35th Annual San Diego International
Organ Festival
Summer 2023

Mondays 7:30pm
June 26th—September 4th
WATERFRONT DINING

Experience the bold, exotic flavors of the Pacific Rim with unparalleled views of San Diego Harbor. Dinner is served nightly from 4pm; lunch Fridays and Saturdays from 11am, and don’t miss our Island-inspired brunch - Sundays from 11am to 3:30pm.
Welcome to the 35th San Diego International Summer Organ Festival 2023
Spreckels Organ Pavilion, Balboa Park

In honor of Ron De Fields

June 26th · 7:30pm
YOUNG ARTIST CONCERT
James Kealey

July 3rd · 7:30pm
A PATRIOTIC SALUTE
Robert York

July 10th · 7:30pm
RAVEL’S BOLÉRO & ROMANTIC TOUR DE FORCE
Raúl Prieto Ramírez

July 17th · 7:30pm
BIZET’S CARMEN SUITE & OTHER OPERA OVERTURES
Peter Richard Conte

July 24th · 7:30pm
BACH’S MUSICAL UNIVERSE
Dr. Nicole Simental

July 31st · 7:30pm
DANCING UNDER THE STARS
Dr. Emma Whitten with Maria Miller

August 7th · 7:30pm
MUSIC IN MOVIES
Martin Ellis

August 3rd · 7:30pm
BRASS AND ORGAN STEREOPHONIC STRAVAGANZA
Raúl Prieto Ramírez welcomes guest musicians

August 21st · 7:30pm
FROM NOTRE-DAME CATHEDRAL IN PARIS
Johann Vexo

August 28th · 7:30pm
NOT-SO-SILENT MOVIE NIGHT
Clark Wilson

September 4th · 7:30pm
LABOR DAY CLASSIC ROCK CONCERT
The Pavilion Rock Band

Every Monday night, June 26th thru Labor Day, September 4th. 90-minute concerts. No intermission and no admission charge for attendance, as mandated by the John D Spreckels Deed of Gift.
Our 35th Annual
San Diego International Organ Festival
is in honor of Ron De Fields
former Spreckels Organ Society Board President
and Summer Organ Festival Sponsorship Chair
Mission
The Spreckels Organ Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1988 to preserve, program and promote the Spreckels Organ as a world treasure for all people.

Artistic Director
Raúl Prieto Ramirez – San Diego Civic Organist

Spreckels Organ Society Executive Board
Randy Ward - President
Tom Warschauer – Treasurer
Gordon Stanley – Vice President
Gary Allard – Secretary
George Hardy – Vice President
Dale Sorenson – Curator
Lyle Blackinton – Curator Emeritus

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Mitchell Beauchamp
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Dennis Fox
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Robert Kilian
Kathleen Stoughton
David Stout
William Willis

Committee Chairs
George Hardy – Program Committee
Elisabeth Jacobsen - Education
Gordon Stanley – Development
Gary Allard - Operations
Tom Warschauer – Budget & Finance / Investments

Key Volunteers
Bob Lang – Photographer
Jean Samuels – Asst. Treasurer
Dwight Gordon – Photographer / IT
Jacob Lang - Photographer
Dear Organ Festival Attendees,
Welcome to the 35th Annual San Diego International Organ Festival!

On behalf of the City of San Diego and as your Councilmember, I am thrilled to extend a warm welcome to all participants, performers, and attendees of this extraordinary festival.

The Organ Festival has become a beloved tradition in our city, bringing together exceptional organists from around the world to captivate us with their awe-inspiring talent. It is a celebration of the power of music and the magnificence of the organ.

As you experience the melodic wonders and witness the remarkable craftsmanship of these majestic instruments, I hope you will be inspired and uplifted by the performances that await you.

I want to express my deepest appreciation to the organizers, volunteers, sponsors, and all those involved in making this event possible. Your dedication to promoting the arts and nurturing our cultural community is truly commendable.

Thank you for joining us for The San Diego International Organ Festival. May your experience be filled with joy, inspiration, and an enduring appreciation for the beauty of music.

Yours in Service,
Stephen Whitburn
San Diego City Councilmember, Third District
PANAMA 66

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Open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 AM - 5 PM. Closed Mondays.
On behalf of the Trustees, Volunteers and Staff of the Spreckels Organ Society, I am excited and honored to welcome you to the 35th Annual San Diego International Organ Festival!

Under the capable direction of San Diego Civic Organist and Spreckels Organ Society Artistic Director, Raúl Prieto Ramírez, we have engaged a star-studded array of talent, both from within the organ world and beyond. Some of this summer’s highlights include the return of our ever-popular Silent Movie Night Concert, with music choreographed to the film; a special Brass and Organ Stereophonic Stravaganza, featuring the Spreckels Organ with full brass ensemble; and our closing Classic Rock Organ/Band concert over Labor Day weekend. Also happening this summer – a celebration of Raúl’s 5th year as San Diego Civic Organist, where he will be showcasing some of his favorite works.

2023 has been an exhilarating year so far for the Society. Most significant to our audience, Spreckels Organ Society is pleased to announce a new partnership with the Twilight in the Park organization! Being that our two organizations are the sole purveyors of FREE music at the Organ Pavilion, it was a natural fit. We are looking forward to collaborative opportunities in the future.

Finally, please know that Spreckels Organ Society is always on the lookout for amazing volunteers. If not for the support of our wonderful volunteer team, we would not be able to professionally produce our nearly 70 free concert experiences throughout the year. If you have an interest, please contact our office at 619.702.8138 to learn more about volunteering with us.

Now, please sit back and enjoy some beautiful music in this world-class venue… and remember to bring your program back each week!

Sincerely
Randy Ward
President
Spreckels Organ Society
Welcome to the 35th San Diego International Summer Organ Festival at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park. Offering 11 different concerts during the quiet Monday nights in the Summer, our Festival is the largest in the United States. We offer a much wider range of musical experiences than most similar venues in the world; some of the experiences are absolutely unique!

From a Brass Octet and Organ to a Not-So-Silent Movie Night; from a Renaissance Stereophonic Stravaganza inspired by St Mark’s Basilica in Venice to the greatest hits of Classic Rock performed by the high-energy Pavilion Rock Band… where else can you listen to famous songs by Van Halen, Pink Floyd or Led Zeppelin with a large pipe organ (the largest open-air musical instrument in the world)? Is Bach your passion? We have you covered with an all-Bach concert. Is it the famous Symphonic Music or the fancy Opera Overtures? Yes, we have those, too. And if the 1920s Silent Movie tradition feels too long ago for your taste, try Star Wars, Jurassic Park, Harry Potter, Frozen or Interstellar. It’s all here! Is the American Songbook or Patriotic Marches your thing? Yes, we will have those also… even the popular Ravel’s Boléro made it in the program this 2023 season. We are proud to present an explosion of styles, sounds, colors and cultures in the heart of Balboa Park!

Why such a large variety? Because our focus is on serving the community. Nowhere else can a family take their kids to gain exposure to the purest of the art forms, broaden their musical awareness, expand their musical joy, learn about new repertoires, and hear new and old styles far from the commercial mainstream… all without blowing a big hole in their monthly budget!

We need to emphasize the words All the World in the deed of gift from J.D. Spreckels, who donated this organ to share his passion for the spiritual power of music with the citizens of San Diego and those of all the world. That includes you! Because one of the conditions of the gift was that concerts be free to the public, the Spreckels Organ Society embarks year after year on the difficult task of raising the necessary funds to make this world-class, unique festival shine without
a source of revenue from ticket sales. Now, that takes some brains and effort to achieve!

