

# THE DESERT WIND

Editor: Bruce Behnke © 2018

Issue: January/February 2018

## Dean's Notes



Southern Nevada Chapter  
American Guild of Organists

Dear AGO Friends,

Happy 2018 to all our AGO members and friends. This year marks the 50th anniversary of our establishment as a Chapter in 1968, with Raymond Barnes as the first Dean. We have had 50 wonderful years of activity, growth, recitals, concerts, conferences, conventions and conclaves. We currently have 50+ members in our chapter, including a number of new members in Southern Utah. I extend a warm welcome to all of you as we begin this eventful year. We have a number of exciting recitals scheduled: Dexter Kennedy on January 26, Las Vegas Baroque Music Festival held from Thursday, February 15 until Sunday, February 18, Members' Organ Plus on May 18, and our 50th Anniversary celebration on June 15. This event will include a dinner and recognition event fol-

lowed by a recital at Doc Rando Hall. Our secretary, Kathi Colman is chairing the 50th Anniversary events and is well underway with the planning and scheduling activities. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on June 15.

The new year brings a time for reflection and resolutions. I hope each of us will resolve to increase our activity and participation in AGO this year. We need and hope for a renewal of energy and commitment. Please reach out to your pianist and other music friends to invite them to join us, at least for our recitals, if not to become chapter members. I want to express my gratitude to our dedicated Executive Committee and Board for the hours of time they spend on behalf of the AGO, organizing, planning, accounting and doing so many things that promote and further the

cause of excellent organ music in our community. A special thank you to Bruce Behnke, our Desert Wind Editor and webmaster, for his work in preparing this vehicle of communication so well. I hope that 2018 brings you much joy and success.

My best regards,

Steven R. Wright, Dean



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# Monica Czausz Presents Superb and Satisfying Program

Young organist, Monica Czausz, presented a fine and satisfying recital to an audience of about 125 people on November 17, 2017 on the Maurine Jackson Smith Organ, built by the Rudolf von Beckerath Orgelbau of Hamburg, Germany and installed in Doctor Rando-Grillot Recital Hall in 2004.

Ms. Czausz, currently studying with Alan Morrison at The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, is working toward an Artist Diploma in Organ Performance. Already exhibiting technical perfection and maturity beyond her years, her playing was presented completely from memory.



Beginning with a stylistically comfortable string concerto by Antonio Vivaldi (transcribed for organ by J. S. Bach) and three chorale preludes from various collections by J. S. Bach, the program continued with a little-known and recently rediscovered work by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, *Allegro, Choral and Fugue*.

A change of pace was the Guy Bovet somewhat quixotic *Salamanca* from the composer's *Trois Préludes Hambourgeois* (which turned out to be one of the audience favorites). The Bovet was followed by the attractive *Passacaglia on a theme by John Dunstable* by American organist and composer, John Weaver. The program concluded with a stunning performance of Max Reger's blockbuster *Fantasy on the Choral "Sleepers Awake, a Voice is Calling."*

The recitalist gave well-thought-out verbal program notes between portions of the program. Here is a young artist whose career will bear watching!

Here are the numbers from the audience evaluations:

Responding through the evaluations were 58 attendees (46%). For six audience members this was their first visit to Doc Rando Hall, and for 8 of them it was their first hearing of the organ in the hall. Forty respondents (69%) noted they had attended five or more of the recitals on the Southern Nevada Chapter's series of organ recitals. Asked how they learned about this recital: e-mail notification – 33, flyer – 8, radio announcement – 2, from a previous program – 14, from a friend – 20, and from the UNLV website – 4.

Responding to a question about their feelings about the performance 45 checked "I Loved It", 10 chose the response "I Liked it a lot," and 2 chose "I found it interesting." No one chose "I wasn't really interested" or "I wouldn't come again."

Choosing an over-all rating for the recital, 46 respondents checked "Superb" (79.3%) and 12 chose "Excellent" (20.7%) for a 100% combined rating. No one chose "Average," "Fair," or "Poor."

As always, we thank AGO member Doris Francis and her team of Tammy and Marsha for the lovely reception which followed in the lobby. And, of course, the recital series could not exist were it not for our loyal patrons whose financial support pays the considerable costs of presenting the series of organ programs. Insuring the success of each recital is your attendance at the programs.

Be sure to attend the January 26 recital to be presented by young artist, Dexter Kennedy, first-place winner of the prestigious Chartres International Organ Competition in 2014.

