



THE ROYAL CANADIAN
COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS

**Vancouver Centre
Newsletter**



*Spring Edition
May, 2018*



RCCO Members' Recital, coming up soon!

By Rachel Alflatt

For months now, various organists, members of our RCCO centre, have been practising away, and they have prepared a very attractive and varied programme of works ranging from Buxtehude to Bédard, with a large amount of Bach, as featured in Susan Ohannesian's quirky poster!

This is a chance to hear some of our local talent, and I strongly encourage you to come out and enjoy an evening of wonderful music. It will be followed by a reception and a chance for all of us to socialize with people who share our interest in the organ and its music.



bok bok bok Bach Bach Bach Bach Bach Bach



Organ Music

Johann Sebastian Bach

Prelude in a minor BWV 543
Concerto in a minor (3rd mov't) BWV 593
Prelude and fugue in G major BWV 541
Prelude and fugue in c minor BWV 549
Passacaglia and fugue in c minor BWV 582
Trio Sonata in C (3rd mov't) BWV 529

Denis Bédard

Postlude on "Tell out my Soul" Woodlands

Dietrich Buxtehude

Ciacona in e minor BuxWV 160

Louis James Alfred Lefébure-Wely

Sortie in E flat major

Flor Peeters

Choral Prelude - Vom Himmel hoch

Josef Rheinberger

Pastorale (Sonata in G major) Op. 88

Domenico Scarlatti

Sonata in D major Kip. 288

RCCO Vancouver Centre Members Recital

Organists

Tamar Genossar
Cindy Leung
Huiyan (Cindy) Ma
Gail Ovington
Susan Ohannesian
John Pals
Angelique Po
Haruyo Shikano Abramson

St. Mary's Kerrisdale Anglican Church
37th Avenue at Larch Street
Saturday, May 26 7pm

Admission is by donation.

There will be a reception following the recital in the parish hall.

★ It's that time of year, time to renew your RCCO membership, or to consider becoming a member!

By Michael Molnar

Spring is a time of renewal in nature, and it is also a time for renewal in the College.

One often hears about the wonderful basic benefits offered (such as Organ Canada subscriptions, scholarships and grants, etc.), but it is important to recall the more intangible values that membership provides. Membership funds can be put to good use (many examples of this seen in this e-newsletter alone), but the best results come from active participation in college activities.

When organists connect, conversations lead to ideas, which lead to support and action.

Finding that one person who will be perfect as a substitute on Sundays, connecting with the one organist who has the big library of practical choral scores just waiting to be used, hearing over a coffee from a technician that the glitch in your instrument (the one that has been bothering you for three years) can actually be fixed rather easily, a hundred good paths can open up when members renew, refresh, reconnect, and revisit their life within our centre.

Always remember: the more we have, the more we can do.

More information can be found at: <https://www.rcco.ca/renew-info>

★ OrgelkidsCAN – RCCO Fundraiser

By Rachel Alflatt

One of the RCCO's biggest challenges is getting children and young people interested in the pipe organ. Often they have never seen or heard an organ; it simply isn't part of their lives. For there to be audiences and organists in the future, we must introduce and interest children in the organ and its music now, or risk the disappearance of our wonderful instrument.

The national RCCO is actively trying to meet this challenge, and the OrgelkidsCAN project is a major part of their approach right now. They have raised enough money to commission an organ builder (Orgues Létourneau of St-Hyacinthe, Quebec) to build eight miniature pipe organ kits to be used across Canada. These are scheduled to be available starting September 1st, with a preview at the Calgary Organ Festival in July, and here in Vancouver organist and music teacher Michael Dirk is already looking forward to getting

his hands on one!

In order to help this project to happen, the RCCO Vancouver Centre executive voted earlier this spring to make a donation of \$1000 from Centre funds to the fundraising campaign. For more info about this very exciting project:
<https://www.rcco.ca/orgelkidscan>

★ A Concert not to be missed!

By Rachel Alflatt

On Friday, June 8, at 8pm, at Dunbar Ryerson United Church, organist Alcée Chriss, winner of the 2017 Canadian International Organ Competition, will perform Bach, transcriptions including Wagner and Rachmaninov, and jazz!

