



**A solis ortus cardine
ad usque terrae
limitem Christum
canamus principem,
natum Maria Virgine.**



*From the hinge of the rising sun
To the farthest edge of the earth
Let us sing to Christ our Lord
Born of the Virgin Mary*

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Centre President's Message

Michael Capon



One of the most significant programs of the Kingston Centre -- awarding organ scholarships -- needs your help. The program fulfills one of our key mandates, to support organ education and foster the next generation of organists. We need two volunteers to administer the program and maintain our rank as one of the most extensive scholarship programs in Canada.

To make it easier, we've divided the job into two separate roles -- communicating with donors and communicating with students. Here's how the two jobs are set up:

Scholarship Administrator - Donors

Communicate with scholarship donors: invite ongoing donation, send notes of thanks, inform donor of the name of the student awarded the scholarship, invite donor to College service, apply for National Scholarships. Direct cheques from donors to the Treasurer, and inform her of student names. Maintain donor contact list. Maintain a record of donations received, for which year they apply, and a list of scholarships currently available.

Scholarship Administrator - Students

Assist with scholarship advertising. Collect applications and manage auditions (early in the year). Invite previous recipients to apply for renewals. Communicate with students to assign scholarships, confirm our expectations of recipients (including playing in the student concert), and monitor their experience with the program. Receive communication from teachers about completed or partially completed scholarships, and inform the treasurer so that cheques can be issued. Maintain student contact list.

If you can help with this important work, or would like further information, contact me at president@rcco-kingston.org

We look forward to seeing you at the Twelfth Night Party on January 5th, hosted by Carol Ramer, in the party room at the Royal George, 5 Gore St. A great way to unwind after a busy Christmas season.

Merry Christmas!

Michael Capon



'17 - '18 Program at a glance

- Friday January 5, Twelfth Night Party
- Friday February 2, 7pm, College Service, St. Mary's Cathedral
- Sunday February 18, 2pm Community Suite, Frontenacs Hockey, K-Rock Centre
- Wednesday March 7, School event
- Saturday March 24, Community of Organists Concert, Bach Marathon
- Saturday April 21, Hymn Festival
- Saturday May 12, Road trip to Napanee

From the Editors

David Cameron

²⁶ *He said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?"*

²⁷ *So he answered and said, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,'^[a] and 'your neighbor as yourself.'"^[b]*

²⁸ *And He said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live."*

²⁹ *But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"*

(Luke 10:26-29)

With our book club of homeowners in the Medley Court village, we have just read and discussed *The Juggler's Children* by Toronto science journalist Caroline Abraham, her account of her family's search for their roots, from India to Lancashire to Jamaica. On the way Abraham does much to explain the complexities of DNA, mitochondrial and Y-chromosomal, and how we all share in its linkage across centuries and across continents. She shows compellingly that it's a scientific fact: every human being is really, genetically, a very close neighbour, and a sister or brother, to every other human being.

Now it takes considerable chutzpah to alter the language of G. K. Chesterton, but the old English-language convention that "man" or "men" would cover "everybody" is now completely unacceptable. So with some trepidation I offer Chesterton's *House of Christmas* – with, as modern hymn books would have it, an appended (alt.) – because its message is so present and still so timely. Sisters and Brothers, believers and doubters, sharers of DNA across the globe: Christmas is for us all, so let us all rejoice and be merry, in songs and in mirth!

The House of Christmas

There fared a mother driven forth
Out of an inn to roam;
In the place where she was homeless
All people are at home.
The crazy stable close at hand,
With shaking timber and shifting sand,
Grew a stronger thing to abide and stand
Than the square stones of Rome.

For folk are homesick in their homes,
And strangers under the sun,
And they lay on their heads in a foreign land
Whenever the day is done.
Here we have battle and blazing eyes,
And chance and honour and high surprise,
But our homes are under miraculous skies
Where the yule tale was begun.

