



**Autumn 2021**

# The American Guild of Organists San Francisco Chapter Quarterly Newsletter

## Dean's Message

by *Susanne Rommel*

Now that summer is about to come to an end, I am reflecting on the special moments during the last two months: As we had already done last year, we again refrained from taking flights and instead traveled by car with friends to exceptionally beautiful areas and parks, like Canyonlands, Arches and Capitol Reef National Parks in Utah, and backpacked for four days in Emigrant Wilderness in California.



Tourists admiring the famed lone arch in Arches National Park in Utah

During our first day in the Emigrant Wilderness, a 6.1 earthquake hit, the epicenter of which was close to where we were backpacking. It was a unique experience to encounter an earthquake high up in the mountains. In our case, it was accompanied by a massive rockslide. But without any phone reception, the most unusual aspect was not knowing anything specific about the earthquake: Where was the epicenter, and what was the magnitude? How extensive was the damage, and did it occur in, or reach, the Bay Area? Was the Bay Bridge still standing? The earthquake we experienced in the wilderness felt like a good analogy of what we are going through during this current phase of the pandemic, the spread of the delta variant. We do not know how hard the delta variant will hit us, and we do not know when it will end nor whether another variant will follow. As with the wilderness experience where we just continued our plan and kept on

## SFAGO 2021-2022 Program

**Opening Service** (including the installation of officers, a hymn festival, and dinner) – September 19, 2021, 4pm, St Stephen's, Belvedere

**Youth Organists' Halloween Concert** – October 29, 2021, 8pm, co-sponsored with Congregational Church of San Mateo

**Nathaniel Gumbs in Recital** – November 14th, 2021, 4pm, co-sponsored with St Mark's Episcopal Church, Berkeley

**SFAGO Christmas Party** – December 2021, TBD

**Weicheng Zhao in Recital** (including SFAGO Reception) – January 23, 2022, 4pm, co-sponsored with Grace Cathedral, San Francisco

**Black History Month Event** – February 2022 (date TBD), Third Baptist Church, San Francisco or virtual

**Organ Crawl in San Francisco** (lunch included) – February 21, 2022, St Mark's, First Unitarian, Old First Presbyterian, and Grace Cathedral, San Francisco

**Choral Reading Session** – March 2022, TBD

**Amanda Mole in Recital** – April 24, 2022, 4pm, co-sponsored with St John's Episcopal Church, Mission District, San Francisco

**Annual Dinner and Choral Concert** – May 2022 (date TBD), Choirs of St Dominic's and St Mary the Virgin, directed by Simon Berry and Eric Choate, St Dominic's, San Francisco

Due to the pandemic and in accordance with the requirements of the City of San Francisco, in-person attendance of SFAGO events will require proof of vaccination and wearing a face mask indoors, until further notice. Also, all events are subject to change during the pandemic. We will update our website and follow-up with email communication as we get closer to the specific events. Thank you for your understanding!

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## Dean's Message, from front page

hiking for four days, I learned with the pandemic to just focus on our plans and to take every new day as a new gift.

Our highlight this summer was our visit to Salt Lake City, where our son Tim Warncke had the opportunity to play two famous organs: The Conference Center organ and the Salt Lake Tabernacle organ. While these special places had just opened up again for the public, Tim enjoyed playing these two exceptional organs. What a lifetime opportunity!



Tim Warncke playing the Aeolian-Skinner in the Tabernacle.

the spread of the delta variant as much as possible so that we can meet in person to celebrate the start of our 2021–2022 season!

As we start into a brand-new season soon, I am glad to present our strong board to you:

Susanne Rommel, Dean  
Christopher Keady, Subdean – Programming  
James Smith, Subdean – Social Management  
Daniel Gonzalez, Subdean Elect  
Terry Farrow, Secretary  
William Vaughan, Treasurer  
Patricia During – Membership  
Christoph Tietze – Registrar  
Jason Jia – Special Projects Committee

Together as a team, the board has been working hard to set up and finalize our 2021–2022 program. While we are still working through some uncertainties, we hope that we will be able to have our events take place in person. We have been separated for such a long time and cannot wait to see you again soon with appropriate safety measures in place. Like last season and due to the pandemic, all venues, dates, and times are subject to changes as we might need to adjust to the situation as we get closer to the events. Please refer to the right column of the front page for details regarding our SFAGO 2021–2022 Program.

I hope you all had a restful summer and were able to enjoy something special during the last few months. And I hope that during the next few weeks we will be able to control

► **Dean's Message, page 3**

**The Autumn issue covers September thru November.**

**The next scheduled newsletter is the Winter issue in December.**

**See notices throughout for deadline dates – bottom of front page, Calendar heading and Classifieds heading.**

**San Francisco Chapter Newsletter** is published monthly, August thru May, with a Summer issue for June/July, by the San Francisco Chapter, American Guild of Organists. Opinions stated herein are those of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect official policies of this Chapter.