This exciting young organist was already giving concerts in Victoria and Parksville, and I thought it would be a real shame not to have him play here in Vancouver. He is a rising star in the organ world, with an impressive list of accomplishments, prizes and accolades.

So I set about trying to make it happen, and thanks to the invaluable help of Dunbar Ryerson's music director and organist, Bryn Nixon, of the Canadian International Organ Competition staff, and of RCCO Vancouver Centre for aid in sponsoring the concert, it's a go!

I hope many of you will want to hear this talented musician, and, tying in with what I wrote in the OrgelkidsCAN article, that you will bring a child or young person with you. General admission is \$20, but children and students with ID get in free.

More about Alcée:

Winner of the 2017 Canadian International Organ Competition and Firmin Swinnen Silver Medalist at the 2016 Longwood Gardens International Organ Competition, Alcee Chriss III has been celebrated for his "grace, skill and abundant proficiency" by the Journal Assist News, Albuquerque. And of his prize-winning performance at the Longwood Gardens Competition, Choir and Organ Magazine declared, "Chriss stole the show."

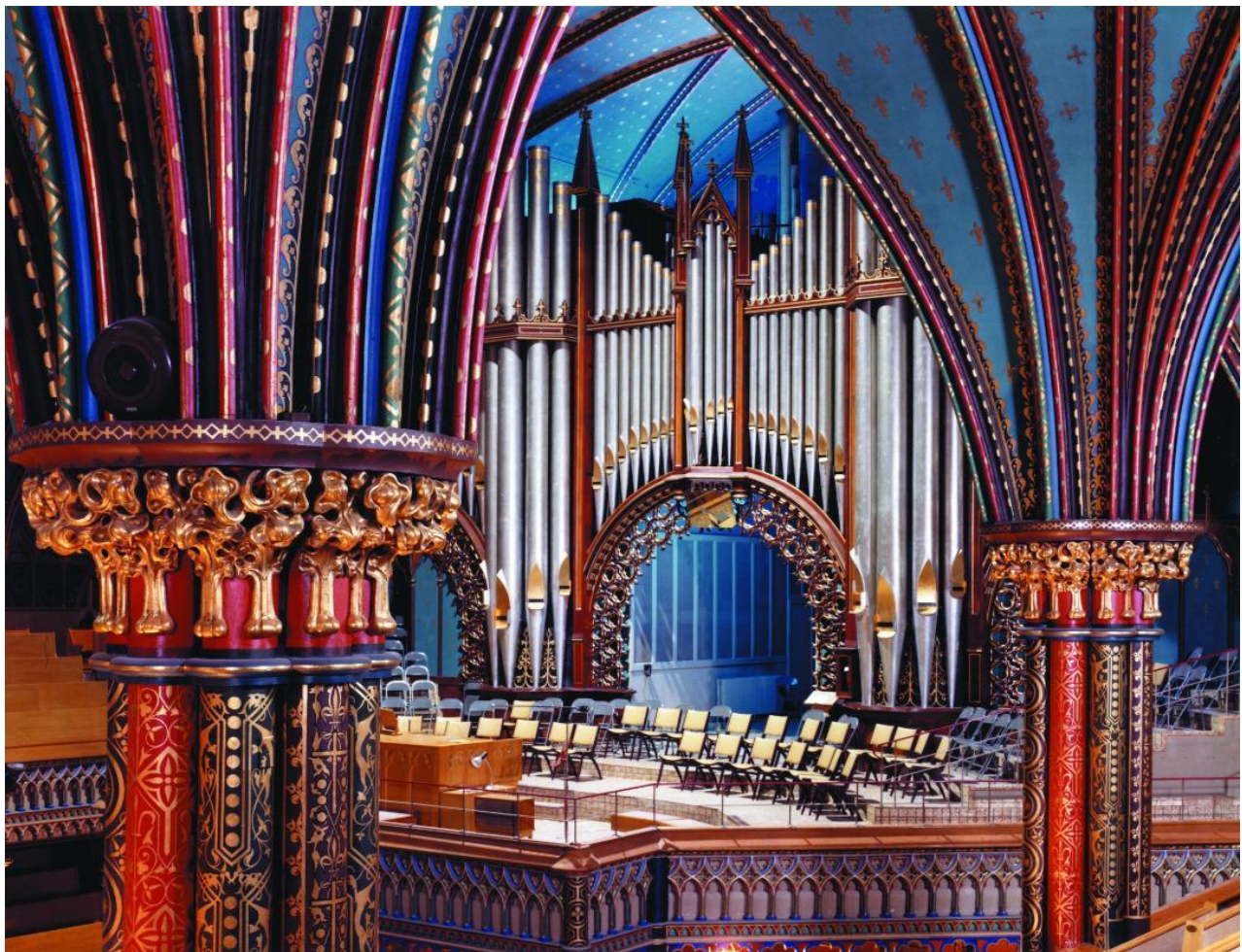


He also won First Prize and Audience Prize in the Miami International Organ Competition (2014), the Fort Wayne National Organ Competition (2016), the Albert Schweitzer National Organ Competition in Wethersfield, CT (2013), and the Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists in Austin, TX (2013).

Alcée has performed throughout the United States and France, and in 2014 was a featured “Rising Star” at the national convention of the American Guild of Organists in Boston. He is currently pursuing a doctoral degree at McGill University.