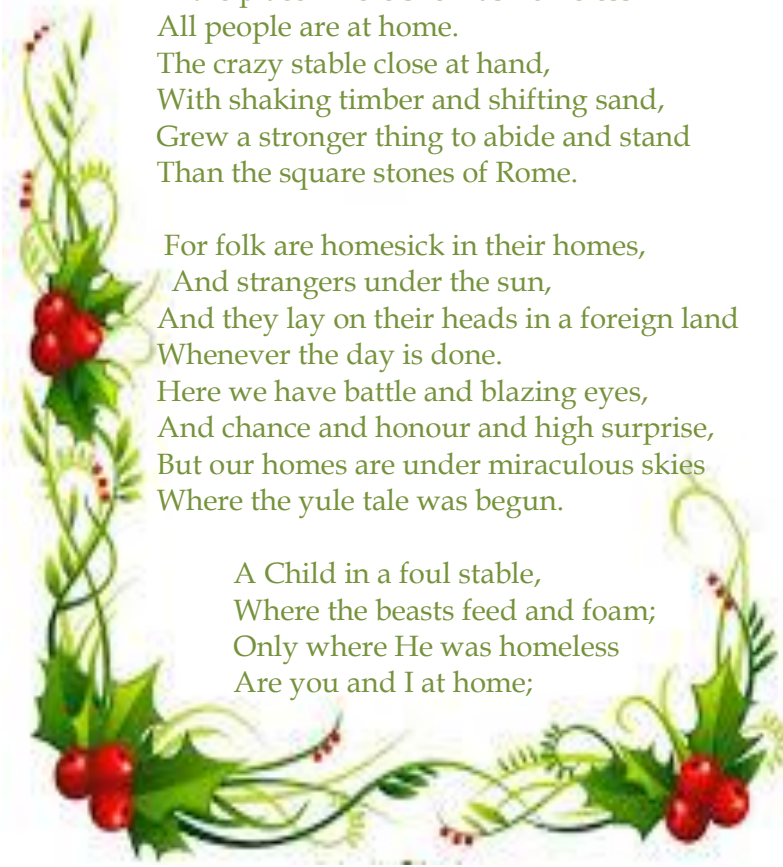
A Child in a foul stable,
Where the beasts feed and foam;
Only where He was homeless
Are you and I at home;

We have hands that fashion and heads that know,
But our hearts we lost - how long ago!
In a place no chart nor ship can show
Under the sky's dome.

This world is wild as an old wives' tale,
And strange the plain things are,
The earth is enough and the air is enough
For our wonder and our war;
But our rest is as far as the fire-drake swings
And our peace is put in impossible things
Where clashed and thundered unthinkable wings
Round an incredible star.

To an open house in the evening
Home shall all people come,
To an older place than Eden
And a taller town than Rome.
To the end of the way of the wandering star,
To the things that cannot be and that are,
To the place where God was homeless
And all people are at home.

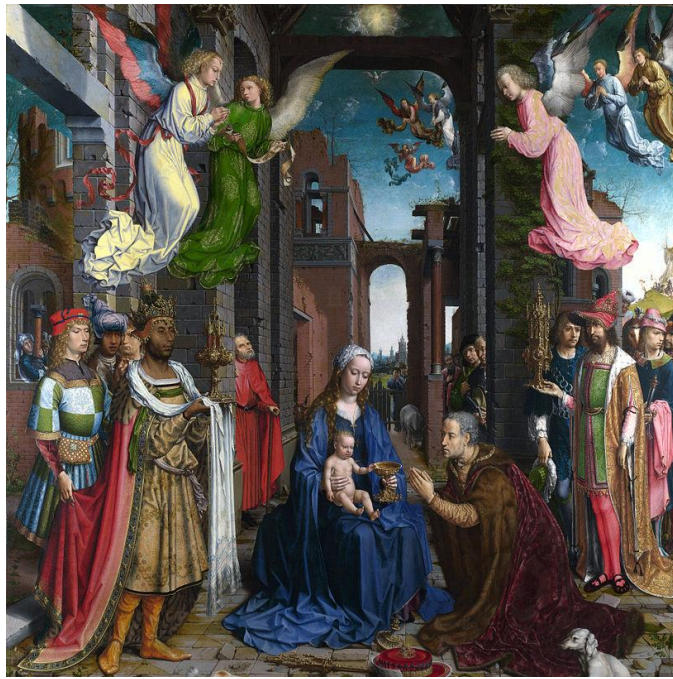
G. K. Chesterton



Jan Gossaert
(c. 1478 - 1532)

The Adoration
of the Magi

*"Where all people
are at home"*



The Twelfth Night Party

Friday January 5th, 2018, 7:30 p.m.
5 Gore Street, Kingston,
Party Room



You are invited to attend the Twelfth Night party at the condominium of Gord and Carol Ramer in the party room, penthouse floor. This annual event is a chance to welcome in the New Year with fellow members of the RCCO, and to breathe the relief that comes from the end of a busy Christmas season.