Your help and support can contribute substantially to keep the spirit and excitement of our team high and energized. Allow me to invite you to join our family by becoming a member, donating or volunteering. For information about volunteering or donating to specific funds, please call or email our office. Tonight, have fun and give our volunteers a big thank-you.

This Festival and the Spreckels Organ Pavilion deserve to develop and grow towards a bright future with the City of San Diego and its citizens for another 108 years. The role it has always played in promoting and providing access to the high quality musical heritage for all, regardless of their socio-cultural background, is as needed today as it has always been. Welcome to the Spreckels Organ Pavilion!

Raúl Prieto Ramírez
Artistic Director and San Diego Civic Organist
A Walk through History: Architectural Heritage Walking Tours
Fridays at 11 a.m.
Visitors Center
* FREE *

www.BalboaParkCommitteeof100.org
Since 1967, preserving Balboa Park’s Historic Buildings and Gardens.
Thank You
to Our 2022-2023 Donors

Major Contributors to the
Spreckels Organ Society

City of San Diego Commission for Arts & Culture
Oberlin & Vivian Evenson Fund
Warren M Nichols Bequest
Charlotte E Parsons Bequest
Estate of Dale Hess
Jerry, Lily, Ryan and Vivian Lang
Dr. Dwight & Gayle Gordon

Our sincere gratitude to these, and to all our members and generous
donors whose contributions help us to preserve the magnificent Spreckels
Organ for the future, and to ensure that world-class music remains
accessible to all. Thank you.
As part of the original deed of gift from Adolph and John D. Spreckels, all organ concerts held at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion are presented to the public at no charge. This is in keeping with the Spreckels brothers’ goal of introducing the healing spirit of live music to everyone, especially the youth, no matter their economic status. Today, this 108-year-old tradition of generosity continues due to the support of the citizens of San Diego, the members of the Spreckels Organ Society, and donors from around the world.

The activities of the Spreckels Organ Society are supported through the ongoing generosity of the City of San Diego Parks & Recreation Department; through endowed funds initiated by the generosity of past and present society members and trustees, including the Nichols Summer Festival Bequest, the Oberlin and Vivian Evenson Endowment, the Operating Expense Endowment, and a more recent Organ Bench Endowment provided to endow the salary and benefits of the Artistic Director. We are also supported through donations to designated funds: the Jared Jacobsen Educational Foundation, Audio-Visual Tech Development Fund, Organ Capital Improvement Fund, Scholarship Fund, Bench Match Fund, San Diego International Summer Organ Festival Fund, and more.

In addition to these funds, Spreckels Organ Society benefits from membership dues, grants, bequests, and generous “gold box” contributions from our concert guests.

If you would like more information about including Spreckels Organ Society in your gift planning, or to get more information on any of our designated funds, endowments, or 501(c)(3) status, please contact us at sosorgan@gmail.com; or stop by our membership table to speak to one of our docents at an upcoming concert.
SAN DIEGO CIVIC ORGANIST CENTENNIAL ENDOWMENT FUND

HISTORY:
The Spreckels Organ and Organ Pavilion secured its place as a renowned San Diego icon long before the Spreckels Organ Society stepped in to preserve its legacy. Constructed for the 1915 Panama-California Exposition, this extraordinary gift from John D. and Adolph B. Spreckels to the people of San Diego welcomed its first performance at just before midnight on December 31, 1914. It has since entertained and engaged millions of guests with outstanding musical performances 52 Sunday afternoons a year, attracting audiences from around the world to an annual 11-week International Summer Organ Festival, and introduced young people to world-class music at holiday concerts, and through ongoing educational programs.

WHY PRESERVATION MATTERS:
During the 1970s and early 1980s, the Pavilion fell into disuse and risked demolition. Then, after more than 1 million dollars was raised for repairs through a partnership between the City and a local non-profit, the Spreckels Organ Society was formed in 1988. In the decades since, the Society has worked tirelessly to ensure the Pavilion and the Organ never fell into disarray again. The Society’s mission is to preserve, program and promote the Spreckels Organ as a world treasure for all people.

YOUR PLACE IN HISTORY:
Housing the world’s largest pipe organ in a fully outdoor venue, the Spreckels Organ Pavilion helps place Balboa Park and, more importantly, San Diego on the map. Indeed, San Diego is one of only two U.S. cities with a Civic Organist, with the condition of our organ maintained by a highly skilled curator.

Recognizing the value of this legacy, in 2022, an anonymous donor stepped forward to make a very generous donation of $500,000 to the Spreckels Organ Society for the purpose of endowing the position of the Civic Organist/Artistic Director in perpetuity, and to ensure that the Society will be able to continue to secure the best talent possible for years and years to come.

And, if that weren’t enough, in a challenge to others to join in, the anonymous donor made a further pledge to match, dollar-for-dollar, up to an additional $500,000 for donations made to the SAN DIEGO CIVIC ORGANIST CENTENNIAL ENDOWMENT FUND on or before December 31, 2024.

The Spreckels Organ Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. We invite you to rise to this challenge, and make your contribution today.
Does Your Child Love to Sing?

Learn more about our programs for children ages 1-18. sdcchoir.org

Come Sing With Us!
Preserve the Music with your Membership

“to preserve, program and promote the great Spreckels Organ…”
Your membership makes it possible to fulfill our mission – to preserve, program and promote the great Spreckels Organ as a world treasure for all people.

Preserve
• Expansion to 5098 pipes, making the Spreckels Organ the world’s largest outdoor pipe organ
• Recoated pipe façade
• New console (2011)
• Addition of Majestic Flute Rank (2021)
• Replacement of stop/piston automation (2023)

Program
• Opera4Kids (next: 10/1 and 11/5)
• San Diego Children’s Choir (next: 11/5)
• San Diego Civic Youth Ballet
• San Diego Youth Symphony (next: 10/29)
• San Diego Suzuki School of Music
• Beatles Tribute Concert (next: 9/17)
• Halloween Silent Movie Night Concert (next: 10/28)
• Holiday Concert (next: 12/16)
• Christmas Sing-a-Long (next: 12/17)
• Insider Brunch and Tour (next: 9/9)
• Fifth Grade in the Park (coming soon)

Promote
• Social: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter
• SpreckelsOrgan.org
• BalboaPark.org
• SanDiego.gov
• Wikipedia
• Expanded television, print and online media
• Centennial History Book

Your membership helps us to continue to deliver these programs year-round. Please join today.
June 26 • 7:30pm

Young Artist Concert
with James Kealey, first prize winner of the AGO National Young Artists Competition 2022

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)
Allegro maestoso
(Sonata in G, Op. 28)

Florence Price (1887-1953)
In Quiet Mood

Cecilia McDowall (b. 1951)
Church bells beyond the stars

César Franck (1822-1890)
Pièce Heroïque

George Shearing (1919-2011)
From ‘Sacred Sounds’
There is a Happy Land
Amazing Grace

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)
Danse Macabre (arr. Edwin Lemare)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Prelude & Fugue in G major BWV 550

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)
Rhapsody No. I in D-flat major

Rachel Laurin (b. 1961)
Humoresque Op. 77

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)
Adagio (Symphony No. III in F-sharp minor)

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)
Final (Symphony No. VI in B minor)

Tonight’s Concert Sponsored by:
George Hardy In memory of Ron De Fields, David Bevilaqua and Craig Caldwell,
Dean Crowder

Audio or video recording of this recital, using any device, is strictly prohibited without prior written consent of the performers.
A Patriotic Salute
American Song Book and Patriotic Marches with organist Robert York