He previously studied at Oberlin Conservatory of Music where he received the Master’s degree in historical keyboard and a Bachelor’s degree in Organ Performance. At Oberlin, he studied organ with James David Christie and Olivier Latry, improvisation with Marie-Louise Langlais, and harpsichord and continuo playing with Webb Wiggins and Hank Knox. He also received a grant from Oberlin’s 1835 fund to spend a month in France studying historic organs and repertoire, and continues international volunteer work there, as the parrain of a music immersion course in Lyon’s impoverished Duchère district.

In addition to his organ and harpsichord performances, he is active as a conductor and jazz pianist.



Notre-Dame Basilica, Montreal, where the 2017 CIOC finals took place. Photo credit, CIOCM website.

★ Upcoming Concerts and Events

Saturday, May 26, 7:00pm, St. Mary's Kerrisdale

RCCO Members' Recital with organists Tamar Genossar, Cindy Leung, Huiyuan (Cindy) Ma, Gail Ovington, Susan Ohannesian, John Pals, Angelique Po, Haruyo Shikano Abramson.

Works by Bach, Bédard, Buxtehude, Lefébure-Wély, Peeters, Rheinberger and Scarlatti.

Reception following the recital

Admission by donation.

Friday, June 8, 8:00pm, Dunbar Ryerson United Church

Alcée Chriss, winner of the 2017 Canadian International Organ Competition, in Concert

Masterworks by Rachmaninov, Wagner, Bach, and Art Tatum.

Tickets \$20 general, children and students with ID free. Available at the door and online at

http://ciocm.org/events2?language=en_CA&&event_id=149

Saturday, June 9, 11:00am-4:00 pm, Maranatha Canadian Reformed Church

Surrey Doors Open event showcasing Maranatha's 106 year old pipe organ

Free entry, demonstrations by various organists including Michael Dirk, Frank Ezinga and PJ Jansen.

Sunday, June 10, 7:00pm, St. John's Shaughnessy Anglican Church

RCCO Vancouver Centre Annual General Meeting, followed by a reception. All current members of the RCCO are warmly invited and encouraged to attend!

Monday, August 13 – Thursday, August 16

Carillon Music's Church Music Summer Institute

Instructor: Michael Dirk

Friday, October 26, 7:30pm, St. Andrew's Wesley United Church

RCCO Halloween Concert

In collaboration with the St. Andrew's-Wesley Sacred Music Series

An evening of spooky music by various ghosts and ghouls!

Free admission, donations accepted.

