

2004-2005 Season

Jonathan Dimmock
 "Presenting the Hybrid Organ"
 (Aeolian Skinner and Allen)
 St John's Episcopal Church, Ross
January 11, 2005, 7:30 p.m.

Angela Kraft Cross & Christopher Putnam
 "Preparation for AGO Examinations"
 First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley
February 12, 2005, time to be announced

Jerome Lenk
 (assisted by a computer guru)
 "Electrifying Event — Exploring Digital"
 Mission Dolores Basilica
April 11, 2005, 7:30 p.m.

Ian Tracey: Workshops
 Workshop: Early Music through Baroque
 Old First Presbyterian Church
May 28, 2005, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
 Lunch — Noon to 1:30 p.m.
 Workshop: Classics and Romantics
 Trinity Episcopal Church
1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Ian Tracey in Recital
 Grace Cathedral
May 29, 2005, 3:00 p.m.

followed by
End-of-Season Banquet
 Location/details to be announced

All venues are in San Francisco
 unless otherwise noted



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The Future of San Francisco's Local Chapter

In recent months, three concerns have arisen in our local chapter:

- (1) a gradual downturn in membership (400 to 360 in the last two years)
- (2) a falling off in donations to the recital fund (we needed \$7500, received \$5300; help!)
- (3) a relatively low member attendance at the annual Guild-sponsored functions (60-75 at recitals, workshops, annual dinner).

Perhaps the local Chapter is not really speaking to the needs of all its members; perhaps the members have no needs, or no time to attend to those needs. **Whatever the reason, the Chapter board wants to hear from you** in order that it might pursue a more relevant agenda in the future.

Please take the time to fill out the questionnaire below and return it to:

Bill Catherwood
 50 Gardenside #11
 San Francisco, CA 94131
 E-mail <william.catherwood@verizon.net>

I would like to attend/participate in:

- more major Guild-sponsored recitals
- more Guild-sponsored workshops
 (specify topic _____)
- more members' recitals
- more Guild socials
- more organ crawls
- small groups playing through/listening to new organ music
- small groups reviewing new recordings/books on music
- choral reading sessions
- composer forums for sharing new compositions

I would be willing:

- occasionally to host one or another of the groups I checked above.
- to help organize one of the groups I checked above.

A Composer Of Genius

Part 3: Tournemire and Messiaen

ANDREW THOMSON explores the neglected composer Charles Tournemire

Continued from Part 2

With the 90th anniversary of Messiaen's birth just passed, it would seem most appropriate in this brief article to approach the vast bulk of the *L'Orgue mystique* very selectively, in terms of its potent influence on his stylistic and spiritual development. In 1930, the young Messiaen wrote admiringly to Tournemire: 'I have played, or rather tried to play on my pedal-piano [two offices] nos. 3 and 35 of *L'Orgue mystique*, trying to imagine the timbres. I admire them more and more. I've noticed with pleasure that the start of "Paraphrase-Carillon" is taken from an antienne of Quasimodo, which I admire especially for the almost theatrical beauty of its words and music.' Undoubtedly, "Paraphrase-Carillon" (the finale of the office of the Assumption) proved a seminal influence in the creation of Messiaen's own musical language with its far reaching neo-impressionist idiom—above all the complex added-note harmonies and bird calls. Remarkable, too, are the powerful quasi-medieval organum effects in parallel fourths and fifths, surely influenced by Debussy's *La Cathédrale engloutie*; the incandescent trills à la Scriabin; and the sections of almost free-floating two part counterpoint which look ahead to the movement "Les Anges" in Messiaen's *La Nativité du Seigneur* and "L'Ange aux parfums" in *Les Corps Glorieux*.