July 3 • 7:30pm

John Stafford Smith (1750-1836)
Francis Scott Key (1779-1843)
  National Anthem: The Star-Spangled Banner

Audience participation welcome

George M. Cohan (1878-1942)
  Patriotic Medley: I’m a Yankee Doodle Dandy, Over There, You’re a Grand Old Flag

Honoring our Military
  The Army Goes Rolling Along, Semper Paratus (Coast Guard), The Marine’s Hymn, Anchors Aweigh (Navy), The U.S. Air Force Song

We invite our Military to stand as their song is played and all are invited to sing

Richard Purvis (1913-1994)
  St. Francis Suite (4 movements) Ascription, Hymn to the Moon, Earth Carol, Canticle of the Sun

Songs of George Gershwin (1898-1937)
  American in Paris (excerpts), S’Wonderful, Embraceable You, Love Walked In, Lady Be Good,
  Rhapsody in Blue (excerpts), A Foggy Day, I’ve Got Rhythm

Songs of Cole Porter (1891-1964)
  I’ve Got You Under My Skin, It’s De-Lovely, I Love Paris, Begin the Beguine

Songs of Richard Rogers (1902-1979)
  and Lorenz Hart (1895-1943)
  Falling in Love With Love, My Funny Valentine, The Lady is a Tramp, Bewitched, Isn’t it Romantic?

Songs of Irving Berlin (1888-1989)
  Cheek to Cheek, Always, Steppin’ Out with My Baby, They Say it’s Wonderful, There’s No Business like Show Business, God Bless America

Charles Marie Widor (1844-1937)
  Symphony for Organ, Op. 42 No. 5: V. Toccata

Robert Alan York
  Improvisation on a Presented Theme
  All medleys arranged by Robert Alan York

Tonight’s Concert Sponsored by:
  Wayne and Cheryl Seppala

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Ravel’s Boléro & Romantic Tour de Force
with Raúl Prieto Ramírez,
Artistic Director & San Diego Civic Organist

Modest Mussorgsky / Nikolay Rimsky-Korsakov
Baba-Yaga & The Great Gate of Kiev, from Pictures at an Exhibition
(transcribed for organ by Raul Prieto Ramirez)

Texu Kim (1980-)
Pahdo (2018)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Toccata in F Major BWV 540

Franz Liszt (1811 – 1886)
Mephisto Waltz N.1 Der Tanz in der Dorfschenke (The dance in the Village Inn) S.514
(transcribed for organ by Raul Prieto Ramirez)

Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)
Boléro (1928)
(transcribed for organ by Raul Prieto Ramirez)

Richard Wagner (1813-1883)
Prelude to Act I from Die Meistersinger von Nürenberg WWV 96
(transcribed for organ by Raul Prieto Ramirez)

Tonight’s Concert Sponsored by:
Arv and Nicole Larson

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Yuhan Jackson is 10 years old and just finished fourth grade at Hawthorne Elementary School. He has studied piano for 5 years and organ for 3 years, both with Leslie Wolf Robb. This is Yuhan’s second year playing on the Spreckels Organ, and he is thrilled to be back! Yuhan enjoys playing soccer, biking and spending time with his grandparents. He loves reading, especially when snuggled up to his dog Checkers!

Aska Enomoto is 13 years old and is finishing 7th grade. She studies organ with Leslie Wolf Robb. She has received scholarship awards from the San Diego chapter of the American Guild of Organists and from the Spreckels Organ Society, and has performed at the Speckels Organ Pavilion many times. She was the first-place winner in the Complete Works Division of the 2023 Southern California Junior Bach Festival, and will perform in the SCJBF Awards Concert in October 2023. Aska’s hobbies include high jump and long jump (track & field), playing volleyball, and crochet. She is planning to crochet an animal for her sister’s birthday next month.

Logan Shimabukuro is a junior at MBHS, where he plays violin in the following music ensembles: Mambo Jazz Band, Advanced Orchestra, and String Quartet. Out of school, Logan is also a member of Young Lions Jazz Conservatory, and All About Music San Diego. Under the guidance of his music teacher, Alicia McMillan, Logan developed his skills on the organ and piano. In addition to these instruments, Logan also studies the violin and viola under Jane Frey. Logan also takes jiu-jitsu lessons, and he enjoys cooking.
The San Diego Suzuki School of Music strives for musical excellence and a lifetime love of learning. We offer violin, viola and cello instruction to students ages four and up in San Diego County.

Our music faculty are trained professionals through the Suzuki Association of the Americas.

Comprehensive program includes individual lessons, supplemental group classes, recital and performance opportunities.

Early childhood classes available for ages 0–4.

Register at www.sandiegosuzukischool.com to start your musical journey!
July 17 • 7:30pm

Bizet’s Carmen Suite & Other Opera Overtures
with Peter Richard Conte, organist at the largest Musical Instrument in the World

Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900)
Overture to Yeomen of the Guard
transcribed by PRC

Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)
Paraphrase on Judas Maccabaeus

Richard Wagner (1813-1883)
Pilgrim’s Chorus, from Tannhaüser
transcribed by Edwin Lemare/PRC

Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)
Overture to The Barber of Seville
transcribed by PRC

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)
Choral Improvisation on Naher, Mein Gott, Zu Dir!

Robert Elmore (1913-1985)
Night Song & Fantasy on Nursery Tunes

Pietro Mascagni (1835-1945)
Regina Coeli, from Cavalleria Rusticana
transcribed by PRC

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)
Chaconne in E Minor, BuxWV 160
orchestrated by Carlos Chávez
re-transcribed for organ by Andrew Ennis

Georges Bizet (1838-1875)
Suite from Carmen
arranged by Edwin Lemare

Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)
Two Short Works based on Plainsong Hymns
Regina Coeli, Op. 64
Placare Christe Servulis, Op. 38, No. 16

Tonight’s Concert Sponsored by:
Gayle and Dwight Gordon, Robert Kilian, Elaine Baldwin

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Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Prelude in E-flat Major BWV 552
Trio super ‘Herr Jesu Christ dich zu
uns wend’ BWV 655

Johann Sebastian Bach
Prelude and Fugue in G Major BWV 541
Choral Prelude on ‘Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland’ BWV 659

Johann Sebastian Bach
Prelude and Fugue in E minor BWV 548
Trio super ‘Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr’ BWV 664

Johann Sebastian Bach
Prelude and Fugue in D Major BWV 532
Trio super ‘Allein Gott in der Hoh sei Ehr’ BWV 676

Johann Sebastian Bach
Fugue in E-flat Major BWV 552
Dancing Under the Stars
music on dances with organist Emma Whitten and soprano Maria Miller

Robert Elmore (1913-1985)
Rhumba

Rhumba

Enrico Bossi (1861-1925)
Giga, Op. 73

Giga, Op. 73

Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)
At the Ballet (from Five Dances)

At the Ballet (from Five Dances)

William Albright (1944-1998)
Jig for the Feet (Totentanz)

Jig for the Feet (Totentanz)

Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)
Sicilienne (from Suite pour orgue, Op. 5)

Sicilienne (from Suite pour orgue, Op. 5)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Toccata, Adagio, and Fugue in C, BWV 564

Toccata, Adagio, and Fugue in C, BWV 564

Johann Strauss II (1825-1899)
“Mein Herr Marquis” from Die Fledermaus
Waltzerlied from Tausend und eine Nacht
Maria Miller, soprano

“Mein Herr Marquis” from Die Fledermaus
Waltzerlied from Tausend und eine Nacht
Maria Miller, soprano