Please come at 7:30 p.m. and bring a sweet or savoury snack to share with your friends. Punch, coffee and tea will be provided. If you wish an alcoholic beverage, bring it along with you. Entertainment will be provided by YOU, if you wish. We have had lots of fun listening to songs, stories, participating in quizzes, and general merriment. Join us in a relaxed atmosphere. Just buzz up to the penthouse when you arrive. There will be a notice in the lobby. Parking is on the street, Ontario or Gore. There are a few guest spots, but they are quick to disappear on a Friday.

This is one of our rare chances to sit down together, to have fun and just to talk. We want your company!

Please RSVP to Carol Ramer at gcramer@sympatico.ca or 613 547 0378.

A Letter from the Kingston Kiwanis Festival

(Ed. note: **registration is urgent!**)

Dear Organists and Students of Organ,

I am writing to invite you to enter the 2018 Kiwanis Music Festival. We are hoping to have more interest in organists and their students and would much appreciate your considering entering. Our Music Festival is non-competitive except in a few classes which are listed as such. The adjudicator gives encouraging and well informed feedback. The experience is a rewarding one!

The deadline for registration is December 8, late registration December 15. All performances except bands will be held February 20 through March 2, 2018.

The organ classes are listed in the syllabus which is online at

<https://events.solarislive.com/events/syllabus.php?c=all#Organ>

Classes for organ are:

- 5501 18 years and under - Concert Group Pre-1800 Entry Fee: 35.00 CDN**
Two contrasting pre-1800 selections or a J.S. Bach Prelude and Fugue. (time limit 20 mins.)
- 5502 Open - Concert Group Pre-1800 Entry Fee: 35.00 CDN**
Two contrasting pre-1800 selections or a J.S. Bach Prelude & Fugue. (time limit 20 mins.)
- 5503 18 years and under - Concert Group Post-1800 Entry Fee: 35.00 CDN**
Two contrasting post-1800 selections. (time limit 20 mins.)
- 5504 Open - Concert Group Post-1800 Entry Fee: 35.00 CDN**
Two contrasting post-1800 selections. (time limit 20 mins.)
- 5505 18 years and under - Own Choice 2 or 3 pieces Entry Fee: 35.00 CDN**
Own choice of 2 or 3 pieces. Time limit 20 minutes.
- 5506 Open - Own Choice 2 or 3 pieces Entry Fee: 35.00 CDN**
Own choice of 2 or 3 pieces. Time limit 20 minutes.
- 5507 18 years and under - Own Choice, 1 piece Entry Fee: 30.00 CDN**
Time limit 12 minutes
- 5508 Open - Own Choice, 1 piece Entry Fee: 30.00 CDN**
Own choice, 1 selection. Time limit 18 minutes.

Looking forward to hearing that you have registered yourself or those you teach!

Sincerely,
Sharon Van Nest
Registrar,
Kingston Kiwanis Music Festival

The College Service
Friday, February 2, 2018, at 7:00pm
Vespers for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas.

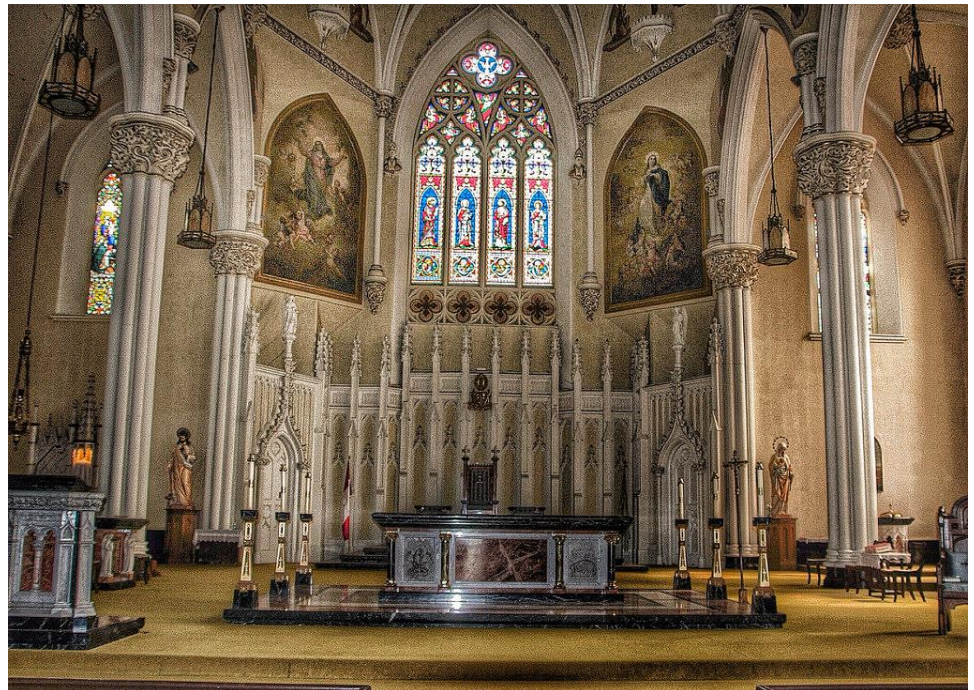
The Choir of St. Mary's Cathedral, directed by Jeffrey Moelmann



The Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Kingston, with the Inner Harbour and north Barriefield beyond

Busy as he was in the week before his first service of Lessons and Carols at St. Mary's, Jeff Moelmann made time to report on his plans for the Kingston Centre College Service. The service will include a motet, a Magnificat setting (and possibly Nunc dimittis as well), and organ music by Frank Bridge and Ch.-M. Widor; a hymn; and a Thanksgiving for the Light, with an antiphon by J. Michael Thompson.

Jeff would welcome singers (good sight readers!) to take part with the Cathedral Choir. He is planning a rehearsal Sunday afternoon, Jan. 28, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm., as well as a warmup before the service on Feb. 2. Anyone interested should email or call Jeff at musicmoell@gmail.com or 613-985-2224.



St. Mary's: the High Altar and Archbishop's Throne



Kingston's First Great Bach Marathon

On Saturday, March 4, the Kingston Centre will sponsor a new event, not replacing but incorporating the longstanding annual Members' Recital, more recently and inclusively called the Community of Organists' Recital. With it this year we will have an event begun in Ontario by the Ottawa Centre, who have found it popular and successful.

This new event, lasting for six hours (or more?) will be the Great Bach Marathon. It isn't restricted to organists; any sort of performer or group is welcome to take part, provided only that they play music by Johann Sebastian Bach. We already have inquiries from singers, string players, and pianists, and it seems likely that the available time slots will be claimed quite early in the New Year.



The stage at Chalmers Church

Many American cities have hosted Bach Marathons in past years. A Google search produces dozens of pictures of participants, of publicity material, and even programs. With so many inspiring examples to follow, the Kingston Centre Executive felt that this would be a really valuable addition to our season.

The Marathon will take place at Chalmers United Church on Barrie St., where there's a good Kawai grand piano, the 3-manual 63-stop Casavant/Knapton/Classic organ, and ample stage and choir loft space for groups.

If readers know of musicians who might like to participate, please ask them to be in touch with Newsletter Editor Fran Harkness, by phone at 613-549-7125, or by email at harknessfran@gmail.com

And of course we hope that many readers will participate themselves, either on other instruments or as singers, or by joining in the Community of Organists even which will wrap up the afternoon.

The complete poster which is being circulated (feel free to print it!) is on the next page.



***Teachers! Students! Organists!
Pianists! Instrumentalists! Singers!***

You're all welcome to perform in The Great Bach Marathon

Saturday, March 24, 2018, noon till 6pm

Chalmers United Church, 212 Barrie Street

Choose a time during the afternoon and take this opportunity to celebrate the music of one of the greatest composers by singing, or playing on any instrument, one of his compositions. The afternoon will conclude with an organ recital by the RCCO community of organists starting at 3.30 p.m.

All lovers of the music of J.S. Bach are invited to listen or perform. Come when you can and leave when you must. No registration or admission fees.

For more information and to reserve a time for yourself or your students, please contact Fran Harkness, 613 549 7125 or harknessfran@gmail.com.