Paul S. Hesselink, Chair

2017-2018 Organ Recital Series Committee

# Dexter Kennedy

Our next recitalist will be Dexter Kennedy, who will appear on Friday, January 26, 2018 at 7:30 P.M. in Doc Rando Hall on the campus of UNLV.

As the winner of the Grand Prix d'Interprétation at the 24th Concours International d'Orgue de Chartres, Dexter Kennedy has established himself internationally as "one of the greatest organists of our times" (Iceland Monitor). Praised for his "prodigious technique and grand style musicality" in *The American Organist*, his concert programs present performances that are fiery, spontaneous, and historically informed, exciting both music connoisseurs as well as people who have never experienced the organ in concert setting. In addition to concertizing, Dexter Kennedy currently serves on the music faculty of the College of Wooster as Instructor of Organ and Harpsichord. During the Fall 2017 semester, Kennedy is Guest Organ Teacher in Residence at Oberlin College and Conservatory.



Mr. Kennedy is an active recitalist throughout both Europe and North America, having performed in great cathedrals, churches, and concert halls including: Berliner Dom; St. Bavokerk, Haarlem; Slovak Philharmonic Hall, Bratislava; Chartres Cathedral; Grossmünster, Zürich; Chichester Cathedral; Hallgrímskirkja, Reykjavík; Basilica of St. Nazaire, Carcassonne; Narbonne Cathedral; Auditorio Manuel de Falla, Granada; San Luigi Dei Francesi, Rome; St. Willibrordus Basilika, Echternach, Luxembourg; and Bergen Cathedral. His performances have been heard at the St. Albans International Organ Festival, the 51st Bratislava Music Festival, the Bergen International Organ Festival, the Conference of Roman Catholic Cathedral Musicians, and two regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists. In 2017 he was the lone American to be invited to perform at the Catedral Primada of Bogotá, Colombia, for the Bach en Bogotá Festival, where he performed for an audience of over 2,000 people as part of the first organized performances of Bach's complete organ works in the country's history. In 2015 he joined the Boston Symphony Orchestra for two subscription concerts at Tanglewood with maestros Bramwell Tovey and Ludovic Morlot. His playing has been broadcast nationally on the American Public Media's *Pipedreams* program. Kennedy's 2017-2018 season will see him perform at Notre-Dame de Paris, the Eccles Organ Festival (Salt Lake City), the Arizona Bach Festival, and recitals for the Atlanta, Southern Nevada, and Houston Chapters of the American Guild of Organists.

A devoted church musician, Kennedy currently serves as the Assistant Organist 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 traveled with the Christ Church Choir of Men and Boys to England and Wales in the summer of 2014, with the Christ Church Choir of Men and Girls to Spain in 2016, and with the Christ Church Schola in 2017 for choral residencies in both Salisbury Cathedral and Westminster Abbey. Additional choir tours as a freelance accompanist have taken Kennedy to the organ benches of St. Peter's Basilica; La Sagrada Familia; St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin; Stephansdom, Vienna; and St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. Kennedy's previously held positions include Director of Music and Organist for Berkeley Divinity School at Yale University, Organ Scholar at St. Paul's on the Green Episcopal Church, Norwalk, CT, and Organist for Marquand Chapel, Yale Divinity School.

Dexter Kennedy holds the Artist Diploma from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, where he was a pupil of James David Christie. He holds a Master of Music Degree from the Yale School of Music and Institute of Sacred Music, where he was a recipient of the Robert Baker Award, as well as the Mary Baker Prize for Excellence in Organ Accompaniment. Kennedy has also studied under Olivier Latry, Martin Jean, Jeffrey Brillhart (improvisation), Arthur Haas and Webb Wiggins (harpsichord), and has attended several international organ festivals where he has coached with many distinguished European artists. In his spare time, he enjoys golfing and vigorously rooting for the professional sports teams in his native Detroit. Dexter Kennedy is represented by Seven Eight Artists.



Bruce Behnke What first started your interest in the pipe organ?

Dexter Kennedy I was first interested by the pipe organ through church attendance, although quite irregular early in my life.

Behnke How old were you when you first started studying the organ seriously?