Selections from Susanne van Soldt manuscript (1599)

Selections from Susanne van Soldt manuscript (1599)

Guy Bovet (b. 1942)
Fuga sopra un soggetto Salamanca

Fuga sopra un soggetto Salamanca

Naji Hakim (b. 1955)
Arabesques
II. Pastorale
III. Libanaise
IV. Arabesque

Arabesques
II. Pastorale
III. Libanaise
IV. Arabesque

Pamela Decker (b. 1955)
Tango Toccata

Tango Toccata

Tonight’s Concert Sponsored by:
Anonymous

Audio or video recording of this recital, using any device, is strictly prohibited without prior written consent of the performers.
A warm welcome to MUSIC IN MOVIES! I’m excited to share some of my favorite movie themes, several recent pieces written specifically for organ, and two of my own compositions that all share the sounds, melodies and feelings that we associate with the greatest orchestral scores for the big screen. Without a doubt, among our nation’s greatest contributions in the past century was the ability to capture and replay both acting and action, as well as to record the best musicians and singers for future generations to enjoy. That idea, and technology from the turn of the last century invented by Thomas Edison in Orange Park, New Jersey, quickly made its way across the country, and more recently into our theaters, cinemas, and even homes. It’s hard to imagine our lives without access to our favorite songs, our favorite movies, and the dreams they create.

From the onset of moving pictures, the pipe organ played an important role in helping create the mood, atmosphere and emotion for early movies with no recorded sound. The Mighty Wurlitzer became a common household term, and thousands flocked to the neighborhood movie theater in the 1920’s and 1930’s to leave reality behind and experience drama and theater on a screen. This, accompanied by a pipe organ specifically designed as an instrument capable of orchestral effects, percussion, sound effects and all the sounds we now hear through recorded music in movies. At that same time, some of the nation’s best classical and orchestral musicians shifted their focus from live concert performance to writing music for the silver screen, and joined by an army of gifted musicians, created the music that helps us dream, cry, scream and applaud.

Today, it’s rare to find a person who has not heard the names John Williams, Hans Zimmer, James Horner and others responsible for some of the greatest blockbuster movie scores of the past 40-50 years. As a budding classical organist, pianist, and composer, the influence of such music was unavoidable. I was surrounded and thrilled by what I heard behind movies like STAR WARS, E.T., RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK and countless others. The emotional impact of those composers had a dramatic effect even without the motion on the screen. In more recent years, blockbuster Disney animated films have featured amazing songs and music that is loved by old and young alike.

So, it seems appropriate, considering the organ’s diverse history and usefulness, to feature an evening of movie and cinematic style music on the Balboa Park Austin Pipe Organ, installed originally in 1914 in this beautiful setting as one of the most unique organ concert venues in the world. It is my hope that as the “old girl” and I become your orchestra for the night, that you will enjoy revisiting this great music spanning from the ‘70’s until now, and will be able to look up at the stars and dream!
Music in Movies
Star Wars, Interstellar, Frozen and Jurassic Park with Martin Ellis, and some surprises as well

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<td>2. Theme from E.T. the Extraterrestrial</td>
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<td>3. Theme from Harry Potter</td>
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<td>4. Theme from Raiders of the Lost Ark</td>
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<td>Hans Zimmer (b. 1957)</td>
<td>Medley from Interstellar</td>
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<td>arr. Katherine Cordova</td>
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<td>(adapted Ellis)</td>
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<td>Robert Lopez (b. 1975) and Kristen Anderson-Lopez (b. 1972)</td>
<td>Highlights from Frozen</td>
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<td>arr. Marianne Kim</td>
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<td>Do You Want to Build a Snowman</td>
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<td>For the First Time in Forever</td>
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<td>Love is an Open Door</td>
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<td>Let it Go</td>
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Audio or video recording of this recital, using any device, is strictly prohibited without prior written consent of the performers.

Tonight’s Concert Sponsored by:
Charles and Venita Ballinger
August 14 • 7:30pm

Brass and Organ Stereophonic Stravaganza
Eight Brass Musicians from the San Diego Symphony will join Raul Prieto Ramirez for a unique stereophonic sound experience inspired by The Great Renaissance tradition from Venice

Raúl Prieto Ramírez, organ/direction
Jaebon Hwang, organ
Christopher Smith, trumpet
Ray Nowak, trumpet
Jonah Levy, trumpet

Darby Hinshaw, French horn
Tricia Skye, French horn
Kyle Covington, trombone
Kyle Mendiguchia, trombone
Aaron McCalla, tuba

ORGAN AND TRUMPET SOLO
Christopher Smith, trumpet

Alessandro Marcello (1673-1747)
Concerto in D minor for Oboe and Orchestra D.935^
Andante e spiccato
Adagio
Presto

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)
Oh, Never Sing to Me Again, from 6 Romances Op. 4*
Arion, from 14 Romances Op. 34*

AN EARLY STEREOPHONIC STRAVAGANZA

Giovanni Bonaventura Viviani (1638-1693)
Sonate per Trombette Sola from Capricci Armonici da Chiesa e da Camera Op.4 (1678)
(arranged for three trumpets and organ by Raúl Prieto Ramírez)
Christopher Smith & Ray Nowak, on-stage trumpets; Jonah Levy, echo trumpet

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621)
Echo Fantasia in A minor, SwWV 275
(arranged for two trumpets and organ by Raúl Prieto Ramírez)
Christopher Smith, on-stage trumpet; Jonah Levy, echo trumpet

Gayle and Dwight Gordon
American Guild of Organists - San Diego Chapter

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Giovanni Gabrieli (1554-1612)
- Canzon XVI a 12 voices CH.209 (from Canzoni e Sonate, 1615)*
- Canzon in echo a 12 voices CH.192*
- Canzon per sonar Septimi e Octavi toni a 12 voices (from Sacrae Symphoniae, 1597)*

CHOIR 1
- Christopher Smith, trumpet
- Ray Nowak, trumpet
- Tricia Skye, French horn
- Kyle Mendiguchia, trombone

CHOIR 2
- Jonah Levy, trumpet
- Darby Hinshaw, French horn
- Kyle Covington, trombone
- Aaron McCalla, tuba

CHOIR 3 & BASSO SEGUENTE
- Jaebon Hwang, Organist

ON-STAGE GRAND FINALE
- Eugène Gigout (1844-1925)
  - Grand Choeur Dialoguë*

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)
- La fille aux cheveux de lin (from Book I of Préludes, 1910)#

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)
- Pomp and Circumstance March Op.39 No.1*

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)
- Ave Maria+

Texu Kim (b. 1980)
- Mir (미르) [Guest Featured Composer of the 2023 Festival]

Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)
- Finale in D minor (from Concerto for Organ and Orchestra No.1)*
  (* transcribed by Raúl Prieto Ramírez
  (+) transcribed by William Berry
  (#) transcribed by David Marlatt
  (^) transcribed by Hugo Ruf

Brass and Organ Stereophonic Stravaganza Cont.