Yet one must not ignore the differences between the two composers. Tournemire, originally trained as a concert pianist, engaged more directly with Debussy's more mercurial improvisatory style, as we hear in the spontaneous and flexible arabesque invention found throughout *L'Orgue mystique*. There's a freedom in his handling of textures, and in his wilful juxtapositions of utterly dissimilar musical ideas. Though Messiaen's music likewise juxtaposes contrasting material, it is nevertheless highly organized and much more hard-focused in its complex, intellectually conceived melodic, harmonic and rhythmic systems. Messiaen, it must be remembered, was a pupil of Marcel Dupré, utterly strict in his pedagogical methods. Moreover, his composition professor, Paul Dukas, was the epitome of fastidiousness and self-criticism—to the point of creative self-destruction. At the same time, I would suggest that it was the uninhibited, almost anarchic elements in Tournemire's creative personality—reflecting his notoriously explosive character—which acted as a seismic force and catalyst on the disciplined and submissive younger man.


Tournemire's fervent Roman Catholic faith was consistent with an unusually wide vision of music and breadth of culture. A pioneer of the early music revival, he regularly included in his recital programmes composers from the Catholic and Lutheran traditions. Franck, however, remained at the core of his repertoire; in fact he wrote a very peculiar book on his master, which goes well beyond Vincent d'Indy's in hagiography and mysticism. Indeed, the sheer bulk of his massive, sprawling output—by comparison with the more compact, manageable oeuvre of Vierne and Duruflé—has proved daunting to performers in general, and despite much of it now being available in recordings. Although his reputation still remains primarily that of an inspired extemporiser, I trust that, in the words of Messiaen, "one day justice will be done to Tournemire."

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Charles Tournemire: *César Franck* (Paris, 1931)
Joël-Marie Fauquet: *Catalogue des œuvres de Charles Tournemire* (Geneva, 1979)
"Correspondance inédite: lettres d'Olivier Messiaen à Charles Tournemire" in *L'Orgue* (1989), no.4
Andrew Thomson: "The mystic organist: Charles Tournemire (1870–1939)" in *Organists' Review* (March–May 1989)
Andrew Thomson: "Lofty endeavours: a reappraisal of the life and work of Charles Tournemire" in *Musical Times* (March 1995)

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ANDREW THOMPSON is a British musicologist specialising in the field of romantic French organ composers. He is particularly known for his 1988 volume *The Life and Times of Charles-Marie Widor* (OUP).

Organists' Review has been published since 1924 as the journal of the Incorporated Association of Organists. In the last fifteen years it has developed into a 100-page full colour quarterly magazine read all over the world and available on subscription (from: iao@allegro.co.uk). Its Editor is Paul Hale, a well-known British cathedral organist and organ consultant. 

Part 1 appeared in the September issue; part 2 appeared in the October issue. Thanks to Paul Motter for locating this series and for obtaining the rights to publish this material. Ed.

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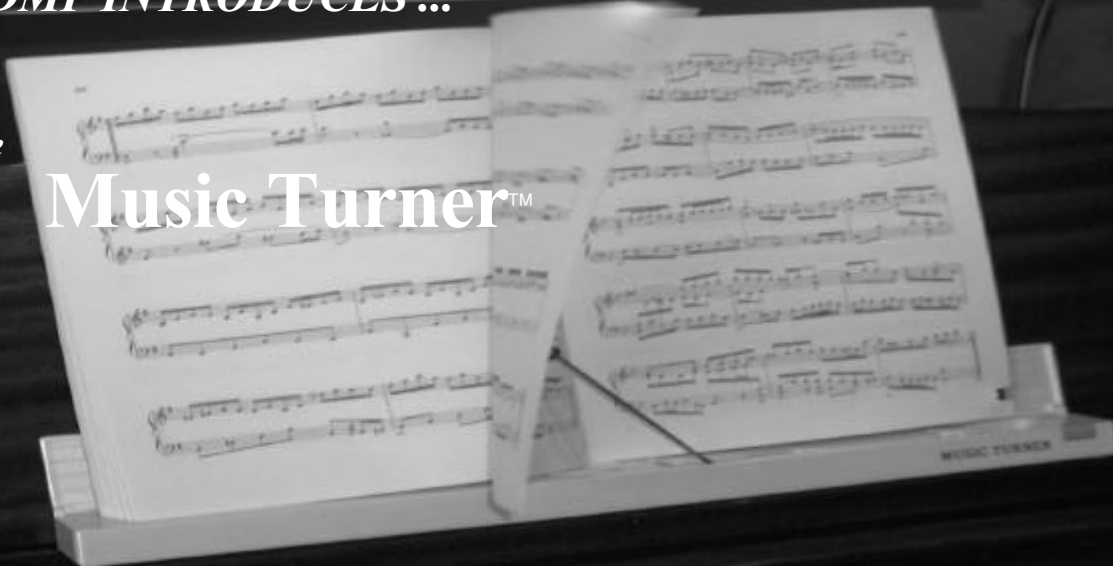
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Rule, Retta 126 Scotts Chute Ct., El Sobrante, CA 94803
Substitute Organist, bell choir and vocal choir substitute
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	Dave_Hatt@juno.com								
	Preferred Area: San Francisco, Peninsula, Marin								
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Classified Ads *Collected by Simon Berry*