**Dean:** Susanne Rommel  
**Sub Deans:** James Smith (Social Management); Christopher Keady (Programming)  
**Sub Dean Elect:** Daniel Gonzalez  
**Secretary:** Terry Farrow  
**Treasurer:** William Vaughan  
**Registrar:** Christoph Tietze, 415.924.1377  
**Chapter Website:** [www.sfago.org](http://www.sfago.org)

**Newsletter Departments:** *Send your entries to the appropriate editor; all submissions are subject to editing, e.g., for length; all submissions are due by the 20th of the month preceding publication. No exceptions allowed.*

**Events Calendar Listings:** Brian Swager, 415.551.7866 — See Calendar page for email contact  
**Job Placement & For Sale Listings:** David Howitt, 510-437-0254 — See Placements page for email contact  
**Obituary Listings:** William Vaughan  
**Newsletter Articles & Paid Ads:** George Morten, 209.565.6660, [george.morten744@gmail.com](mailto:george.morten744@gmail.com)

Advertising rates for a single issue are based on size of ad placed. Full Page: \$120; Half Page: \$60; Quarter Page: \$30; Business Card: \$15; Third Page (by special arrangement only): \$45. Details on request.

2021–2022  
Last updated 08/26/2021

## Bay Area Student Wins International Prize

from Simon Berry

Bay Area native Daniel Chang, student of Simon Berry, has won an international prize.



The prize-winners of the 31st St Albans International Organ Competition have been announced at a screening at St Albans Cathedral on Friday 16 July, which was also streamed live on the Organ Festival's website.

An exceptionally large field participated in the Preliminary Recorded Round, which was open to organists of all nationalities born after 17 July 1988. The judges selected twelve performers to take part in the online competition:

Callum Alger (United Kingdom)  
Ben Bloor (United Kingdom)  
Daniel Chang (United States of America)  
Quentin du Verdier (France)  
Andrew Forbes (United Kingdom)  
Steven Knieriem (The Netherlands)  
Collin Miller (United States of America)  
Mitchell Miller (United States of America)  
Andrew Morris (United States of America)  
Magdalena Moser (Austria)  
Mona Rozdestvenskyte (Lithuania)  
Jannik Schroeder (Germany)

Each competitor was asked to submit a video-recorded performance of a balanced programme with a total timing of 40 minutes including:

JS Bach: *Fantasia in C minor* BWV 562  
Saint-Saëns: *Prelude and Fugue in B major* op.99 no.2  
The commissioned work by Roxanna Panufnik  
Plus own-choice work(s).

The illustrious jury of this year's virtual Competition were David Hill (United Kingdom), Bine Bryndorf (Denmark), Pieter van Dijk (Netherlands) Rie Hiroe (Japan), Todd

## Dean's Message, from page 2

I am very grateful for all the many contributions from you, which continue to enable us to provide such a strong program during yet another unusual season. Through your generosity we are again able to include world-class organists in this season's program, while being able to support our young organists. Thanks for everyone's support, which makes us such a valued community of wonderful musicians helping each other – Thank you!

I continue to wish you and your families and friends health and well-being. And I much hope to meet you soon in person again. ▼



Wilson (USA), Franz Danksagmüller (Austria/Germany) and Jean-Baptiste Robin (France).

The Peter Hurford Bach Prize of £1000, for the best performance of *Fantasia in C minor* BWV 562, sponsored by Mrs Elisabeth Wells, was awarded to Daniel Chang.

The prize of £800 for the best performance of the commissioned work by Roxanna Panufnik was awarded to Mona Rozdestvenskyte.

The Douglas May Award of £800, for the best performance of a single work, was presented to Magdalena Moser for her performance of Georg Muffat's *Toccata decima*.

Three equal prizes of £1500 were awarded for the most outstanding overall performances to:

Mitchell Miller  
Quentin du Verdier  
Mona Rozdestvenskyte



## San Francisco AGO Chapter Donors

The SFAGO wishes to thank the following people for their financial support to the Chapter Donation category.

John M. Agraz	Chris C. Nichols
Alan C. Black	Francis Oliveira
Nadia Blank-Koliha	Helen Pereira
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Lilyane Moulton	Vlada Volkova-Moran
Natsuko Murayama	Art West

## SFAGO Special Projects Donors

The SFAGO wishes to thank the following people for their financial support to the Special Projects category.

John M. Agraz  
Josephine Bennington  
Jeanette Cool  
Francis M. Cummings  
Patricia During  
Jud Hammon  
David Howitt  
Natsuko Murayama  
Helen Pereira  
Gary C. Toops  
Jon Townsend  
Vlada Volkova-Moran

## San Francisco AGO Chapter Recital Series Donors

The SFAGO wishes to thank the following people for their support of the Recital Series.