*Sponsored by the Kingston Centre of the
Royal Canadian College of Organists.*



OrgelkidsCAN

As part of the implementation of the RCCO's new Vision Statement, the College has initiated a nationally-sponsored project which will introduce children to the wonders and music of the pipe organ by providing them with an opportunity to learn about, build, and play a miniature two-rank pipe organ. The program, called *Orgelkids*, was established in 2009 by Dutch organist Lydia Vroegindeweyj and has since spread to Belgium, the United States and now the RCCO is bringing it to Canada. We're calling our Canadian version of this program *OrgelkidsCAN*.

Our vision is to work with Canadian organ builders to produce eight travelling kits, one for each Region, for use by children in schools, music festivals, science fairs, and museums across the country. The organ is a complete, craftsman-built organ which arrives in a box with all the required parts ready for assembly, along with a complete set of educational materials. During the building phase, which takes about an hour, children learn about the technical aspects of the mechanics of a pipe organ and discover how the sound is created. And, of



A kit being assembled (note facial expressions on the right)

Donations may be made:

- online by clicking [here](#)
- by calling our office at [416-929-6400](tel:416-929-6400) (toll free [1-800-259- 3621](tel:1-800-259-3621)) with your Visa or MasterCard
- by mailing a cheque to Royal Canadian College of Organists, 202-204 St. George St., Toronto, ON M5R 2N5

Charitable tax receipts will be issued for all donations.

Please help us reach our goal by forwarding this message to your contacts. Thank you!



The Orgelkids Organ

course, when the organ is built, they play it! When they are done, the kit is disassembled and put back in the box for the next group of children.

On December 28, as part of Giving Tuesday, the College launched a fundraising campaign for this exciting project and you will be able to offer your support. The College's National Executive hopes that you will be inspired to help us create this extraordinary opportunity for children to learn about and appreciate the beauty of the organ and its music.



Playing the organ

Out of Retirement Again! Editor David Cameron conducts a Fund Raising Concert at St. George's

Saturday, February 17, at 7:30 pm

Soloists include



Fran Harkness,



Michael Capon,



Damien Macedo,



Tania Fifield.



David Cameron

In March 2017 your editor David Cameron broke his retirement by conducting a concert, with choir, chamber orchestra and soloists, to celebrate his 80th birthday and raise money for *Lunch by George*, an independent charity which uses the facilities of the Great Hall at St. George's Cathedral to provide 12,000 meals annually to those in need.

This year David will again direct a program at St. George's, with the Cathedral Chamber Orchestra, the Cathedral Concert Singers, and several soloists: those pictured above, Christopher Hall who will sing Jesus in the Schütz *Seven Last Words*, and the quartet who will sing the words of The Evangelist. Once again, the concert will be a fundraiser, this time for the new Heritage Conservation Fund, which invites the community to help support the Cathedral building.

A formative part of downtown Kingston's architecture, the present Cathedral building has occupied the corner of King and Johnson Sts. since 1828*. Externally, it plays a commanding role in the 19th-century streetscape of King St., while internally it is both a home for worship, and a splendid and acoustically supportive venue for the performing arts. The new fund will help to maintain this fine limestone church with its high coppered dome.

A major work in the February program will be J. S. Bach's *Concerto for Two Claviers* in c minor, BWV 1060. Fran Harkness and Michael Capon will play it with the Cathedral Chamber Orchestra, using two pianos (historically incorrect, but effective nevertheless!). With it there will be two pieces by Heinrich Schütz: the five-part motet *Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt* (God so loved the world) and *The Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross* – a work by a composer born exactly 100 years before J. S. Bach, which in more than one way prefigures his *St. John* and *St. Matthew* Passions.

