

2001 CONVENTION ARTISTS

The program committee for the 2001 Convention has been hard at work developing an exciting and varied program. We are excited to announce that all of the performers have now been signed. Workshops will be forthcoming. It is the program committee's hope that members of the AGO will continue to support the convention and will look forward with enthusiasm to what promises to be a wonderful event. The artists are as follows:

Olivier Latry, Raymond and Elizabeth Chenault (organ duo), John Ferguson, Samuel Metzger and Ann Marie Rigler and David Bohnert (organ and trumpet).

Over the next few months the *Pipeline* will feature one of the artists including biographical information as well as reviews.

JOHN A. FERGUSON

4/2000

John Ferguson is the Elliot and Klara Stockdal Johnson Professor of Organ and Church Music and Cantor to the Student Congregation at St. Olaf College. His responsibilities include directing the church music-organ program, teaching organ and conducting the St. Olaf Cantorei. Ferguson came to St. Olaf in 1983 from Minneapolis where he served at Central Lutheran Church as Music Director and Organist, an appointment accepted in 1978 after a 15-year tenure at Kent State University. While at Kent State he served as Organist-Choirmaster of the United Church of Christ, Kent, Ohio during which time he served as music editor for the United Church of Christ *Hymnal*, 1974. He spent summers as visiting professor at the University of Notre Dame and was invited to spend sabbatical leave time as visiting professor at the Yale Institute of Sacred Music.

A native of Cleveland, Ferguson's degrees are from Oberlin College, Kent State and Eastman School of Music where his doctoral study in organ was with Russell Saunders. He is respected as a fine teacher and performer, and his skill as improviser and leader of congregational song has received national acclaim. Each year he prepares and leads many festivals across the country both for local congregations and professional gatherings. A Ferguson hymn festival is more than an inspiring organ recital, according to Emily Brink, Past President of the Hymn Society, "He involves everyone present in a glorious community of sound. Everyone gets to perform."

Dr. Ferguson is the author of numerous books and articles on church music and organ building. His choral and organ music is published by Augsburg, Concordia, Galaxy, G.I.A., Hope, Kjos, Ludwig, Morning Star, Selah and Bell.

Since joining the St. Olaf faculty, Ferguson's skills as creative arranger have become more widely known. He brings a special combination of experience as a choral singer (Oberlin College Choir under Robert Fountain), church musician (both part-time and full-time) and participant in the St. Olaf choral tradition to his workshops in conducting repertoire for church choirs who are considering highlights at conventions of professional organizations. He was invited to design and present a hymn festival held in the Washington National Cathedral as a major event for the national convention of the American Choral Directors Association. In July, 1996, he presented workshops and a hymn festival for church musicians in Seoul, Korea and in the summer of 1997 designed and led a hymn festival in Norway's National Cathedral, the Nidaros Dom, Trondheim, as a part of the celebration of the millennium of the birth of St. Olaf.

CONSIDERING A NEW ORGAN?

Johannus Organs

Combining old world craftsmanship with today's technology. The world's only real-time sampled digital organ for authentic pipe organ quality. Pipe organ compatible.



Schmitt Design Series Organs

Offers the smaller church or home spectacular pipe-like performance with a wealth of quality features at an affordable price. Manufactured by Johannus to our own design specifications and requirements.

We work for months and even years with church architects, musicians, financial committees and donors, to assure the enrichment of your music activities and absolute, continuing satisfaction with your installation. We offer the security of fully warranted instruments and qualified technicians, backed by 103 years of experience.

LET SCHMITT'S HELP!

Since 1896



For information, a demonstration, or a free survey of your church organ needs and requirements, call Craig Proehl, Schmitt Music, Village West Shopping Center, Fargo ND 58103. (701) 281-1828 or (800) 252-6270

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The "Extra" issue last month mentioned the change of the publication deadline of the *Pipeline* to the first of the month. This is so that we are able to have the newsletter in your hands well in advance of the programs we sponsor each month. This issue went out later because we are having no program this month because of the busy Easter season. The other issues will comply with the first of the Month deadline. Thank you!

Mrs. Pat N. Unkenholz
Senior Sales Representative

1962 East Capitol Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501
(701) 221-2843
e-mail: Bellpat2@AOL.com



Malmark, Inc.

America's Premier Bellcraftsmen
Bell Crest Park, Plumsteadville, PA 18949

OUR SONGS IN THE JOURNEY
Association of Lutheran Church Musicians
Region III conference, July 16-19, 2000
Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa

The goal of the Association is for church musicians to have a collective voice in all Lutheran Church bodies. This voice needs to be responsive to the ever-changing nature of the church. Region III's conference will offer a chance to hear the journeys of other denominations, specifically Father Michael Joncas of the RCC and Carol Doran of the Episcopal Church. We invite musicians from all denominations to join us as we share our mutual experiences. This sharing will continue to help shape the questions that are voiced and the answers that are offered. Besides the keynote speakers there will be a hymn festival led by Mark Sedio, a recital given by Dr. Karen Larson Black, workshops covering basic skills for the musician without extensive training, and a special appearance by the St. Luke's Bottle Band, a comedy company led by Paul Phillips. Contact Diane Beane, 319-352-2793, beanedl@aol.com.