Sunday, October 28, 4:00pm, St. John's Shaughnessy Anglican Church

Celebration of the Hallman organ's 50th anniversary

Works by Bach and others, 1918 Chaplin silent movie "It's a Dog's Life", more details TBA

November, dates TBD Dunbar Ryerson United Church and Holy Rosary Cathedral

From the Quebec City Cathedral Basilica, organist Marc D'Anjou in concert.

★ Pipe Organ Spotlight

Maranatha Canadian Reformed Church, Surrey



A large and old organ with a rich history, the Maranatha instrument began as one of the seminal installations from the Casavant brothers in 1912. With mergers between Presbyterian, Congregational, and Methodist communities and rapidly expanding infrastructure in the city (especially with St. Paul's Hospital), many buildings and instruments were moved, demolished, or enhanced as Vancouver grew into British Columbia's metropolis. The 1912 organ was moved out to Surrey. Under the direction of organ builder Kenneth A. Hodgson, a 1960's organ in New Westminster, built by Stanley Haddon, was used to augment Maranatha's instrument, turning it into the sizable composite instrument it remains today.

Some members may remember our local organ crawl to this fine instrument a few years ago, and others who have not had a chance to hear it can look forward to the Surrey Doors Open event celebrating Casavant's Opus 501 (more info in the e-newsletter calendar).



Organ specifications:

Great		Swell		Positiv		Pedal	
Principal	16'	Bourdon	16'	*Holpijp	8'	Principal	16'
Principal	8'	*Principal	8'	*Gemshorn	8'	Bourdon	16'
Geigen Principal	8'	Gedeckt	8'	Octave	4'	*Spitz Principal	8'
Doppelflöte	8'	Aeoline	8'	*Koppelflöte	4'	Gedeckt (Sw)	8'
*Rohrflöte	8'	Voix Celeste	8'	*Italian Principal	2'	*Koralbass	8'
*Octave	4'	Waldflöte	4'	*Larigot	1 1/3	Trombone	16'
*Quintade	4'	Nasard	2 2/3	*Sesquialtera	II	Trompette (Gt)	8'
*Quint	2 2/3	Piccolo	2'	*Krummhorn	8'	Clarion	4'
*Octave	2'	Mixture	III				
*Blockflöte	2'	Trumpet	8'				
*Mixture	III	Oboe	8'				
*Trompette	8'	Fagott	16'				
		Tremulant					

* Pipework from the New Westminster Organ (1961)

★ Poem written by our outgoing Regional Director, Sam Balden,
and read by him at the March 2018 National Council

He's been an R.D. far too long,
It's time for him to go.
We're sorry, Sam, please move along,
You're holding up the show.

"The hour has come," P. Bishop said,
"to plan for changing times."
"And see that Region Eight is fed
By something more than rhymes."

He brings us tales from far-off land
To which we're most adverse.
Does he not simply understand -
WE'RE centre of the universe!

He injects humour to our Board,
And this we cannot stand.
For laughter is most untoward,
In this most august band!

'Tis said at Council he writes pomes,
Instead of listening hard
To boring speeches and lengthy tomes -
He shows us no regard!

And so, dear Sam, it is farewell,
We trust you're good with this.
Take heart, we really wish you well
And hope it's US you'll miss.

Useful Information

Vancouver Centre Teachers List:

Rachel ALFLATT (Queens Avenue United Church, New Westminster)

Phone number: 604 322 5995

Email: cheldar@cheldar.com

Michael DIRK (St. John's Shaughnessy)

Phone number: 604 562 5052

Email: mjdirk@hotmail.com

Frank EZINGA (Canadian Reformed Church, Langley)

Phone number: 604 807 5246

Email: frank.ezinga@langleycanrc.org

Vancouver Centre Executive 2017-2018

President	Michael Molnar	(604) 987 3451
Vice-president	Frank Ezinga	(604) 807 5246
Past-president	Rachel Alflatt	(604) 322 5995
Secretary	Haruyo Shikano Abramson	(604) 921 1820
Treasurer	Tamar Genossar	(604) 982 9212
Member	Michael Dirk	(604) 562 5052
Member	Marianne Huestis	(604) 946 3952
Member	Susan Ohannesian	(604) 732 5162