



METHUEN
MEMORIAL
MUSIC HALL

METHUEN MEMORIAL MUSIC HALL MMMh UPDATE

NUMBER 16

MARCH 2011

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our 2011 Season, extending from April through December, includes widely varied events, and features outstanding musical programs, superb artists and reasonable ticket prices. This exciting programming encompasses weekday and weekend performances; classical, traditional and popular repertoire; and solo and ensemble artists.

Long recognized as the premier showcase for organ performance on an historic instrument in the nation, our fifteen-week Wednesday evening Organ Recital Series begins on May 25 and continues through August 31. Extraordinarily talented organists from across the United States, Germany and Italy will perform on the Great Organ.

This issue of the newsletter provides information about all the 2011 season offerings, including a silent movie screening with organ accompaniment, the Sally Slade Warner Memorial Concert, and the Berj Zamkochian Memorial Organ Recital featuring Janette Fishell; as well as, our community outreach programs aimed at engaging our area's youth in fine music.

We sincerely appreciate your interest, patronage and financial support. Thank you for helping us to maintain the fine performance tradition at the Music Hall, and to continue to preserve the Great Organ as a stunning example of the "King of Instruments".

Ed Sampson

EVENT LINE

Recorded information on Music Hall recitals and concerts, sponsored by the Board of Trustees, is available twenty-four hours a day by calling (978) 685-0693.

MMMh ON-LINE

The MMMh website (www.mmmh.org) provides detailed information on all Board of Trustees-sponsored recitals and concerts; a history, description and stop list of the Great Organ; a history of the Music Hall; and mail order information about available compact discs and DVDs.

WHERE WE ARE

The Methuen Memorial Music Hall is located at 192 Broadway (Route 28) in Methuen, Massachusetts. Methuen lies between Lawrence, Massachusetts to the south and Salem, New Hampshire to the north. It is 28 miles north of Boston.

The two principal interstate highways in the area are Routes 93 and 495. From Route 93, travel to Exit No. 48 for Route 213. Go east on Route 213 and exit at Route 28. Turn right at the end of the exit ramp and head south on Route 28 about 1/2 mile through Methuen center to the Music Hall on the right. From Route 495, travel to Exit No. 47 for Route 213. Go west on Route 213 and exit at Route 28. Turn left at the end of the exit ramp and head south on Route 28 about 3/4 mile through Methuen center to the Music Hall on the right.

A BRIEF HISTORY

The Great Organ was originally built during the years 1857 through 1863 in Ludwigsburg, Germany by the firm of E. F. Walcker and Company for the Boston Music Hall. This first concert organ in the United States exerted considerable influence on American organ design and construction during the latter part of the 19th-century.

Edward F. Searles of Methuen purchased the instrument in 1897, rebuilt it and erected it in a specially built concert hall designed by the English architect Henry Vaughan. In 1947, G. Donald Harrison of the Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company of Boston completed an extensive tonal reconstruction. Today, the organ's resources include four manuals, five divisions, 85 stops, 116 ranks and 6,088 pipes.

WE ARE A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

The Methuen Memorial Music Hall, Inc. is a private, nonprofit organization established to preserve the famed Great Organ. It was incorporated in 1946 under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and was granted a tax-exempt status in accordance with Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code in 1949. Financial contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

2011 SEASON

ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

Fifteen Wednesday Evenings at 8:00 P.M.
Doors open at 7:30 P.M.; Tickets at the door
Adults: \$12.00; Children: \$5.00

May 25 Raymond Nagem
New York, New York
Works by Buxtehude, Schumann, Wammes, Reger,
Messiaen, Dupré and Bach
Sponsored by Kenneth H. Pollard Funeral Home, Inc.

June 1 Daniel Jay McKinley
Ipswich, Massachusetts
Works by Karg-Elert, Hindemith, Bridge, Wagner and
Reubke
Sponsored by Mark Dirksen - Keller Williams Realty

June 8 Peter Edwin Krasinski
with Dustin Patrick, percussion
Brookline, Massachusetts
Works by Holst, Elmore, Hovhaness, Hampton,
Peck, Ravel and Franck
Sponsored by Betty M. Couilliard, MMMH Trustee

June 15 Brenda Lynne Leach
Baltimore, Maryland
Works by Mendelssohn-Hensel, Gárdonyi, Sixten,
Bach, Alain, Franck and Vierne
Sponsored by Randy Steere

June 22 John Weaver
with Marianne Weaver, flute
West Glover, Vermont
Works by Bach, Mozart, Weaver, Karg-Elert and
Callahan
Sponsored by Richard A. Kenney

June 29 Marko Petričić
Indianapolis, Indiana
Willoughby Frederick and Emma Jacobson Watts
Memorial Organ Recital
Works by Franck, Conte, Karg-Elert, Eben, Guilmant
and Duruflé