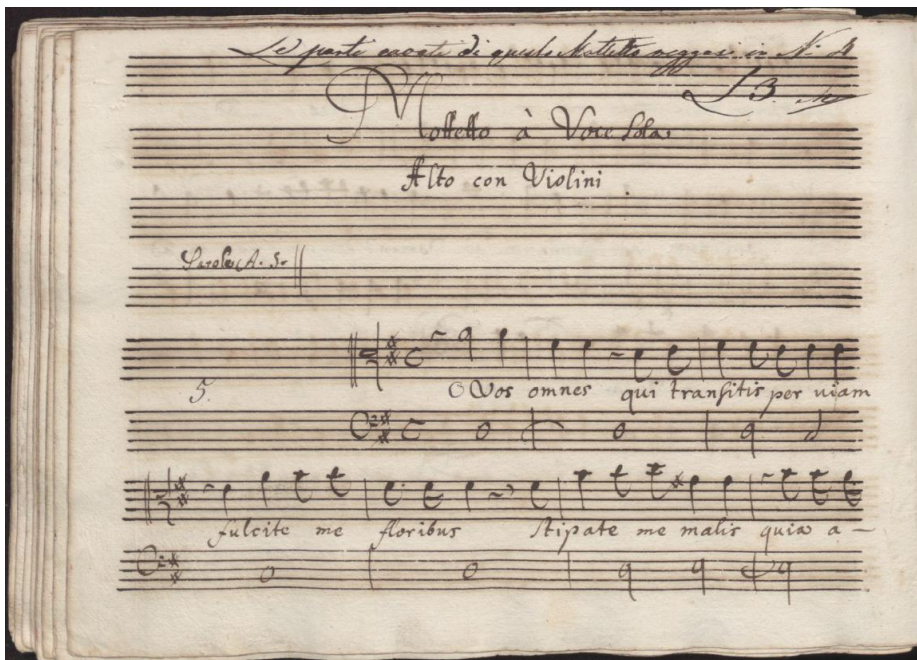
Counter-tenor, organist and Centre member Damien Macedo will give the first Canadian performance of Alessandro Stradella's cantata *O vos omnes*, for counter-tenor, strings and continuo. David made this edition from a manuscript in Stradella's own handwriting which is held by the University library in

* The Cathedral parish was founded in 1792, and the nave of the present building was constructed in 1825-28, with the transepts, Choir and dome added in 1891-94. Burned out to the bare walls in 1899, the church was completely restored within a year.

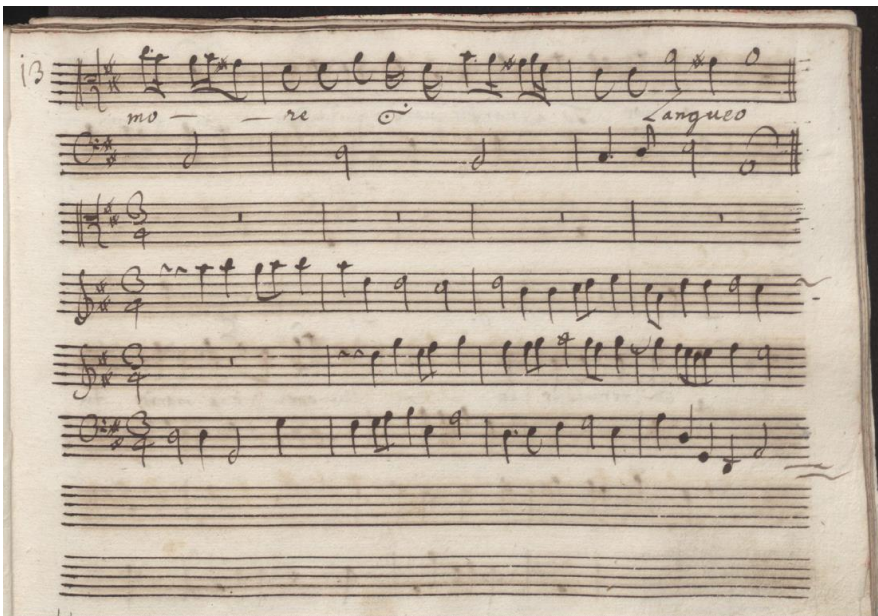
Modena, Italy. In the process he discovered lots about the life of Stradella, who when he wasn't composing was a failed embezzler, a fugitive from the law, and infamous for his affairs with women associated with the Italian nobility. Since the Italian nobility in the 17th century had rather summary ways of dealing with people who annoyed them, it's probably not surprising that Stradella's career was cut short by a paid assassin, when he was only 34.

Moving to the Victorian period, Tania Fifield and the choir, with Michael at the Cathedral organ, will sing Mendelssohn's large anthem *Hear my prayer*, and the choir will sing *My soul, there is a country* from Hubert Parry's *Songs of Farewell*. The program will close with an early piece by Dieterich Buxtehude, the cantata for five-part choir and orchestra *Domine, salvum fac Regem*, also a first Canadian performance in an edition shared by David Cameron and the Netherlander Wim Looyestijn.

Admission will be free, with an invitation to contribute to and publicise the Heritage Conservation Fund. (See printable poster on Page 12)



Stradella's handwriting:
The first two pages of
O vos omnes, which
Damien Macedo will
sing in the February 17
concert.