August 14 • 7:30pm
From Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris
with Johann Vexo, Notre-Dame Cathedral organist

August 21 • 7:30pm

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Chaconne from Violin Partita No. 2
Transcription: H. Messerer | BWV 1004
Aria from Cantata Was mir behagt, ist nur die muntere Jagd
Transcription: A. Isoir | BWV 208
Sinfonia from Cantata Wir danken dir, Gott, wir danken dir
Transcription: M. Dupré | BWV 29

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
Variations sérieuses
Transcription: R. Smits | Op. 54

Franz Liszt (1811-1886)
Consolation in D flat
S. 171
Prelude and fugue on B.A.C.H.
S. 260

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)
Prelude - Sicilienne from Pelléas et Mélisande
Transcription: L. Robilliard

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)
Allegro Vivace
from Organ Symphony No. 5 | Op. 42 No. 1

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)
Clair de lune
from Suite bergamasque | Transcription: J.B. Robin

Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)
Final
from Sonata No. 1 | Op. 42

Tonight’s Concert Sponsored by:
Judith Trento and Michael Drummy in memory of Ron De Fields,
Robert Kilian, San Diego Diplomacy Council

Audio or video recording of this recital, using any device, is strictly prohibited without prior written consent of the performers.
Not-So-Silent Movie Night

August 28 • 7:30pm

Harold Lloyd’s “The Freshman” with renown
accompanist Clark Wilson

Tonight’s Concert Sponsored by:
Peter and Connie Van Putten In memory of Aunt Leona Johnson,
who loved Movie Night,
Robert and Geraldine Beattie, Gayle and Dwight Gordon

Audio or video recording of this recital, using any device, is strictly prohibited without prior written consent of
the performers.
September 4th 7:30pm

TINA TURNER TRIBUTE +

AC/DC
The Beatles
Van Halen
Heart
Led Zeppelin
Blondie
Black Sabbath

THE ORGAN PAVILION ROCK BAND
Including Live Visual Light Show
provided by 'Operation MINDBLOW'

Tonight's Concert Sponsored by:
Jerry, Lily, Ryan and Vivian Lang in loving memory of their grandparents, Vivian and Oberlin Evenson, founders, who gave so much of themselves and their treasure to the Spreckels Organ Society.
Balboa Park Twilight Concerts
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-7:30pm, June 21-August 24.

- **June 21**: Hillcrest Wind Ensemble
- **June 22**: San Diego Concert Band
- **June 27**: Marcia Forman Band
- **June 28**: Jazz Jammers
- **June 29**: Charlie Chavez y su Afrotruko
- **July 4**: No Concert/Holiday
- **July 5**: Blondiego
- **July 6**: 3 Car Garage
- **July 11**: American Fly Boyz
- **July 12**: Pomerado Community Band
- **July 13**: Ginger Cowgirl
- **July 18**: Back Pocket Whiskey Fellas
- **July 19**: Bayou Brothers
- **July 20**: Classic Buzz Band
- **July 25**: 8 Track Highway
- **July 26**: New Catillacs
- **July 27**: Rockin’ Jazz Band
- **Aug 1**: Summer Winds Orchestra
- **Aug 2**: Santanaways
- **Aug 3**: Jimmy’s Buffet
- **Aug 8**: Moxie
- **Aug 9**: Jack Attack
- **Aug 10**: Moonlight Serenade (Ice Cream Social)
- **Aug 15**: Kearny Mesa Concert Band
- **Aug 16**: Mariachi Continental de San Diego
- **Aug 17**: The Stoney B Blues Band
- **Aug 22**: Coronado Concert Band
- **Aug 23**: Lady J & Soulful Knights
- **Aug 24**: Navy Band Southwest
The San Diego International Summer Organ Festival in Balboa Park has always been committed to making the high-quality musical heritage of humanity available for everyone in a welcoming and all-inclusive setting - and what a unique setting we have! In 2023, with our 35th festival, we begin a new chapter by adding a commitment to contribute to broadening the boundaries of the musical creation of our time.

Thus, we are proud to present the first Festival Featured Guest Composer: Korean-born Texu Kim. Texu’s compositional work combines the rich cultural heritage of South Korea with the most advanced musical languages and techniques from our time. He manages to merge those elements in an exciting and approachable way for a wide audience. Two of his musical compositions will be featured during this 2023 festival: Pahdo - written in 2018 - will be performed by the San Diego Civic Organist during his July 10th concert, and Mir (mɪɾ) - a new commissioned work for this festival - will be premiered during the August 14th concert by a Brass Octet and Organ. Those attending the August 14th concert will be the first ever to experience this new music composition. It's music that never existed before, so don’t miss out!

Raúl Prieto Ramírez
Artistic Director and San Diego Civic Organist
Texu Kim (b. 1980) is "one of the most active and visible composers of his generation" (San Francisco Classical Voice), writing music that’s fun, sophisticated, and culturally connected. Drawing on his personal affinity for humor, his background in science, and his fascination with everyday experiences, Kim’s work radiates positivity, offering "major-league cuteness" (Broadway World) while demonstrating "surprising scope." (San Diego Story) As a Korean-American, Kim explores the localization of imported traditions, incorporating cross-cultural elements into his work in "impressive and special" ways so that "many orchestras and conductors around the world are taking an interest in [his] music." (KPBS) By highlighting the interaction between folk culture and external influences, Kim creates meaningful depth while maintaining a signature playfulness and exuberance that is listener-friendly and engaging. Characterized by “exuberant, colorful washes of sound... punchy bass lines, snappy brass fanfares, and suave... solos” (San Diego Story), Kim’s music is at times “explosively virtuosic” (Wall Street Journal) but always uplifting and rewarding for both listeners and performers.

Kim’s work has enjoyed an impressive international performance history from a roster of top orchestras and ensembles, including the New York Philharmonic, the San Francisco Opera Orchestra, the San Francisco Symphony, the Minnesota Orchestra, the New World Symphony, the Oakland Symphony, the Oregon Symphony, the San Diego Symphony, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the National Orchestra of Korea, Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra, Gyeonggi Philharmonic Orchestra, Ensemble Intercontemporain, Ensemble Modern, Alarm Will Sound, Ensemble Reconsil Vienna, New York Classical Players, Ensemble 212, AsianArt Ensemble Berlin, Ensemble Mise-en, Fear No Music, Ensemble TIMF, Northwestern University New Music Ensemble, Indiana University New Music Ensemble, C4: Choral Composer/Conductor Collective, NOTUS, Red Clay Saxophone Quartet, the Verona Quartet, and more. Having served as the Composer-in-Residence of the Korean Symphony Orchestra (2014-18), Kim has appeared at Yeowoorak Festival, Walla Walla Chamber Music Festival, PyeongChang Music Festival and School, Bruckner Festival, SONiC Festival, Mizzou International Composers Festival, June in Buffalo, Aspen Music Festival, SCI National Conferences, Composers Conference, and Oregon Bach Festival. The Opening Ceremony of the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games and the Piece & Piano Festival featured Kim’s balanced and
well-crafted arrangements, which may also be heard on numerous commercial albums. A frequent collaborator with choreographers, filmmakers, and educators, Kim has received awards and honors from the Barlow Prize, American Modern Ensemble, Copland House, SCI/ASCAP, Civitella Ranieri Foundation, and Isang Yun International Composition Prize, to name a few, in addition to winning a Silver Medal in the 1998 International Chemistry Olympiad (Melbourne, Australia).

Kim’s recent/upcoming projects include the world premiere of fffanfare!! commissioned by the San Francisco Opera in September 2022; performances of Dub-Sanjo by the Korean National Symphony Orchestra during their Europe tour in October 2022; the world premiere of Ritus Sanitatem by the Verona Quartet in March 2023, co-commissioned by Texas Performing Arts at the University of Texas at Austin with support of the Kahng Foundation and for the Smithsonian's National Museum of Asian Art in honor of its 2023 centennial with support from the Bill and Mary Meyer Concert Series Endowment; the world premiere of Welcome Home!! by the San Diego Symphony (also a part of the California Festival) in November 2023; and lɾlɾ commissioned by the Barlow Endowment that will be premiered in 2024 by Alarm Will Sound, the London Sinfonietta, the Oakland Symphony, and The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra.