This information is provided as a service to SF/AGO members and the employing institutions. Inclusion of information in this column does not imply endorsement by the SF/AGO. Send **Job Referrals** items and **For Sale** notices to: Simon Berry, 466 Duboce St, San Francisco, CA 94117; e-mail <berrysimon@aol.com>. Next issue submission deadline is **November 10, 2004**.

Job Referrals

East Bay - Bayside

Music Director (Not organist): Twin Towers United Methodist Church, Alameda. One Sunday morning service plus Wednesday evening Bell and Chancel Choir rehearsals. Salary \$8k-\$10k per annum. Contact Pamela Kurtz, Pastor; Phone: 510.522.6744, Fax: 510.522.1186 or <ttumc@pacbell.net>

Organist/Music Director: St Peter's Lutheran Church, San Leandro. Could be two separate jobs. Sunday mornings; weekday evening rehearsals plus holidays. Werner-Bosch-Kassel 2 M&P pipe organ. 1/4 time, salary \$5,591-\$15,487 depending on experience. Contact Pastor Oatman, 172 Breed Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577; 510.638.7017; <Pastor@StainedGlassChurch.org>

Organist: St Leander Catholic Church, San Leandro. Seeking an experienced organist to support congregational singing on its

4,451 pipe Estey organ with Austin additions. The organist is currently responsible for playing at 5 masses a weekend, choir rehearsals, and occasional weekday services. We will consider filling this position with more than one musician. Salary \$60.00 per unit. Contact: 510.895.5631

East Bay - Inland

Organist: Christian Science Church, 22 Orinda Way, Orinda. Permanent position for the 4th Sunday Service, 10 am. 2 M&P Allen Electronic, MDS-11, \$100/Sunday. Contact Martha: 925.736.6257; <kmtopp@pacbell.net>

Organist/Pianist: Holy Cross Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod), Concord. 9 am service, Tuesday evening rehearsal. Allen digital organ. New Baldwin-Hamilton vertical. No salary quoted. Résumé and letters of reference to: Mike Liebe, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1092 Alberta Way, Concord, CA 94521

Directory "Shortcomings"


All chapter members should have received their copy of the 2004-2005 Chapter Directory in early October. Directory update pages, listing members whose renewals arrived after the cut-off date, are included on the two pages immediately preceding.

Errors crop up in various places for numerous reasons. We spotted one such gremlin which truncated the e-mail addresses of several members. In this case, the addresses were too long to print within the allocated space in the directory listings, causing one or more characters to be dropped from the end of the address. Corrected e-mail addresses for those members we identified are shown on the Directory Supplement pages.

Our Registrar maintains the membership list. Following the annual renewal period, which ends June 30, the Registrar and helpers begin

the job of generating the Chapter directory, a process that often spans several weeks before all the pieces are available and can be assembled for the printer.

Although our aim is to mail the annual directory to you by the middle of September, matters beyond our control can, and do, delay timely receipt of the finished directories and membership cards, as was the case this year. After we receive them, the Registrar applies the mailing address, member name and membership number to the membership cards in a mail-merge. The final step is a "mailing party" to insert the cards and directories into envelopes, seal them, apply postage, and drop them at the post office.