A Concert for
The Heritage Preservation
Fund



of St. George's Cathedral

An Architectural Presence and a home for Music
and Worship at King and Johnson since 1828

Fran Harkness and Michael Capon, pianists
Tania Fifield, soprano Damien Macedo, countertenor
The Cathedral Concert Singers
and the Cathedral Chamber Orchestra
conducted by David Cameron.

Saturday, February 17 at 7:30 pm
Retiring Offering for the Heritage Preservation Fund



RCCO Kingston Centre dinner, Sunday 15 October at Minos Restaurant

*Far side of table: Bev Koski, Gord Ramer, Carol Ramer, Martin Secker, Cathy Secker, Dave Hunt
 Foreground side: Damien Macedo, David Cameron, The Very Rev. Don Davidson, Robert Hunter Bell,
 Sharon Bell (almost hidden), and standing, Michael Capon.*

The empty chair between David and Fr. Don belonged to Fran Harkness, who took this photo.

Music Copies from Princess St. United Church



Princess St. United Church

Centre President Michael Capon recently received a letter from longtime Centre member, and Music Director at Princess St. United Church, Scott Milligan. In part, Scott wrote:

... I was given the task of reducing considerably, the anthems in the library in our church. I have three carton boxes full of anthems, several copies each, which our choir will never use again, but many of which are very good anthems ie; *He Watching Over Israel* and *Oh Thou Central Orb* by Charles Wood. There are many anthems that you might like. There is, of course, no charge for any of them. I wonder if you could make this information available to all RCCO members. ... I only have six choir members, so it is impossible to sing SATB.

If you are interested, please contact me, [613-545-1488](tel:613-545-1488).

David Briggs Recital at St. Thomas', Belleville

Internationally known organist David Briggs will give a recital at St. Thomas' Anglican Church on Sunday afternoon, February 18th, 2018, as part of St. Thomas' 2017-2018 music series.



David Briggs at the St. Sulpice console in Paris

David Briggs, currently artist-in-residence at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, New York City, is an internationally renowned organist whose performances are acclaimed for their musicality, virtuosity, and ability to excite and engage audiences of all ages. Briggs is known across the globe for his brilliant organ transcriptions of symphonic music by composers such as Mahler, Schubert, Tchaikovsky, Elgar, Bruckner, Ravel and Bach.

Briggs is also known to be a phenomenal improviser. The art of improvisation, at the heart of Jazz music, was once just as popular in the Classical music world. Musicians would improvise cadenzas, preludes, postludes, interludes, accompaniments, etc. Today, perhaps because of the flexibility required by the liturgical context, organists are among the rare performers to keep alive the great tradition of improvisation. Improvisation requires thinking ahead in terms of themes, structure and harmony, while producing the music! Rare are performers who practice improvisation as a concert art, and David Briggs' mastery of it is mind-blowing. He frequently performs improvisations to silent films such as Phantom of the Opera, Hunchback of Notre-Dame, Nosferatu, Jeanne d'Arc, Metropolis, as well as a variety of Charlie Chaplin films.

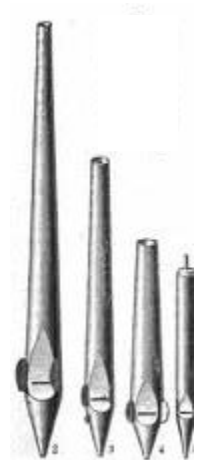
From 1981-84 he was the Organ Scholar at King's College, Cambridge, during which time he studied organ with Jean Langlais in Paris. Briggs' schedule includes more than sixty concerts a year, spanning several continents. Deeply committed to making organ music vibrant for future generations, he enjoys giving pre-concert lectures designed to make organ music more accessible to audiences. In addition, he teaches at Cambridge (UK), frequently serves on international organ competition juries, and gives masterclasses at colleges and conservatories across the U.S. and Europe.

David Briggs is also a prolific composer and his works range from full scale oratorios to works for solo instruments. He has recorded a DVD, and 30 CDs, many of which include his own compositions and transcriptions.

On February 18th, the programme will comprise major works by Johann Sebastian Bach to honour the German baroque aesthetics of St. Thomas' Anglican Church's Gabriel Kney organ, as well as the improvisation of a Symphonic Triptyque.