An assistant professor of music at San Diego State University, Kim formerly taught at Syracuse University, Portland State University, and Lewis & Clark College. Kim is the Artist-of-the-Year of the Busan Philharmonic Orchestra and the director of the Korean Symphony Orchestra’s Composers’ Atelier program, educating and commissioning up-and-coming composers; he has also served as co-director of Ensemble 212’s ‘New Music for Young Audience’ series, and acted as a curator and board member for the Korean Cultural Society of Boston’s ‘New Music Symposium.’ Having earned his D.M. from Indiana University and prior degrees from Seoul National University, Kim’s greatest mentors include Unsuk Chin, David Dzubay, Sven-David Sandstrom, Claude Baker, and Sangjick Jun.

(Bio by Aligned Artistry)
James Kealey

Winner of the First Prize and Audience Prize at the 2022 American Guild of Organists’ National Young Artists Competition in Organ performance (NYACOP), James Kealey is a young artist of great distinction who has appeared in recital in England, the U.S.A., and in Europe.

Previous engagements include recitals at Westminster Abbey UK; Methuen Memorial Music Hall, MA; St John the Divine, NYC; and recitals for many AGO chapters around the country. Upcoming engagements include concerts across the U.S.A., including a solo organ recital at the 2024 National Convention of the American Guild of Organists in San Francisco.

A native of Great Britain, James came to the U.S.A. having held positions at notable English Cathedrals. He received his undergraduate degree from Royal Holloway, University of London, and worked as Senior Organ Scholar to the Chapel Choir there in their series of live broadcasts, international tours, CD recordings, weekly services, and concerts.

In the spring of 2020, James completed his Master of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music in Organ Performance and Literature. In 2021 he was honored to be named one of The Diapason’s “20 under 30”, an accolade awarded to the most successful young artists in the field.

Currently, James serves as full time Associate Director of Music/Organist at Third Presbyterian Church in Rochester, NY. In this capacity he accompanies the Chancel Choir and directs the Third Church Choristers. Alongside this position, James is a candidate for the Doctor of Music Arts degree at the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY in the studio of Prof. David Higgs.

James is represented in North America by Karen McFarlane Artists, Inc.
Robert York began his musical career at age 14 and over the decades has performed for a wide range of audiences throughout the west coast of the United States and Europe.

His early training began with Sr. Myrtle Edmondson, Portland, OR, a Masters degree years later with David York, Long Beach, and ongoing study in Paris, France of literature and improvisation with Sophie-Veronique Choplin, and with Françoise Levechin of the Paris Conservatory.

Robert made his European concert debut in 2009 in Poland, his Paris, France debut in 2011 at the historic St. Sulpice church and in Belgium in 2016.

Mr. York has performed for such notables as: President Ronald and Nancy Reagan, Bob Hope, Richard Gere, Cindy Crawford, Red Buttons, Phyllis Diller, Connie Stevens, Woody Harrelson, Gina Lollobrigida, Patti LaBelle, Michael Feinstein, Steve Allen, Tippi Hedren, and the rock band Anthrax to name a few. He has had the pleasure of performing with Shirley Jones, Ruta Lee, jazz legend Ronny Whyte, and with Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis, Jr. of The 5th Dimension.

Recently he has been in demand as one of the few organists expert in improvising silent film scores and is featured regularly at the historic Old Town Music Hall in El Segundo, the historic Mission Inn, Riverside and throughout southern California.
Raúl Prieto Ramírez is San Diego Civic Organist where he presents over 55 concerts a year - most of which entirely from memory. His career is primarily that of a concert artist with a busy schedule that takes him to major festivals and concert halls around the world. He is also regularly featured for master classes both sides of the Atlantic. His performances have been described by critics as “sizzling”, iconoclastic”, “impeccable”, and “transcendent”.

At age 27, as the first Organist of Spain’s National Concert Hall in Madrid, he increased attendance by a multiple of 30 and critics hailed him as one of the most exciting talents in the music scene. He later founded the International Organ Festival/Academy in Barcelona, the Sursa American Organ Competition in partnership with Moscow and served as organ consultant for both religious and civil institutions.

A former student of Ludger Lohmann and Leonid Sintsev, Mr. Ramírez expanded his musicological-informed interpretation skills with Marie-Claire Alain, Guy Bovet, Lionel Rogg, Zsigmond Szathmáry, and Luigi Ferdinando Tagliavini among others. The premieres of his works have been recorded and broadcast in Spain, including a concerto for organ and orchestra that was premiered in Barcelona.

In June 2016, Mr. Ramírez and his wife, Spanish pianist Maria Teresa Sierra, were featured duo artists at the American Guild of Organists’ national convention in Houston.

Mr. Ramírez’s first compact discs on Brilliant Classics were recorded at Milan Cathedral and at the Palau de la Música in Barcelona.

Raúl Prieto Ramírez is represented in North America exclusively by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC
Superb artistry in the lost art of organ transcription...To play that many lines with only ten fingers is technical wizardry, but to do it with feeling and magic is indeed rare. The combination is exciting and captivating.” (American Record Guide)

Peter Richard Conte’s nearly unparalleled technical facility, brilliant ear for lush tonal color, and innovative programming style have made him one of the nation’s most sought-after “orchestral” organists. In 1989, he was appointed Wanamaker Grand Court Organist at what is now the Macy’s Department Store in Philadelphia—the fourth person to hold that title since the organ first played in 1911. He performs many of the twice daily recitals on the largest (29,000+ pipes) fully functioning musical instrument in the world. Mr. Conte is also Principal Organist of Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA, Organist/Choirmaster of St. Clement’s Church, Philadelphia, a frequent collaborator and soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra and Philly Pops.

Mr. Conte is widely revered as a masterful performer and arranger of organ transcriptions. He has been regularly featured on National Public Radio, and on ABC television’s “Good Morning America” and “World News Tonight.” For 13 years he was heard on “The Wanamaker Organ Hour” radio show on the internet at WRTI.ORG. He has been a featured artist at several American Guild of Organists’ national and regional conventions, and has performed as soloist with numerous orchestras across the U.S.

Peter Richard Conte has served as Adjunct Assistant Professor of Organ at Westminster Choir College, Princeton, NJ, where he taught organ improvisation. He is the 2008 recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Indiana University School of Music, Bloomington. In 2013, the Philadelphia Music Alliance honored him with a bronze plaque on the Avenue of the Arts’ Walk of Fame. His numerous recordings appear on the Gothic, JAV, Pro Organo, Dorian, Raven, and DTR labels.

Peter Richard Conte is represented exclusively in North America by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC.
Dr. Nicole Simental is currently the Director of Music at the St. Thomas More Newman Center at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. Prior to this appointment, she served as the Assistant Director of Music and Principal Organist at St. Joseph Cathedral in Columbus, Ohio. She is a consummate keyboardist, having studied piano since the age of seven, organ since the age of 10, and harpsichord throughout her undergraduate studies at Oberlin. Dr. Simental received the Doctor of Music degree in Organ Performance, with a minor in Choral Conducting and Music Theory from Indiana University’s Jacobs School of Music in Bloomington, IN. Nicole’s strong passion is in Sacred Music and handing down the faith through music for the Glory of God and the salvation of souls. Therefore, for her dissertation, “O Beauty ever Ancient, ever New” she created a resource of Gregorian adaptations and accompaniments in Spanish to supplement the sacred music for Hispanic churches. She earned her Masters in Sacred Music from The University of Notre Dame and Bachelor of Music degree in Organ Performance from Wheaton College, and completed additional studies at Oberlin College. Her past instructors include Paula Benalcazar, David Schrader, David Boe, Webb Wiggins, Edward Zimmerman, Delbert Disselhorst, Craig Cramer, and Christopher Young.

