

MIXTURES



APRIL 2021

DEAN'S MESSAGE...

Happy Easter everyone. I know this has been a difficult year for ministers, musicians, and congregations to carry out worship services, due to the unprecedented obstacles put in their path due to the pandemic. However, my sincere hope is that we can all celebrate Easter with the joy it brings despite these unusual times.

Congratulations to our Editor, **Patti O'Connell**, who is this year's recipient of the **Helen Hosmer Award for Excellence in Music and Teaching**. The annual Hosmer award honors a graduate of the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam. The presentation of the award will take place this July at the Reunion Weekend at Potsdam.

In the last issue of *Mixtures*, I was happy to announce Amanda Mole's recent appointment as organist and assistant music director at St Joseph's Cathedral in Columbus, Ohio. Jean suggested that I follow up with the other Young Artist Series guest organists as a "Where Are They Now" feature, highlighting one in each *Mixtures* issue. Dexter "Tripp" Kennedy was our guest in October 2014.

Tripp is a graduate of Oberlin (James David Christie) and Yale (Martin Jean). He gave a masterful performance at United Presbyterian Church on Friday night. He led an interesting workshop on Saturday morning on the subject of service improvisation, using as a guide, Jeffrey Brillhart's highly recommended workbook, *Breaking Free*. Two weeks after his Binghamton visit, he took first prize in the Chartres Competition (formally known as Grand Prix d'Interprétation at the 24th Concours International d'Orgue de Chartres) at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. (Below is the program that Tripp played in Binghamton, but for the most part was the same program he subsequently played in the competition.) While he

was here, Tripp got to meet with Jonathan Biggers, who gave Tripp some great advice on how to perform in competitions. Tripp later acknowledged that JB's advice was very helpful. As a result of his first-place award, Tripp was invited to perform in several European venues in the following year. He is represented by *Seven Eight Artist Management* and is a successful concert organist. (<https://www.seveneightartists.com/>) He holds the position of Assistant Director of Music of Christ Church Grosse Pointe (Michigan) where he serves as the principal organist for all choral services and concerts and directs the training of the novice boy and girl choristers. He is also on the faculty at Wooster College, Ohio, teaching harpsichord and organ.

As you are all aware, we have had to cancel our chapter events for the year due to the pandemic restrictions on group gathering. The chapter Executive Committee will be meeting soon to put together a list of events for the summer and fall in the hope and possibility that we will be able to resume our normal schedule of events. I am looking forward to when we can all get back together.

John

Picture Memories from Dexter “Tripp” Kennedy’s Recital





Binghamton Chapter AGO Recital
Dexter Kennedy, *organ*

Fantasia and Fugue in B-flat major, Op. 18 No. 6 *Alexandre-Pierre-François Boëly*
I. Allegro (1785-1858)
Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele, BWV 654 *Johann Sebastian Bach*
(1685-1750)
Concerto in D minor, BWV 596 (After Vivaldi Op. 3 No. 11) J.S. Bach
[Allegro] - Grave - Fuga
Largo e spiccato
[Allegro]
Fantasia and Fugue in C minor, Wq. 119/7 *Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach*
(1714-1788)

- Intermission -

L'Ascension *Olivier Messiaen*
III. Transports de joie d'une âme devant la gloire du Christ qui est la sienne (1908-1992)
Symphonie Gothique, Op. 70 *Charles-Marie Widor*
II. Andante sostenuto (1844-1937)
Scherzo (*Douze Pièces*) *Gaston Litaize*
(1909-1981)
Symphonie No. 3, Op. 28 *Louis Vierne*
IV. Adagio (1870-1937)
Symphonie No. 2, Op. 20 *Vierne*
V. Final



Your Editor's Message...

Wow! Our “April Fool’s” snowstorm left us with under 2” here in Owego! I was certain our loyal “WeatherMaster,” Howard Manges, of WBNG, was pulling a prank on all of us until I saw the weather maps. It seems Mother Nature pulled the prank this year!

Well, no matter how much snow we do or don’t get, it will disappear fast. The birds have returned, except for my Grosbeaks...they are always the last! The grass is greening up, the Lenten Roses are spot on to be beautiful for Easter Day and spring is happening all around us. No matter what Mother Nature throws at us from now on, the signs for lovelier days ahead are already here.

On the nearly 70-degree day I found new life in my own attitude and a renewed energy. The yard work has been started and the Choir is gathering once again. They are tickled to see and sing with each other, socially distanced and masks on when not singing. We still record but do so joyfully, to the Glory of God!

My hope for you as we near Easter Day is that you find renewal in all that you do and all that you are to those around you. Thanks be to God!

Easter Blessings,
Your Editor,
Patti

SUB-DEAN'S MESSAGE...

Our Sub-Dean, Jean Henssler will be playing an organ recital at the First Presbyterian in Troy, PA. It will take place on Sunday, May 16th at 4pm, plus it will be live-streamed on Facebook. The instrument is a lovely little 1945 historic Aeolian-Skinner organ with three manuals and 17 stops.

Editor's note: Troy is a lovely drive, a quaint small town about an hour and a half away.

FROM the REGISTRAR...

The membership renewal period will begin for most of our members shortly when AGO National sends out renewal invoices via email. Two chapter members, part of the staggered renewal system, have already completed the process for 2021-2022. That puts the current membership renewal at 100%. Our executive board will shortly be scheduling the coming year's program and is counting on an active chapter.

A new newsletter from National has been developed and is being sent via email. Have each of you with email addresses been receiving it? It is still evolving but a great feature has been added – a personal reminder (mine follows):



Your AGO membership expiration date is 7/1/2021.

If you need assistance renewing your membership, just give us a call 212-870-2310 or [renew online](#).

Also in the newsletter is an announcement of an additional AGO National program being developed. I am aware of 1 chapter member who qualifies. Does anyone know of someone?



The AGO National Council is committed to membership recruitment, retention, and growth within our organization. During the **Year of the Young Organist**, July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022, any individual under the age of 30 can become a member or renew her/his membership for free as part of this program. Events and new initiatives will be held throughout the year. [Click here](#) for more information.

Richard, whose email address can be found in your yearbook directory

RECENT EVENTS ... RECITALS and CONCERTS GONE VIRTUAL...

Sunday, May 16th, 4pm: Organ Recital by Jean Henssler. First Presbyterian Church, Troy, PA

DEAN John Holt - 770-9865

SubDean and Placement Jean Henssler - 748-7285

Newsletter Patti O'Connell peoconnell1@gmail.com

Website Peggy Sniezek www.binghamtonago