If you would like to help in this process next year, please contact the Registrar, Justin Kielty, to volunteer. 

SF/AGO Newsletter is published monthly, except July, by the San Francisco Chapter, American Guild of Organists. Opinions herein are those of individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect official policies of this chapter. The deadline for receipt of newsletter items is the **10th of the month** prior to publication.

Dean: Paul Alan Rosendall, 415.587.8578, <paulrosendall@aol.com>
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 Sub Dean Elect: Bill Catherwood, 415.285.7214, <william.catherwood@verizon.net>
 Secretary: E Vaughan Jones, 650.756.6795, <evaughn318@aol.com>
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 Registrar: Justin Kielty, 415.621.5166, <jkielty@sbcglobal.net>
 Chaplain: The Rev. Rosa Lee Harden, 415.515.0425, <rosalee@hardenjones.com>
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 Job Placement Listings: Simon Berry, <berrysimon@aol.com>
 Obituary Listings: Donald Sears, 510.635.6869, <dsears3866@aol.com>
 Newsletter Articles: George Morten, 415.695.1754, <geomort@ix.netcom.com>
 Paid Ads (Newsletter): George Morten, <pandemonium@ix.netcom.com>
 Webmaster: Robert J Kerman, <rjkerman@pacbell.net>
 Chapter Website: <www.sfago.org>

The SF Chapter website contains a wealth of information, including past newsletters.

2004-2005

Bay Area Concert Calendar *Collected by Thomas A Herman*

Events, dates, times and locations subject to change without notice. Compiled from flyers, press releases, and listings submitted by members and organizations. SF/AGO is not responsible for errors, although every effort is made to be accurate. Submission deadline for the next issue is **November 10**. Send event listings to <AGOCalendar@yahoo.com>.

Recurring Venues

Churches and institutions offering programs on a regular basis are assigned abbreviations to save space in our calendar listings. Abbreviations are listed alphabetically with the full name of the venue. Refer to pages 72–73 in the **2004–2005 SF/AGO Chapter Directory** for full information.

CACK: Church of the Advent

CPLH: Calif. Palace of the Legion of Honor

CSMA: Cath. of St Mary of the Assumption

GC: Grace Cathedral

NSSF: National Shrine of St Francis

SJP-B: St John's Presbyterian, Berkeley

SME-B: St Mark's Episcopal, Berkeley

SMV: St Mary the Virgin (Episcopal)

SSE-BV: St Stephen's Episcopal, Belvedere

1 Monday

Choral: Simon Berry director. Solemn Mass for All Saints' Day. Viadana, Palestrina & Victoria. **St Francis of Assisi Catholic Church**, Oak Grove Way, Concord. **7:30pm**

Choral: *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré, St Mark's Choir Association, **George Emblom**, MusDir; **Jonathan Dimmock**, organist. **7:30pm SME-B**

2 Tuesday

Choral: Paul M Ellison director. High Mass of Requiem for All Soul's Day. *Missa pro defunctis*, Tomás Luis de Victoria, and Gregorian Chant. **6:30pm CACK**

4 Thursday

Choral: Evensong and Installation of Canon Director of Music, **Dr Jeffrey Smith**. Sung by the Grace Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys. **5:15pm GC**

David Hatt, organ. Opening concert of the 47th National Conference of the College Music Society. Assisted by **Michael Moreskine**, piano. Admission free. **8pm CSMA**

5 Friday

Susan Matthews, organ, in concert on the 1955 Casavant. **The Congregational Church of San Mateo**, Tilton & San Mateo Dr., San Mateo. **7:30pm**

Choral: Paul M Ellison director. Concert of Renaissance Choral Music. *Missa Susanne un jour* by Lassus, and music of Parsons & Victoria. \$20 (concessions \$10) 415.431.5439. **8pm CACK**

