

# MIXTURES



MAY 2021

## DEAN'S MESSAGE...

We welcome our newest member, Sean Stafford, who is pianist at Central Methodist Church in Endicott.

While waiting for the pandemic to fade away and allow us to return to normal, I have enjoyed looking back at some of our past events; in particular, our Young Artist Series.

Our Young Artist Series began in November of 2013 with guest artists, organist Joseph Ripka, and his wife, violinist Erin Ripka. In our search for our first artist, we came across three videos of Joseph Ripka playing Dupre's B Major Prelude and Fugue:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lniaqocbLjM>

and also, the Finale of Vierne's Symphony #5 (in two parts):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RgUwleCldZ0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zTN7bMP1hcM>

He was playing an audition (a mini concert between services) at St. Sulpice, with Daniel Roth (!) turning pages. We were so impressed with Joey's performance that we contacted him at his church in Stonington, CT, and asked him to be the premier performer in our new series. He asked if his wife could also perform with him, and we happily agreed.

The program included both pieces that he played at St. Sulpice, but so much more.

Trois Préludes et fugues Op.7 Marcel Dupré  
No. 1 in B major (1886-1971)

Thema mit variationen Op. 150 Josef Rheinberger  
(Erin Ripka, violin) (1839-1901)

Fantasia und fugue BWV 542 Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

Douze Pièces Gaston Litaize  
Lied (1909-1991)

Trois Préludes et fugues Op.7 Marcel Dupré  
No. 3 in g minor

Concerto for violin BWV 1041 Johann Sebastian Bach  
II. Andante

Final from *Symphony No. 5* Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

Joey and Erin played beautifully at the Friday evening concert, and the next morning Joey gave a workshop on pedal technique. All in all, it was a splendid start to what became one of our finest efforts as a chapter. We are really looking forward to continuing the series.

Joey is currently Director of Music at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Phoenix, AZ.

<http://www.josephripkaorganist.com/bio>

John



Joey Ripka and Members of Binghamton AGO



The Ripka Family  
Joey, Erin and Clara

## Your Editor's Message...

May Day! May Day! Joyous new month to all of you!

There is a plethora of information and websites to visit included in this edition of Mixtures. It is a wonderful feeling to be approaching a new, more open “normal,” isn’t it?

Sadly, there are still no real changes in singing or playing together rules for this musician. I am hopeful that the science is just a bit behind where live music is concerned. That spark to get me busy on the horn is still elusive. But the Organ? With Church reopening, the Organ becomes the ‘go to’ for making live music...at least for me.

With Spring in the air, the threat of heavy s---gone, I hope you are finding things in your life that bring you closer to a wonderful new “normal.”

The June edition of Mixtures will be a tad late next month. Our youngest is having a “live” graduation for his PhD at Florida State University and we are going to be in attendance! The Mixtures will probably happen around June 4<sup>th</sup>. If you have an event that needs announcing before June 4<sup>th</sup>, please notify Dean John!

Cheers to all,  
Patti

## Thanks to my Binghamton AGO family

The Lord has richly blessed me with many cards and emails from my Binghamton AGO family as I celebrated the big 8-0 on Sunday April 18. I do appreciate all of these notes and good wishes. Thank you for such a supportive group during these pandemic times. I look forward to safely seeing you face to face soon! The Lord bless you and keep you all well.

Lee Roseboom

## SUB-DEAN'S MESSAGE...

Are you suffering from a case of **CCF (Covid Cabin Fever)**? You are invited to join organist Jean Henssler on an **aural** journey to the great churches of late 19th /early 20th Century **Paris**. She will play a **live-streamed benefit recital** of music by Gigout, Vierne, Franck, Bossi, Whitlock and Mulet on **Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 4 pm, at the historic First Presbyterian Church of Troy, PA**, on the lovely little Aeolian-Skinner (1945) pipe organ. Don that dusty beret, prepare your bagette, Camembert and Chablis and plan to take that much-needed trip to Paris. *Bon Voyage!*

<https://www.facebook.com/TroyPAPresbyterian/>

If you prefer to attend in person, the church is large enough to 'socially distance.' Face masks will be required. An outdoor reception is planned if the weather cooperates. Directions: **Route 17 (86) west** to the second Sayre PA exit (**Rt. 220 South**). In Towanda, **west on Route 6** to Troy, PA. The church is on the left just past the main intersection. The ca. 1 1/2-hour trip is through the beautiful rolling hills of the Endless Mountain area of northern PA.

