THE NEW LONDON COUNTY AGO
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February 2009

Things Great & Swell

New London County Chapter

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From Sea to Shining Sea

Organ music, organs, and organists of early America

Presented by

Dr. Jeannine Jordan, organ

with visuals by David Jordan

Monday, February 23, 2009 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cadet Chapel – Coast Guard Academy

From Sea to Shining Sea explores the first 200 years of the organ in the colonies and United States with fascinating anecdotes, out-of-the-ordinary organ compositions and stunning visuals. It is an organ event like no other.

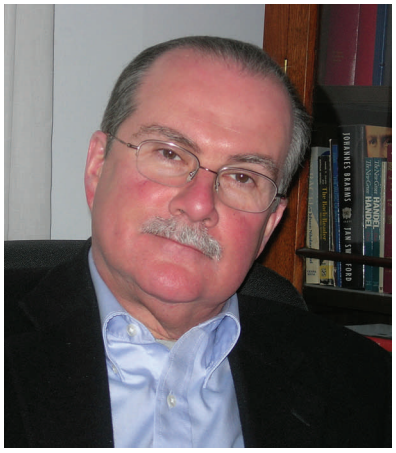
Jeannine earned the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in organ performance and music history from the University of Oregon, where early American organists were the subjects of her dissertation. This study led to further research and collaboration with media artist David Jordan to create *From Sea to Shining Sea.* Dr. Jordan has performed throughout the United States and around the world, captivating audiences with her unique and creative programming. David Jordan, a skilled pianist with a Master of Music degree in composition from Ball State University, is also a media artist. Whether creating the visual portion of *From Sea to Shining Sea* or enhancing photographs digitally, his work inspires and mesmerizes its viewers.

The Jordans recently released *From Sea to Shining Sea* in DVD format in celebration of the *International Year of the Organ*. Jeannine also is compiler and editor of a collection of early American music, *American Organ Solos* and has three compact disc recordings of music for the trumpet and organ combination: Thine is the Glory, a collection of well-known hymn tune arrangements, Bravo! Baroque! a recording of baroque organ, trumpet, and harpsichord repertoire, and A Cansler Christmas, featuring Christmas favorites in all styles.

February's concert is the twelfth performance of *From Sea to Shining Sea.* By attending, you will be automatically entered in the drawing for the newly released DVD, "From Sea to Shining Sea."

Membership News

Elma Frysinger



Douglas Green grew up in Maryland and began his organ studies with Lewis Bruun in Hagerstown (not far from the old Moeller Organ factory). Lewis was a great organist and teacher having studied with Richard Purvis in San Francisco (Grace Cathedral) and Alexander McCurdy in Philadelphia (Curtis Institute). At the age of 14, Doug began playing at his own church, Welty Church of the Brethren, in Smithsburg. At age sixteen, he became organist at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Hagerstown which was just a few blocks from the Moeller factory. It was a great position: three manual Moeller (all churches in Hagerstown had big Moeller organs), two services, three choirs and a monthly paycheck! During his last year in high school, Doug traveled to Philadelphia every other week to sturdy with Alexander McCurdy. What a trip and such a privilege!

After graduating from Westminster Choir College in 1973 with a Bachelor of Music Degree, Doug accepted the position of Assistant Director of Cadet Musical Activities at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London. At the same time, he was also the Director of Music at the old Methodist Church in New London.

In 1976, he became Director of Music and Organist at St. Patrick Cathedral in Norwich. During his years at the cathedral, he has developed a music ministry consisting of four singing choirs and four handbell choirs. The Norwich Diocesan Choir, now in their 30th year, has sung for every major pontifical event at the Cathedral since 1978 in addition to presenting two annual concerts of sacred music. In 2001, Bishop Daniel A. Hart and the Diocese of Norwich presented Doug with the Patrici-Anne Award for distinguished service to the diocese.

Doug lives in Norwich with his organist wife Sharon, the love of his life, and their two cairn terriers, Ozzie and Sugarplum.

Reduced Dues for New members. If you have a friend who should be a member of the Guild, now is the perfect time to invite him. Contact Elma Frysinger, 860-447-1195 or ejfrysinger@snet.net for an application. The application fee listed in TAO is for only the National portion of the dues. We add a Chapter portion to this.

Dues To Increase Next Year. When we renew our memberships in June, the regular rate will increase from $88 to $92.

Access to Job Listings on the AGO National Web Site

In an effort to increase the value of the benefits package for AGO voting members, **access to the Positions Available listings on the AGO National Web site will be limited exclusively to AGO voting members as of Monday, December 15th.** It is appropriate that these listings should be made available only to voting members, since members' dues pay for the operation of the Guild's Web site and maintenance of its job postings board. In addition, this new limitation will ensure that only those organists who have agreed to abide by the AGO's Code of Ethics and Code of Professional Standards will have access to the jobs advertised on the AGO's Web site.