6 Saturday

Robert Gurney, organ. Music of Bach, Rodgers & Hammerstein. **4pm CPLH**

Choral: Paul M Ellison, director. Schola Adventus (Repeat: see 11/5). **8pm CACK**

7 Sunday

Brian Swager, organ. **3:30pm CSMA**

John Karl Hirten, organ (St Stephen's Church, Belvedere). Program to be announced. **4pm NSSF**

Robert Gurney, organ. (Repeat: see 11/6). **4pm CPLH**

Choral: Paul M Ellison, director. Schola Adventus (Repeat: see 11/5). **3pm CACK**

Choral: Mozart *Requiem*. St Mary's Choir, strings, timpani, organ. **Christopher Putnam**, organ; **Michael Secour**, director. Free-will offering. 415.921.3665 ext 310. **4pm SMV**

8 Monday

Choral: Simon Berry directs Mozart's *Requiem* (in the context of a Solemn Mass). FREE. **St Dominic's Church**, 2390 Bush at Steiner St., SF. **7:30pm**

12 Friday

Alison Luedecke, organ, with the St Stephen's Choir. Chant-based music for organ. 415.435.4501x17. **8pm SSE-BV**

13 Saturday

John Karl Hirten, organ. Music of Gigout, Scarlatti, Saint-Saëns, Copland. **4pm CPLH**

14 Sunday

Arthur Johnson, organ (Reno NV). **3:30pm CSMA**

Choral: The Nevsky Vocal Ensemble, St Petersburg State Conservatory, Russia. Sacred Music of Russian Composers. **4pm NSSF**

John Karl Hirten, organ. (Repeat: see 11/13). **4pm CPLH**

Avi Stein, organ (Trinity Episcopal Church, Indianapolis), follows 5:30 Evensong. **6:10pm SME-B**

Angela Kraft Cross, piano. Russian Romantics of the 20th Century. Notre Dame de Namur University, Ralston Ballroom, Ralston Ave., Belmont. **7:30pm**

20 Saturday

Angela Kraft Cross, organ. Music of Mendelssohn, Schumann, Franck & Dupré. **4pm CPLH**

21 Sunday

Choral: *The Berkeley Missa Brevis* (1994) by Gerald R Near. St Mark's Choir Association, **George Emblom**, Music Director. **10am SME-B**

Choral: Paul M Ellison director. Evensong & Benediction (3pm) followed by an organ recital by **Susan Matthews**. Freewill offering with reception to follow. **3:45pm CACK**

David Brock, organ (Incline Village). **3:30pm CSMA**

Arthur Johnson, organ (Trinity Cathedral, Reno, Nevada). **4pm NSSF**

Charles Rus, organ. Very Old and Very New: Sweelinck to Glass. **4pm SJP-B**

Angela Kraft Cross, organ. (Repeat: see 11/20). **4pm CPLH**

Douglas Franks, organ. Works by Walther, Bach, Whitlock, Hakim & Muschel. **Hope Lutheran Church**, 600 West 42nd Ave (off Alameda de las Pulgas) San Mateo. **4:30pm**

T Paul Rosas, organ. Jay Rizzetto, trumpet. Music of the Romantic Period. Freewill offering to benefit organ fund. **Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos**, 16575 Shannon Rd., Los Gatos. <www.pclg.org> **7:30pm**

27 Saturday

Keith Thompson, organ. Pops Concert, including light classics, Broadway favorites, programmatic works and highlights from organ literature. **4pm CPLH**

28 Sunday

Choral: Advent Procession with Lessons and Carols sung by the Grace Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys. **3pm GC**

Arvin Berner, organ (Modesto CA). **3:30pm CSMA**

Choral: Advent Carol Service. The Schola Cantorum. Carols & Readings in preparation for Christmas. **4pm NSSF**

Keith Thompson, organ. (Repeat: see 11/27). **4pm CPLH**

Choral: Paul M Ellison director, with **George Antom Emblom**, organ. Candlelight Procession and Carols for Advent Sunday. Freewill offering with Reception to follow. **6pm CACK**