For the past several years, Nicole has held many posts as a church musician and university accompanist across the country. At the age of twelve, she was appointed as organist of St. Gabriel’s Catholic Church in her hometown of Chicago. Upon moving to Oberlin, she accompanied the College’s Concert Choir. Subsequently she served as the accompanist for the Women’s Chorale and Opera Music Theater Program at Wheaton College. During her tenure at the University of Notre Dame she held the position of Graduate Assistant to the Notre Dame Liturgical and Women’s Choirs. Additionally, she served as the organist at Christ the King Lutheran Church in South Bend, Indiana. After moving to Bloomington, she was the Organ Scholar at Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis. She also has served as the Assistant Music Director at First Christian Church and accompanist at St. Paul’s Catholic Church in Bloomington, Indiana.

In 2016 she won the Immanuel Lutheran Organ Scholar Award and she was the co-winner at the First Sursa American Organ Competition at Ball State University. Additionally, she was a semifinalist for the National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance. In September of 2016, she was awarded 1st prize at the IV International Goedicke Organ Competition at the Moscow Conservatory in Moscow, Russia. In 2018 she was a Boston Bach Prizewinner (3rd prize) at the Boston Bach International Organ Competition. She has played for the OHS Convention in 2017, 2018 as well as the AGO Regional Convention in Grand Rapids in 2019. She has performed on the St. Joseph Cathedral Concert Series in 2017 and 2020. In 2020, under the direction of Morten Lauridson, she performed his Lux Aeterna at Wheaton College. In addition to performing, she has taught at the San Diego and Cape Cod POE’s.
Organist Emma Whitten serves as Music Coordinator at Church of the Immaculate Conception in San Diego, and as Associate Organist at Christ Cathedral in Garden Grove, home to the renowned Hazel Wright Organ. In celebration of the organ’s restoration, Emma recorded her debut album (Hazel Is Back!) with Gothic Records. Emma also teaches as Adjunct Professor of Music at Concordia University, Irvine, and maintains a private studio in Oceanside. She holds degrees in organ performance from the University of Notre Dame, University of Kansas, and Arizona State University.

www.emmawhitten.com

Soprano Maria Miller holds a Master of Music from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She received her Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance and Bachelor of Arts in English from Louisiana State University. She is a member of the San Diego Opera Chorus, and has performed locally with the San Diego Master Chorale, Sacra/Profana, Pacific Lyric Opera, and Lyric Opera of Orange County. In the Bay Area, she performed with the San Francisco Symphony Chorus, West Edge Opera, Pocket Opera, Opera San Jose, as well as premiering new music with the Berkeley-based group Wild Rumpus. Now residing in North San Diego County, she teaches private voice and piano in Oceanside. www.literarysoprano.com
Martin Ellis is a unique artist who challenges the stereotypes and bridges the boundaries of traditional classical organ, theatre organ, and orchestral music, presenting dynamic concert programming with a vast musical variety. For almost four decades, his experience as a church musician, studio organist and pianist, choral accompanist, and musical theatre teacher and conductor have culminated in an ever-growing pallet of musical genres and styles. These genres and styles are integrated into a cohesive concert experience that speaks to a variety of ages and musical tastes.

Originally hailing from the Indianapolis, Indiana area, Martin was actively involved as a church organist and director for a number of large congregations for many years. He held the position of symphony organist for the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, and served as a recording organist for several major publishing firms recording out of studios in Indianapolis.

In 2013, Mr. Ellis relocated to his current home in Portland, Oregon. Since that time, he has held posts at several area churches, while maintaining a national presence as a concert organist and professional accompanist. In recent years, Martin has worked as a musical director, vocal coach, and pianist for five large high school theater departments, presenting eleven musical productions to date. In addition, he is currently directing and teaching students in preparation for regional and state thespian musical theatre competitions. Martin is currently the Director of Music/Organist for Vancouver First United Methodist Church where he leads a comprehensive and growing music department and community concert venue.

He is co-founder of the Ellis/Bergman Duo with Linda Bergman, flutist, and maintains an active concert and recording schedule in the Portland area. When time presents itself, he enjoys trips to the beautiful Oregon coast with his partner of five years now and their two brother and sister chihuahuas.
Christopher Smith, Principal Trumpet of the San Diego Symphony Orchestra brings nearly 20 years of major orchestral and ensemble experience to the role. Prior to joining the SDSO, he was 4th/Utility Trumpet with l’Orchestre symphonique de Montréal (OSM) for 11 years, and served as Acting Associate Principal Trumpet from 2015-18. He has performed with OSM on eight international tours (two as Associate Principal Trumpet), numerous live broadcasts on Mezzo TV and Medici.tv (several as Principal Trumpet), and five recordings, including as lead trumpet on MIKA et l’Orchestre symphonique de Montréal.

San Diego Symphony Orchestra trumpeter Ray Nowak was born in Los Angeles and has performed a wide variety of trumpet freelance engagements throughout Southern California. Mr. Nowak was an active and founding member of the Presidio Brass Quintet, and has also performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the La Jolla Music Society SummerFest, the London Philharmonic, the Pacific Symphony, Opera Pacific, the Canadian Brass and the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.
Darby Hinshaw joined the San Diego Symphony Orchestra in 2011. Prior to his arrival in San Diego, Darby Hinshaw made a place for himself in the many regional symphony orchestras in Northern California, playing principal horn in the Marin Symphony, Santa Rosa Symphony and Stockton Symphony. Over a period of six years as a freelancer, he would appear with the horn sections of 16 different orchestras, traveling all over the Bay Area and parts of the San Joaquin Valley. He also performed frequently with the San Francisco Symphony and appears on their recent recordings of Mahler’s 2nd and 8th Symphonies on SFS Media, as well as the Mahler episode of the Keeping Score series on PBS.

Kyle R. Covington is a native Californian. Mr. Covington earned his Bachelor of Music degree from The Juilliard School in 2006 where he was accepted with a presidential distinction scholarship. He studied with Joseph Alessi of the New York Philharmonic. Mr. Covington was the winner of the Van Haney tenor trombone competition in 2005. Kyle has performed in Breckenridge, Colorado, with the National Repertory Orchestra, the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, California, the Pacific Music Festival in Sapporo, Japan, and the Aspen Music Festival in Colorado. He has toured with the New York Philharmonic and performed with the San Francisco Symphony.
Aaron McCalla, a native of Dallas, TX, has performed around the world in orchestras as a soloist, as a chamber musician, and in rock bands. In 2022 he became Principal Tuba of the San Diego Symphony Orchestra. Mr. McCalla comes to the San Diego Symphony from the Naples Philharmonic, where he has been Principal Tuba for the past 17 years. Before that, he was the Principal Tuba for the Colorado Symphony for 3 years. In addition, Mr. McCalla has performed with the New York Philharmonic, the Boston Symphony, toured with the Boston Pops, and also performed with the orchestras of Albany, Vermont, Rhode Island, Jacksonville, Tampa and Sarasota.