Kennedy This is a bit of a complicated answer. I went to a K-8 school that had a one manual, 6 stop Wilhelm tracker organ in the chapel that was not used, with

exception to when the building was rented out for weddings. My then piano teacher would often get called in for these weddings, and he eventually told me how to turn the organ on. After getting permission from the school, I began to play entrance music for the school's weekly chapel assemblies during grades 5-8, although whatever I was doing was purely self-taught and always improvised. I tried taking formal lessons the summer after my eighth grade year, but my family traveled a lot that year and then when I hit high school I became too busy. Then, in 10th grade, my choir director wondered if I would consider organ, knowing that I was a skilled pianist. I explained to her this backstory, which at that time ended with "I had to quit because I didn't have time", and she responded by allowing me to miss choir class once per week to go to the church next door to the high school to take a lesson. So, I suddenly had time! I was 15 when this took place.

Behnke Who are some of the most influential teachers with whom you have studied?

Kennedy James David Christie has been my primary and most influential teacher. I actually served as his sabbatical replacement at Oberlin during this past fall semester, which was a wonderful full circle moment for me, with Oberlin being my alma mater. I also am very grateful to have studied improvisation for two years with Jeffrey Brillhart, and was also fortunate to study for one semester with Olivier Latry when he and Prof. Christie exchanged positions for the Fall 2010 semester.

Behnke What are some of the more interesting venues in which you have played?

Kennedy I've had the great privilege to play some of Europe's absolute best organs as a result of winning the Grand Prix de Chartres. Of particular note is the massive 1905 Sauer organ in the Berliner Dom, which allows all of the subtle registrations in Reger and Karg-Elert to make complete sense! This past summer I also got to play a recital on the famous organ of St. Bavo in Haarlem, which of course is a wonderful instrument and far more eclectic than most people realize.



Behnke Do you do any improvisation and or have you ever composed music?

Kennedy I actually did some composing in high school and thought it might be a career path, but everything I wrote was completely tonal, and therefore once I realized what sorts of modern music was being required at the University level that path changed pretty much instantly. I have always improvised - I played piano by ear before ever taking lessons, and I find that I am more creative when forced to be spontaneous.

Behnke Who are some of your favorite modern composers?

Kennedy Favorite modern (living) composers - Thierry Escaich, Arvo Pärt, Thomas Ades, Paul Mealor. For American music, I am a fan of both Stephen Paulus and William Albright, both of whom died far too soon.

Behnke What pieces will you be playing for us?

Kennedy For my program, I will begin with two works of Bach - a prelude and fugue as well as a trio sonata, and then will play some French Romantic composers, which looks ahead to my upcoming recital at Notre Dame de Paris which I play very shortly after my Las Vegas Performance. I'll be bridging the Bach and the French with a little known piece of Anton Heiller - *In Festo Corporis Christi* - as an homage to both Beckerath organs and Heiller himself for the crucial role they played in the organ reform movement.

## Recital Series Additions

Two additional recitals have been added to this year's Recital Series. The updated Series poster is included at the end of this publication as well as on the events tab of our webpage ([sncago.org/events.htm](http://sncago.org/events.htm)). The first recital will be on Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 4:00 P.M. in Doc Rando Hall on the campus of UNLV. As part of the Las Vegas Baroque Festival it will include harpsichord music of F. Couperin, W Byrd, and G. F. Handel that evoke our theme this year: Winds, played by UNLV Assistant Professor Dr. Jonathan Lee who has selected pieces that imitate or otherwise reference the sounds of winds. The second part of the program will be our own Dr. Paul Hesselink playing organ music of Dietrich Buxtehude. The organ, a wind blown instruments, qualifies on its own merits. This program is free and open to the public.

The second added recital will be on June 15, 2018 at 7:30 P.M. and will feature James Kasen & Friends. It will be held in Doc Rando Hall on the campus of UNLV. The recital will feature organ and choral works by the recitalist and will include a World Premiere performance of a new organ work, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Southern Nevada Chapter, AGO.

## Las Vegas Baroque Festival

For more information on the Las Vegas Baroque Festival for this year please go to (<http://www.lasvegasbaroquefestival.com/>)

The Thursday February 15 at 7:30 program features the University Chorus performing Chapentier's *Te deum*. Friday February 16 at 7:30 features the House of Time, Baroque Chamber Ensemble performing works by Telemann and other German masters. Sunday February 18 includes our recital at 4:00 and the University Chamber Orchestra with guest Trumpeter Justin Bland at 7:30. This concert will have concertos and Handel's *Water Music*.