Starting Monday, December 15th, when you go to view the details of a Position Available online, you will be asked to fill in a User Name and Password. Your User Name and Password will be your unique AGO identification number. This number is located above your name on the address label that appears on your copy of TAO each month. When prompted to fill in the User Name and Password fields, **please enter your ID number in both fields** to gain access to the details of all job openings.

Send your newsletter items by the 20th of the month to *mccarym@aol.com.* To be removed from the paper mailing list or to be added to the email list, contact Elma Frysinger, *ejfrysinger@snet.net*.

The Dean's Decke...

I hope the New Year is off to a wonderful start for you, and that you've had time to regroup and "rest from your labors" before the Lenten season steals upon us at the end of February.

My hearty thanks go to Linda Lozis, Michael Noonan, Stephen Anderson, and all the directors of the youth choirs that make our annual Children's Choir Festival a continuous success. There is no better way to ring in the New Year than with the energy of a hundred youthful singers, all raising their voices en masse. Bravo to our performers and all those who make this event a reality each year.

My missive will be made blissfully short this month, since it needs simply to remind you of the amazing event that is approaching on Monday, the 23rd'. As you all know, Dr. Jeannine Jordan is coming to New London County with her widely lauded ***"From Sea to Shining Sea"*** recital, recounting the colorful history of the organ in America in sight and sound. I've received an advance copy of her program, and in case you're wondering just how much music will be played beneath the much-advertised kaleidoscope of images, I can assure you that this is a fantastic evening of organ music. Everything from Buck's rollicking *Concert Variations on the Star Spangled Banner* to Hewitt's stirring *Battle of Trenton* will make appearances. In keeping with the International Year of the Organ and its commissioned works, Stephen Paulus' *Blithely Breezing Along* is featured as well, making this concert a fitting tribute to the role of the organ in the US right through to 2009. Our venue, the Coast Guard Academy's Cadet Chapel, is the perfect stage for this patriotic event. I sincerely hope you will all attend and help us to celebrate the spirit of an historic year – a landmark both for the American Guild of Organists, and for our nation at large.

Best wishes to you all! *– Jesse*

Local Concerts & Events

Thu., Feb. 05, 8:00 PM, - Palmer Auditorium, Connecticut College, Ladysmith Black Mambazo

Fri., Feb. 06, 8:00 PM, - Evans Hall, Connecticut College, Faculty Concert, "La Davina," Jurate Waller, soprano

Sun., Feb. 08, 8:00 PM, - Marquand Chapel, Yale, David Yearsley, organ, Messiaen Centenary Celebration at Yale

Sun., Feb. 08, 3:00 PM, - Valley Regional H.S.,Deep River, CT, Essex Winter Series, Jeff Barnhart & the Northeast All Stars

Sun., Feb. 08, 7:30 PM, - Evans Hall, Connecticut College, Bassoon Quartet, Bucket of Bassoons

Sun., Feb. 08, 3:00 PM, - Christ Church, Norwich, Classic Winds Trio, Chamber Music at Christ Church

Fri., Feb. 13, 7:30 PM, - St. James, New London, The Avery Ensemble, All's Fair in Love and War?!, Part 2, "Fools Rush In…: The Folly of Adventures in Romance or Aggression"

Fri., Feb. 13, 8:00 PM, - Evans Hall, Connecticut College, Amelia Piano Trio,

Fri., Feb. 20, 7:30 PM, - Evans Hall, Connecticut College, Anthes Kreston, violin, and Thomas Labadorf, clarinet

Sun., Feb. 22, 3:00 PM, - Valley Regional H.S.,Deep River, CT, Essex Winter Series, Teresa Eickel, soprano, and Brian Cheney, tenor

Sun., Feb. 22, 2:00 PM, - Harkness Chapel, Connecticut College, Faculty Concert, Linda Skernick, Harpsichord

Sun., Feb. 22, 5:00 PM, - St. James, New London, Anglican Singers, Choral Evensong for Epiphany

Mon., Feb. 23, 8:00 PM, - Cadet Chapel, Coast Guard Academy, New London, A celebration of the organ in America, From Sea to Shining Sea

Thu., Feb. 26, 8:00 PM, - Evans Hall, Connecticut College, Flanders Recorder Quartet

Feb. 23, 8 pm, Cadet Chapel

Coast Guard Academy, New London, CT

Local Organ Recitals, Concerts and Events!

international
year of the
organ
2008-2009

American
Guild of
Organists