### Bombarde (\$1000+)

Jon Townsend

### Tuba Mirabilis (\$500-\$999)

### Trompette en Chamade (\$250-\$499)

John M. Agraz  
Patricia During  
Thomas Flesher  
Father Robert K. Rien  
Susanne Rommel  
Jason M. Surles  
John Walko  
Timothy Zerlang

### Clarion (\$100-\$249)

Charles Corum  
Gregory S. De Santis  
Jonathan Dimmock  
and George Emblom  
Elizabeth Forsyth  
Jud Hammon  
Larry H. Marietta  
James Martin  
Natsuko Murayama  
Chris C. Nichols  
Chris Tietze  
William L. Vaughan  
William A. Visscher  
Art West  
Jeanette Wilkin

### Hautbois (\$50-\$99)

Josephine Bennington  
Alan C. Black  
Gail M. Burnett  
Francis M. Cummings  
David Howitt  
Angela Kraft Cross  
Reiko Oda Lane  
Stephen Luzmoor  
Helen Pereira  
W. Wayne Ritchie  
Gary C. Toops

### Krummhorn (\$25-\$49)

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Steven Gray  
Robert C. Gurney  
Karen C. Haslag  
Martin Lilley  
Naoko Maeda  
Eric Stevens  
Vlada Volkova-Moran  
James Ward

### Vox Humana (\$1-\$24)

Merrill Collins  
Patricia Harre

Thank you very much for your donations! There is still plenty of time to send in a tax-deductible gift.

These lists were compiled from AGO National remit forms, September 2020 thru August 2021

# Bay Area Concert Calendar

Collected by Brian Swager

# Autumn 2021

Events, dates, times, and locations are subject to change without notice. Compiled from flyers, press releases, and listings submitted by members and organizations. SFAGO is not responsible for errors, although every effort is made to be accurate. **Submission deadline for the Winter issue is November 20.** Send event listings to [sfagocal@gmail.com](mailto:sfagocal@gmail.com). **Please include admission charge, as events are free of charge unless otherwise indicated.** For the most up-to-date calendar, visit [www.sfago.org](http://www.sfago.org), click on "Resources" and select "Calendar"

## Recurring Venues

Churches and institutions offering programs on a regular basis have been assigned abbreviations which are listed below with the full name of the venue. When no city is stated, San Francisco is assumed.

**CSMA:** Cath. of St Mary of the Assumption  
**GC:** Grace Cathedral

## SEPTEMBER

### 5 Sunday

4pm. Ensemble ARI. Freewill offering. Free parking. CSMA

### 12 Sunday

4pm. Jordan Prescott, Organ. GC

4pm. August Lee, Cello. Freewill offering. Free parking. CSMA

### 19 Sunday

4pm. Dave Hatt, Organ. Music of Dupré. Freewill offering. Free parking. CSMA

### 26 Sunday

4pm. John Wilson, Piano. Freewill offering. Free parking. CSMA

## OCTOBER

### 3 Sunday

4pm. Matthew Michael Brown, Organ. GC

4pm. Basma Edrees, Violin. Freewill offering. Free parking. CSMA

## NOTE

At St Mary's Cathedral, all concerts are now open to the public and are also live streamed at <https://www.youtube.com/c/CathedralofStMaryoftheAssumption>

At Grace Cathedral, recitals are open to the public. The Cathedral suggests registering in advance. The performances are live streamed as well. [gracecathedral.org](http://gracecathedral.org)

### 10 Sunday

4pm. Lori Jensen, Violin; Natalie Haworth-Liu Pendergast, Flute; Karmen Peng, Violoncello; Jin Kyung Lim, Keyboard Instruments. Freewill offering. Free parking. CSMA

### 17 Sunday

4pm. Laurent Jochum, Organ. Freewill offering. Free parking. CSMA

### 24 Sunday

4pm. Kathy McKee, Alto; Colby Roberts, Tenor; Jin Kyung Lim, Organ. Freewill offering. Free parking. CSMA

### 31 Sunday

4pm. Hope Briggs, Soprano; Kevin Navarro, Piano. Freewill offering. Free parking. CSMA

## NOVEMBER

### 7 Sunday

4pm. Patrick Pope, Organ. GC

## Classified Ads

Collected by David Howitt

This information is provided as a service to SFAGO members and the employing institutions. SFAGO is not responsible for errors, although every effort is made to be accurate. Inclusion of information in this column does not imply endorsement by the SFAGO. Send Job Referrals items, Substitutes Available notices, and For Sale items to:

**David Howitt. Submission deadline for the Winter issue is November 20th.**

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Please use this link to the website for job details:

<https://www.sfago.org/job-board>

### NORTH BAY

First Church of Christ, Scientist – Mill Valley

### PENINSULA

All Saints' Episcopal Church – Palo Alto

### EAST BAY

First Presbyterian Church – Berkeley

Saint Ignatius of Antioch Catholic Church – Antioch

St. Paul's Episcopal Church – Walnut Creek

## FOR SALE

PIANO: 1986 Kawai GS30 Grand Piano. For full details, contact: Carin Scheinin, [carin13@gmail.com](mailto:carin13@gmail.com)

