



## Weekly Update - Cleveland Chapter

### American Guild of Organists

December 19, 2013

#### From the Dean



Fern Jennings

A long bus ride from Cincinnati in a snow storm did not dampen the energy of the Clare College Choir in their concert at Fairmount Presbyterian Church last Saturday. One marvels at how they could have arrived at the church at 4pm, blocked out the program and checked out the acoustics, let alone give time for the organ scholars to register the organ, eat dinner and dress. But they did that and proceeded to perform a full program for the large audience.

The program, based on the Great 'O' Antiphons from the Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" was beautifully sung with pure straight tones, perfect tuning and clear diction. The organ scholars added fire and color to the accompanied anthems and the two hymns in which the congregation joined. The choir made excellent use of the space with some of the anthems being performed with the choir positioned the room and in the balcony. Others used antiphonal choirs or soloists placed in the pulpit. The repertoire ranged from Plainsong, to Bach and Mendelssohn, to Tavener and Part and a newly commissioned piece by John Rutter, an alumnus and former director

of the choir.

At the AGO sponsored reception following the concert, concert patrons were able to chat with choir members, the organ scholars and their director before they went off with their local hosts for the overnight stay. Many thanks to Bob Moncrief and Fairmount Church for presenting this concert. The program was a highlight of my own Christmas celebration and to top it off, we were greeted by a picture postcard world in the form of a beautiful snowfall on the church neighborhood as we left.

May your Christmas celebration be filled with beautiful music, warmth, friendship and family.

Blessings of the Season,  
Fern

#### WINTER BREAK

**The Weekly Update will be on holiday break for a couple of weeks. The next update will be dated January 6, 2014. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

#### UPCOMING CHAPTER PROGRAM

##### **Professional Concerns Workshop with Lorain County Chapter AGO**

Monday, February 10 - 7:30 pm

Trinity Cathedral

2230 Euclid Ave. Cleveland

National and Regional AGO activity updates - AGO Great Lakes Region Councilor, David Lamb

Minister/musician team - Rev. Jimmy Madsen and Brian Wentzel, FAGO; Lorain First Lutheran

Church

Resume Writing - Timothy Robson, Case Western Reserve University

## NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, February 3, 2014, 7:30 pm, Place TBD

## TODAY IN CLASSICAL MUSIC HISTORY

French organist and composer Louis Nicholas Clérambault was born in Paris in the year 1676. He died in 1749 after a long career spent in Paris. It is interesting to note the close proximity of dates to German composer, J.S. Bach. Both men were masters of their own Baroque style but likely never heard the each other's music. Clerambault's first position was at the Church of the Grands-Augustins, and then at St. Sulpice and the royal house of Saint-Cyr, an institution for girls from poor nobility. In this position he was responsible for the choir and organ. Clerambault's most notable organ works are two suite. These pieces are in the French dance suite style and are charming examples of the form. Organ students often are taught French Baroque style and registration by studying these pieces. Here is a link to a performance of the entire Suite du Premier Ton on a reconstructed organ of 1627 in the 12th century cathedral in Forcalquier, France.



Louis-Nicolas Clérambault - Suite du Premier Ton

## Concerts and Events of Interest

*Remember to send us your concert listings for our Google calendar and weekly updates. Send them to [newsletter@agocleveland.org](mailto:newsletter@agocleveland.org). Some of our concert listings have been gleaned from ClevelandClassical. For a complete list of concerts plus previews, reviews and more from Cleveland's classical music scene click the link [www.clevelandclassical.com](http://www.clevelandclassical.com).*

**Quire Cleveland**, Friday, December 20 & Saturday December 21, 7:30 pm and Sunday, December

22, 3pm. Carols for Quire from the Old and New Worlds (now in its fourth year) celebrates the season with beautiful and inspiring music from yesterday and today, Ross W. Duffin, Director. Trinity Cathedral 2230 Euclid Ave, Cleveland.

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**Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols,** December 24, 10:00 am. Broadcast live from King's College, Cambridge, local NPR stations. Download the 2013 service booklet here: <http://www.kings.cam.ac.uk/events/chapel-services/nine-lessons.html>

**The Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival,** Saturday, December 28, 3:00 pm - & 5:30 pm. A multi-sensory Elizabethan Christmas experience with pageantry and music. 51st Annual Performances. Trinity Cathedral, 2230 Euclid Ave., Cleveland. Freewill offering.

## Quick Links

[Web Site](#)

[Job Openings/Substitutes](#)

[Join AGO](#)



## A Note About Job Postings

Gerry Mass, our Cleveland Chapter Placement Officer collects and updates job openings in the area. Although they are not listed in the weekly updates, there is a link in the "Quick Links" section every week that will take you to the updated list on the chapter website. Questions or need help finding a position? Email: [placement@agocleveland.org](mailto:placement@agocleveland.org)

## About These Updates

Each week on Thursday, we publish this email newsletter to help you stay informed about activities and programs of the Cleveland AGO Chapter. Questions or comments? Please let us know: [admin@agocleveland.org](mailto:admin@agocleveland.org). Have a news item for a future issue? Send to: [newsletter@agocleveland.org](mailto:newsletter@agocleveland.org) The deadline each week is Tuesday at 5 PM for Thursday publication.

## Contact Us

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## About Us

*The purpose of the American Guild of Organists is to promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles, to encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of Guild members.*