## Upcoming Concerts at Christ Church Episcopal

Sunday, January 28, 2018 – 3:00 p.m.

Dr. David L. Deffner, organ

German & French Masterpieces

Nicolaus Bruhns prelude & fugue in G; J. S. Bach (“St. Anne” Fugue)

César Franck Fantaisie

Maurice Duruflé Chorale Variations on Veni Creator Spiritus

Jehan Alain Litanies

and other rarely heard works

Sunday, March 11, 2018 – 3:00 p.m.

Choral Concert

The Myron Heaton Chorale

The Choir of Christ Church

Friday, April 6, 2018 – 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Charles D. Frost, organ

African American composers

## 40th Anniversary Performance by Trinkle Brass Works

Join Trinkle Brass Works in celebrating 40 years of performances in a memorable concert of brass, organ, and timpani repertoire by Franke, Strauss, Purcell, Bach, Haufrecht, Casals, Gabrieli, Barber and Tomasi. Musicians from the UNLV faculty, the Las Vegas Philharmonic, the University of Northern Colorado, and more will join Steven Trinkle and Eugenie Burkett on Friday, January 19th at 7:30 pm. The performance will take place in the Rando-Grillot Recital Hall in Beam Music Center on the campus of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The concert is free and open to the public.

Trinkle Brass Works has traveled throughout the United States providing artistic experiences to audiences large and small. The ensemble commissions and performs music for brass and percussion ensembles, mixed instrumentation chamber ensembles ranging from 2 to 25 members, and small, theatre- orchestra groupings of 16 to 25. TBW has been featured on the Las Vegas PBS ArtScene segment (2014), Wisconsin WERN Public Radio program, Sunday Afternoon Live, as featured guest ensemble at the III Festival Nacional de Musica da Camera Paraiba, in Joao Pessoa, Brazil, the Meadowlark Festival in Lincoln, NE, and the Festwoche klassischer Musik in Oppenau, Germany. Recent projects have included a tour of the west featuring a salon orchestra of nine musicians, Portable Masterpieces.

The organization’s support comes from private and corporate donations, foundations, and grants including Yamaha International USA, the Bach-Conn Corporation, the Harris Foundation, the NV Energy Foundation, the Union Pacific Foundation, and state arts and humanities councils in Nevada, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Kansas, and Pennsylvania. TBW is the recipient of four National Endowment for the Arts Grants. This performance is supported by grants from the Nevada Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts and the William H. and Mattie Wattis Harris Foundation.

# TRINKLE BRASS WORKS



## 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert



Franke, Strauss, Purcell, Bach Haufrecht,  
Casals, Gabrieli, Barber, Tomasi

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018**  
**7:30 PM**  
**RANDO-GRILLOT AUDITORIUM**

*Funded in part by grants from the William H. and Mattie Wattis Harris Foundation, the Nevada Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts.*



# The Players

## Steven Trinkle, Conductor

Trinkle has held principal trumpet positions with orchestras in Augusta, Dubuque, Shreveport and the Orchestra Sinfonica della Radiotelevisione in Turin, Italy. He was assistant principal trumpet with the Orquesta Sinfonica de Maracaibo in Venezuela and has performed with the Houston Symphony and the Kansas City Philharmonic. He has performed several world premieres including *Concert Piece for Trumpet and Orchestra* by Brian Fennelly, *The Vertical Man* by Gunther Tautenhahn and *3 Marches for C. I.* by Bernd Franke. A founding member of the Chestnut Brass Company and artistic director of Trinkle Brass Works, Trinkle was elected to honorary membership in the *Associação dos Trompetistas do Brasil* for his work with trumpeters in Brazil in January, 2000. Under his direction his ensembles have performed in Brazil, Switzerland, Italy, at the Kennedy Center in Washington D. C. and throughout the United States. He is presently the Artistic Director/Conductor of the Powder River Symphony.

**Tom Wright, Trumpet**

**Joe Durk, Trumpet**

**Larry Ransom, Trumpet**

**Matthew Wright, Trumpet**

**Bruce Barrie, Trumpet**

**Dawid Mzyk, Trombone**

**Chandler Sison, Trombone**

**Alan Quan, Trombone**

**Bill Bernatis, Horn**

**Beth Lano, Horn**

**Sandra Donatelle, Horn**

**Jeff Johnson, Horn**

**Marian Hesse, Horn**

**Greg McCracken, Tuba**

**Eugenie Burkett, Organ**

And timpani

## Eugenie Burkett

Burkett is an active musician. As a timpanist and percussion, She has performed with the Kansas City Philharmonic, Orchestra Sinfonica RAI (Turin, Italy), and Orquesta Sinfonica de Maracaibo (Venezuela). Currently an Associate Professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, she has published articles in peer-reviewed journals and authored four textbooks.