## 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

## NEWS and NOTES...RECITALS and CONCERTS LIVE & VIRTUAL...

**Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 4pm:** Organ Recital by Jean Henssler. First Presbyterian Church, Troy, PA  
See Above...[Sub-Dean's Message](#)

## BTOS EVENT...

**"Pop Pipes: WOMEN"** The Binghamton Theater Organ Society will present our own AGO member, **Nancy Wildoner**, on a Mother's Day theater organ concert, **Sunday, May 9th, 3 pm**, at The Forum Theater in Binghamton. Guest vocalists will be Judy Giblin and Randy Messing. As tickets will be limited, please order in advance at [www.BinghamtonTOS.org](http://www.BinghamtonTOS.org). It's time to get out of the house and hear LIVE organ music again!

## From Annette Richards...

Dear friends,

The Cornell Center for Historical Keyboards concluded its "[Beethoven and Pianos](#)" series this week with a conversation between Mike Lee and me that explored links between C. P. E. Bach and Beethoven, touching, among other things, upon the topics of improvisation, authorship, and the politics of landscape architecture. If you'd like to catch that, and any of the other events in that series - which took us from the early 19th century to the 21st - I warmly invite you to browse our website, where you'll still find them available for another few weeks. \*\*\*And for the organ-lovers out there, the next Midday Music for Organ will go live on Wednesday April 28th at 12:30 pm (a slight change from our previously advertised schedule).

Here is the link... [www.historicalkeyboards.org](http://www.historicalkeyboards.org).

## FROM OUR MEMBERS...

### From Denise Bassen...

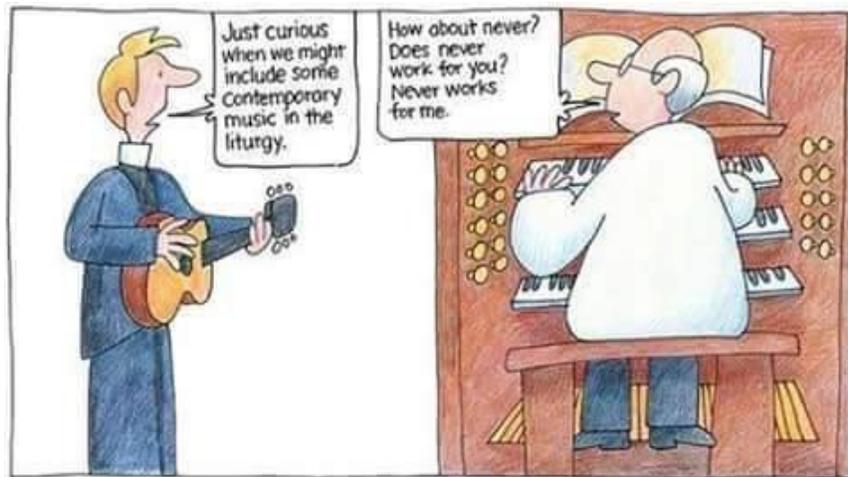
I just found this recording buried deep in my files. It was an audition piece for Jonathan Biggers to consider whether I was suitable for admission into the master's program at Binghamton. It was recorded on the Allen Renaissance organ at St. Kateri Catholic Church in Lagrange, NY. Diane Bish played the inaugural concert there in 2009.

[https://soundcloud.com/denise-bassen/allegro-maestoso-frpm-sonata-ii-of-felix-mendelssohn?fbclid=IwAR2Ery3WVJnT\\_JucX38LcT4wwwkuf40ZF\\_eg8vLqRt9G7KX2L9swM5f5pi](https://soundcloud.com/denise-bassen/allegro-maestoso-frpm-sonata-ii-of-felix-mendelssohn?fbclid=IwAR2Ery3WVJnT_JucX38LcT4wwwkuf40ZF_eg8vLqRt9G7KX2L9swM5f5pi)  
[A](#)



Recently, AGO member **Dave Clark** introduced the **New(est) Organ in Town...**a 1926 Wurlitzer Model 146A Band organ.

The antique military band organ was donated to the Town of Union by the Endicott Rotary Club in celebration of its *100 years of Service Above Self*. "After a lengthy search, we were very fortunate to hear about an organ at the Bill Kap Piano Co. in Cleveland, Ohio. Bill Kaplowitz, the owner, had recently passed away and his son, Mike, was pleased to honor his father's legacy by finding a proper home for one of his most prized possessions. The club hopes to have the organ playing in one of the Johnson carousels this summer. During the off-season, it is on display at the Endicott-Johnson Museum as part of the Endicott History and Heritage Center on Washington Avenue, Endicott." Museum info at <https://visitbinghamton.org/listings/endicott-heritage-center-the/>




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**DEAN John Holt - 770-9865**

**SubDean and Placement Jean Hensler - 748-7285**

**Newsletter Patti O'Connell [peoconnell1@gmail.com](mailto:peoconnell1@gmail.com)**

**Website Peggy Sniezek [www.binghamtonago](http://www.binghamtonago)**