoring is invariably expert and exceptionally imaginative in textures and use of instruments.”**

REMINDER

Lunch reservations for the October 31 Paulus Choral Music Event should be made with Joyce Swinehart by October 24; joycees@cox.net.

Inside:
Stephen Paulus Bio
Report on September Event
A Page of Thank You's
Dean's Message

Publication Information: ***The Cypher*** is a bimonthly newsletter published by the **Southern Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists**. It is distributed to chapter members, organists of churches in Tucson and surrounding communities, and deans of all chapters in Region IX (Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Utah). **Southern Arizona Chapter members who do not request the printed version will receive *The Cypher* via email.** Send information for publication to Derek Redmore, 5646 N. Genematas Dr., Tucson, AZ 85704-5934, or to email address derekredmore@msn.com. Please type "Cypher" in the subject line. Views expressed in any of the pieces herein are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the Southern Arizona Chapter—AGO, its officers or members.

Southern Arizona Chapter
American Guild of Organists
4527 N Camino Cardenal
Tucson AZ 85718