# Trinkle Brass Works

*Feierlicher Einzug* Richard Strauss (1864-1949)

*Symphony from "The Fairy Queen, Act IV"* Henry Purcell (1659-1695)  
 I. Allegro Marziale  
 II. Largo  
 III. Allegro Maestoso

*Symphony for Brass and Timpani* Herbert Haufrecht (1909-1998)  
 I. Dona Nobis Pacem  
 II. Elegy  
 III. Jubilation

*O Vos Omnes* Pablo Casals (1876-1973)  
 Arr. Leopold Stokowski

## Intermission

*Canzon Septimi Toni No. 2* Giovanni Gabrieli (1557-1612)

*Canzoni (1) für Blechbläserensemble* Bernd Franke (1959- )  
 I. Hommage á Claudio Monteverdi  
 II. Hommage á Charles Ives  
 III. Hommage á Marc Chagall  
 IV. Hommage á Astor Piazzolla  
 V. Hommage á Johann Sebastian Bach  
 VI. Hommage á Claudio Monteverdi

*Wachet Auf* from "Cantata 140" Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)  
 Arr. Kenneth Bray

*Mutations from Bach* Samuel Barber (1910-1981)

*Fanfares Liturgique* Henri Tomasi (1901-1971)  
 I. Annonciation  
 II. Evangile  
 III. Apocalypse  
 IV. Procession du Vendredi-Saint

## Steven Trinkle

Conductor, trumpeter, teacher, mentor and more, Trinkle's education began in 1958 when his older sister gave him his first cornet lesson. Many of his former students are playing professionally and teaching in colleges and schools throughout the United States, South America, and Europe.



## Trinkle Brass Works

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**Thanks to the Nevada Arts Council and the William H. and Mattie Wattis Harris Foundation for support of this project.**

[www.trinklebrassworks.org](http://www.trinklebrassworks.org)





*A Concert Featuring the  
Largest Pipe Organ in Nevada  
Performed By*

*Dr. David L. Deffner*

*German and French Masterpieces*



*Bruhns & Bach, Franck, Duruflé,  
Langlais, and Alain*

**Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 pm  
Christ Church Episcopal  
2000 S. Maryland Parkway**

**All are welcome regardless of donation! The suggested donation  
of \$15 supports the music program at Christ Church.**

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**Dr. David Dorway**  
**Organ Concert**  
**with**  
**Dr. Jerry Reeves, piano**  
**and Friends!**

*Sunday,*  
*February 11, 2018*  
*3:00 p.m.*



Grace Presbyterian Church  
1515 W Charleston Blvd  
Las Vegas, NV 89102

A Free Will Offering will be received.

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# 2017-2018 Recital Series



## The Southern Nevada Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

**January 26, 2018**  
**7:30 p.m.**

### **Dexter Kennedy**

A recent winner of the  
prestigious 2014 Chartres Competition



**February 18, 2018**  
**SUNDAY -- 4:00 p.m.**

### **Dr. Jonathan Rhodes Lee**

Harpsichord, Works by Couperin and Handel

### **Dr. Paul S. Hesselink**

Organ, Works of Dietrich Buxtehude

Part of the UNLV 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Baroque  
Festival and is co-sponsored by the  
Southern Nevada Chapter of the AGO

**May 18, 2018**  
**7:30 p.m.**

A celebration of the Southern Nevada Chapter's  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### **Members' Organ Plus**



**June 15, 2018**  
**7:30 p.m.**

### **James Kasen & Friends**



Featuring organ and  
choral works by the  
recitalist including a  
World Premiere  
performance of a new  
organ work, and  
celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup>  
anniversary of the  
Southern Nevada  
Chapter, AGO

The Recital Series funded in part by a grant from the Nevada Arts Council  
and the National Endowment for the Arts,  
a federal agency.

All Recitals to be held in Doc Rando-Grillot Hall on the  
Maurine Jackson Smith Memorial Organ  
in the Beam Music Center, UNLV.  
Open to the public without charge.