Jonah Levy is a Los Angeles-based trumpet player, teacher, recording artist and soloist, and San Diego Symphony Acting 2nd Trumpet. He recently held positions as Associate Principal Trumpet of the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, Third/Associate trumpet of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra and Guest Principal Trumpet of the Orquesta Filarmonica de Jalisco. Mr. Levy is equally at home in the worlds of studio recording, contemporary classical music, jazz and experimental art, and was lauded by The New Yorker's Alex Ross as an “assassin of the ordinary” for his appearance on a rooftop in The Industry’s opera Hopscotch. As a studio musician, he can be heard on shows such as Agents of SHIELD, Umbrella Academy, Star Trek: Discovery, Star Trek: Picard, Star Trek: Lower Decks, Star Trek: Strange New Worlds, DC's Stargirl, Guardians of The Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind at EPCOT and Barbra Streisand's album Encore. He recently appeared at Coachella and the Hollywood Bowl with Danny Elfman.
San Diego Symphony bass trombonist Kyle Mendiguchia, a San Diego native, was formerly the bass trombonist with the Pacific Symphony, and before that the Naples Philharmonic in Florida. Mr. Mendiguchia has served one-year appointments with the New York City Ballet Orchestra, the Utah Symphony and, before winning the full-time position through audition, the San Diego Symphony. Mr. Mendiguchia also served as bass trombonist for the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra and ABT Orchestra in New York City. He has performed extensively throughout the United States.

Tricia Skye began playing French horn with the San Diego Symphony Orchestra in 1998. Prior to that, she studied privately with Jerry Folsom, former co-principal horn of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, as well as with James Decker and Joseph Meyer, both studio musicians. After finishing high school Ms. Skye played principal horn with the Debut Orchestra and the American Youth Symphony under the baton of Mehli Mehta. At the age of 20 Ms. Skye won a position with the Philharmonic of the Nations, a touring orchestra based out of Germany; she spent the next year traveling and performing all over the world. After returning to Los Angeles, Ms. Skye worked as a recording musician, playing for numerous records, television shows and movies. Ms. Skye has performed concerts with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Toronto Symphony, Phoenix Symphony and the Louisiana Philharmonic as well as the Mainly Mozart festival in San Diego and the former San Diego Chamber Orchestra.
Jaebon Hwang is Director of Music Ministries and Organist at First United Methodist Church of San Diego. Previously she has served as Organist at Westwood United Methodist Church in Los Angeles and Assistant Organist at First Congregational Church of Los Angeles.

Awarded Fellow of American Guild of Organists (FAGO), the organization’s highest level of certification in 2011, she completed her Doctor of Musical Arts at the University of Southern California in 2019, studying organ with Dr. Ladd Thomas. Prior to her organ study, she earned degrees in Composition and Scoring for Film & Multimedia from Korea National University of Arts and New York University, respectively.

Featured at the West Region Conventions of the American Guild of Organists in 2017 and 2019 and at the AGO OrganFest 2021, Dr. Hwang maintains an active performance schedule as a recitalist and as a collaborative artist. She has worked with such prestigious organizations as Los Angeles Opera and San Diego Symphony and participated in the recording of the “Hollywood Epic Brass” with in-demand studio musicians in 2014 and recently the “Mysterium” with violinist, Anne Akiko Meyers and the Los Angeles Master Chorale in 2022.
Johann Vexo was born in 1978 in the northeastern French city of Nancy. At age 25 he was appointed Choir Organist at the Cathedral of Notre Dame, Paris. Soon thereafter he was appointed Organist of the Cavaillé-Coll organ of the Cathedral in Nancy. After teaching at the Angers Conservatory for ten years, he is now Professor of Organ at the Conservatory and the Superior Music Academy in Strasbourg.

He first studied organ with Christophe Mantoux, and also early music and harpsichord, at the Strasbourg Conservatory, where he was awarded Premier Prix in organ. He continued his studies at the Paris Conservatory where his teachers included Michel Bouvard and Olivier Latry (organ) and Thierry Escaich and Philippe Lefebvre (improvisation). He earned Premier Prix in both organ and basso continuo and additional prizes in harmony and counterpoint.

Vexo has performed extensively throughout Europe, the United States, Canada, Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, and Russia. He has appeared as a featured artist in numerous international music festivals and organ series in cities such as Atlanta, Auckland, Chicago, Dallas, Geneva, Los Angeles, Melbourne, Montréal, Munich, New York, Porto, Saint Petersburg, San Francisco, Seattle, and Vienna. His performances have been in notable venues such as the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C., the Wanamaker Grand Court Organ in Philadelphia, Westminster Abbey in London, the Kultur- und Kongresszentrum Luzern, St. Mary’s Cathedral in Sydney, the Moscow Conservatory, and the Metropolitan Cathedral in Mexico City. He has also performed with various orchestras and musical ensembles.

Known for his supportive and captivating teaching style, Vexo has taught master classes for numerous chapters of the American Guild of Organists, and at Rice University, Curtis Institute of Music, Westminster Choir College, Aveiro University, Portugal, and the University of Michigan.

Johann Vexo has made several recordings on historic French organs. His most recent recording, performed on the great organ of Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris, was released on the JAV label. He has over 50 performance videos featured on YouTube.

Johann Vexo is represented in North America exclusively by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC.
Clark Wilson is one of the most prominent and recognized scorers of silent photoplays in America today. He works exclusively with the Organ in developing accurate and historic musical accompaniments as they were performed in major picture palaces during the heyday of the silent film.

Clark was personally influenced by, and subsequently became close friends with Chicago area organist John Muri, who was an original master of picture accompaniment and practiced his art well into the 1980s. His (and Wilson’s) historic style was that of utilizing fine music as a basis for developing a score of musical value. If the original score is no longer extant, a new one is prepared from the organist’s library and is normally transferred to a cue sheet – somewhat of a “road map” of suggested themes and notated screen actions which keep the organist fully on course. The development of themes in serious pictures is obtained exclusively in this way, and it must be considered the truest way to properly underscore screen action. Nothing is left to chance and wholesale improvisation is not relied upon. Further, the musical style of the time remains intact; no attempt is made to distract from the picture by using themes or styles that entered the musical scene years later. Most important of all, the film remains the focus and star of the performance.

Clark has been organ conservator and Resident Organist at the Ohio Theatre for the Columbus Associate for the Performing Arts since 1992 and is responsible for all music during the annual classic movie series, which also features one or more major silent films each season. In addition, he led courses in theatre organ styling and silent film accompaniment at the Indiana University School of Music; and developed curriculum during his faculty appointment at the University of Oklahoma’s Organ Department, where he taught applied theatre organ lessons, silent film scoring, and the history of the American theatre organ, the first such program to exist since 1929. In addition to several articles published in Theatre Organ magazine, he has recently authored an article on film scoring for The American Organist magazine, periodical of the American Guild of Organists.

Wilson has been named in numerous Who’s Who and Men of Achievement editions and was presented with the ATOS Organist of the Year award in 1998. An acclaimed organ technician and consultant, he has also been professionally involved with over 200 pipe organ installations to date and has earned the ATOS Technician of Merit award, the only person to receive both ATOS distinctions.
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Silent Film

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<td>8' Grand Diapason 73 Pipes</td>
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<td>8' Tibia Plena 73 Pipes</td>
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<td>4' Trompette Clarion 61 Pipes 1988</td>
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<td>Reeds On Great</td>
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<td>8' Centennial Tuba Solo</td>
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<td>8' Centennial Tuba Swell 61 Pipes 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chimes Solo</td>
<td>Wood Block*</td>
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<td>Harp Choir</td>
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<td>Glockenspiel  Choir, Solo*</td>
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