The recital will start at 4:30 PM. A reception will follow. For more information, please contact:

Francine & Matthieu Latreille
Directors of Music
St. Thomas' Anglican Church (Belleville, ON)
www.ChoralAcademy.ca (613) 962-3636



ADVENT AT ST. GEORGE'S

St. George's Cathedral Advent Concerts begin on Thursday November 30 from 12:15pm to 12:50pm and continue through December 21. The series begins on November 30 with a performance by organist Brad Barbeau. December 7 will feature the Mulberry School Choir, directed by Margaret Moncrieff. On December 14 flautist Allan Pulker will perform. The series concludes on December 21 with guitarist Jeff Hanlon. The mid-day concerts are free, with a voluntary offering collected.

A special evening concert on Wednesday December 6 at 7:30pm will feature piano duo Valery Lloyd-Watts & Clare Gordon. The program will include an arrangement George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue". Tickets \$15.



Advent

AT ST. GEORGE'S

Advent Concerts 2017 • Thursdays 12:15pm-12:50pm (*Freewill Offering*)

Join us for a mid-day musical interlude!

November 30
Brad Barbeau (Organ)



Special Evening Concert

December 6,
7:30pm, @ \$15
Valery Lloyd-Watts
& Clare Gordon
(Piano Duo)



December 7
Mulberry Waldorf School Choir

December 14
Allan Pulker (Flute)



December 21
Jeff Hanlon (Guitar)

Special services: **Sunday November 26, 5pm**
Candlelight Advent Carols

Sunday December 17, 4pm
Christmas Lessons and Carols

DECEMBER 17 - CHRISTMAS LESSONS AND CAROLS

A Service of Christmas Lessons and Carols will take place at St. George's Cathedral on Sunday December 17 at the new time of **4pm**. As well as leading the congregation in singing favourite Christmas carols, the Cathedral Christmas Choir and Children's Choir will sing a selection of Christmas anthems by G.F. Handel, Andrew Carter, Peter Philips, John Joubert, Gustav Holst, Harold Friedell, and others. Join us as we celebrate the Christmas season!



SUPPLY ORGANISTS

Joan Egnatoff is available for occasional services or other occasions.
joane@kingston.net or telephone 613-634-3341

Murray Baer, formerly of St. Mary's Anglican Church, Richmond Hill, is available for supply or occasional work in Prince Edward County, Belleville or Quinte West. He can be reached by email at murray_baer@hotmail.com or by telephone at 416-520-5702.

The Newsletter

The *Kingston Centre Newsletter* is edited by Fran Harkness and David Cameron, 34-100 Medley Court, Kingston, Ontario, K7K 6X2. They may be reached by telephone: 613-549-7125, or by e-mail at either address: charles.david.cameron@gmail.com or harknessfran@gmail.com. The Newsletter is published four times a year, in September, December, March and June, and the digital version is sent free of charge to all members of the Kingston Centre of the RCCO and to current scholarship holders. Black-and-white hard copy will be sent on request to others on payment of an annual subscription of \$10.00, sent to the Centre Treasurer, Fran Harkness, 34-100 Medley Court, Kingston, ON K7K 6X2. Cheques should be made payable to *RCCO Kingston Centre*.

Deadline for all submissions to the March, 2018 *Newsletter*: February 28, 2018.

Kingston Centre RCCO Officers 2017-2016

Centre President: Michael Capon e-mail: organist@stgeorgescathedral.on.ca

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Vice-President: *vacant*

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Jennifer Roche-Brown e-mail: jenniferroche68@gmail.com

Member-at-large: Laurence Rowbotham e-mail laurerowbotham@sympatico.ca

Advertisements

Commercial advertisements will be accepted as follows: the normal size will be business card (one eighth of a page) at \$15 for a single issue and \$50 for a year (four issues). If space allows, we will accept an occasional half-page advertisement at \$30 for one issue. Please send your requests to the Editor, enclosing a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to *RCCO Kingston Centre*. *Positions Vacant, Jobs Wanted* and *Supply Organists* notices will continue to be published free of charge.

Frederick Wm. Knapton & Sons
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Tuning and Servicing

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Glenburnie, ON K0H 1S0**

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Cell: 561-1252



Christmas tree
in the Square outside
Bath Abbey, Bath, UK
(Roman baths and
the Pump Room
are to the right)