July 6 Leo Abbott
Boston, Massachusetts
Works by Dubois, Mendelssohn, Schumann, Liszt,
Guilmant, Vierne and Franck
Sponsored by Donald and Aline Petzold

July 13 Andrew Scanlon
Greenville, North Carolina
C. Marshall Caras Memorial Organ Recital
Summer Scholarship Fund Organ Recital
Works by Mendelssohn, Barber, Messiaen, Bairstow,
Widor, Bach and Jongen

July 20 AGO Boston Pipe Organ Encounters Faculty

Faythe Freese, James Higdon, Jack Mitchener,
Alan Morrison, Peter Sykes and Todd Wilson
Works by Sowerby, Eben, Töpfer, Hakim, Widor,
Shearing, Alain and Reger
Sponsored by Tallman Eye Associates

July 27 Michael Kleinschmidt
Portland, Oregon
Works by Buxtehude, Mozart, Dupré, Saint-Saëns,
Langlais and Vierne
Sponsored by Pentucket Bank

August 3 Hans U. Hielscher
Wiesbaden, Germany
Works by Bédard, Pasini, Rheinberger and Hielscher
Sponsored by Enterprise Bank

August 10 Rosalind Mohansen
Malden, Massachusetts
Works by Reger, Bach, Schumann, Liszt, Dunham,
Saint-Saëns, Alkan and Mulet
Sponsored by Campbell Steward

August 17 Mark Steinbach
Providence, Rhode Island
Works by Glass, Heiller, Debussy, Robinson, Liszt
and Messiaen
Sponsored by Salem Co-operative Bank

August 24 Andrew P. Sheranian
Dorchester, Massachusetts
Works by Bach, Duruflé, Maroney and Rheinberger
Sponsored by The Savings Bank

August 31 Luca Massaglia
with Isabella Stabio, Saxophone
Turin, Italy
Works by Wunderlich, Ponchielli, Prokofiev, Vierne,
Stravinsky, Tchaikovsky, Alain, Piazzolla and Stamm
Sponsored by Broadhurst Tabit LLP

SPECIAL EVENTS

Saturday, April 30, 8:00 P.M.
Silent Movie: "The King of Kings" (1927)
Organ Accompanist: Peter Edwin Krasinski
Doors open at 7:30 P.M.; Tickets at the door
Adults: \$15.00, Students: \$10.00
*Sponsored by Demoulas Foundation and
Michaud Insurance Agency, Inc.*

Saturday, September 10, 2:00 and 7:30 P.M.
Sunday, September 11, 3:00 P.M.
Methuen Young People's Theatre
Gilbert and Sullivan: "The Sorcerer"
Adults: \$10.00, Children: \$5.00
Advance Tickets: Mail order, with check made
payable to MYPT, after August 1 to Mrs. Janet Jaber,
205 Forest Street, Methuen, MA 01844-2333.
(Please specify if tickets are to be held at the door or
mailed back. A stamped return envelope is

appreciated.) Any remaining tickets will be available for purchase at the door.

Friday, September 16, 8:00 P.M.

Sally Slade Warner Memorial Concert

Organ: Leo Abbott, Barbara Bruns,

Mark Dwyer, John and Carolyn Skelton

Piano: Charles Callahan and

Christopher Walter

Reception Following

Doors open at 7:30 P.M.

Free Admission

Contributions to the Organ Fund in memory of

Sally Slade Warner to be solicited

Friday, September 30, 8:00 P.M.

Fall Scholarship Fund Organ Recital

Joseph R. Olefirowicz

Doors open at 7:30 P.M.; Tickets at the door

Adults: \$12.00, Students: \$5.00

Sponsored by Georgetown Savings Bank

Friday, October 21, 8:00 P.M.

Berj Zamkochian Memorial Organ Recital

Janette Fishell

Chair of the Organ Department,

Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University

Doors open at 7:30 P.M.; Tickets at the door

Adults: \$20.00; Children: \$5.00

Sponsored by the Gomidas Organ Fund, Inc.

Friday, December 2, 7:00 to 9:00 P.M.

Open House; Music and Displays; Free Admission

Saturday, December 3, 7:30 P.M.

Sunday, December 4, 3:00 P.M.

"A Merry Music Hall Christmas"

Organ: Douglas Major

Trumpets: Eric Berlin and Richard Watson

Reserved: \$20, Non-Reserved: \$15, Children: \$5

Advance Tickets: Call, after November 1,

(978) 685-0693. Any remaining tickets will be

available for purchase at the door.

RECITAL SERIES SUBSCRIPTIONS

Series subscriptions to all 15 Wednesday evening Organ Recitals are available at substantial savings. Subscription rates are \$125.00 for an individual, \$225.00 for a couple and \$400.00 for an organization (admits 6). Tickets purchased at the door are priced at \$12.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12 years of age. Subscribe using the order/contribution form.

EDWARD F. SEARLES SOCIETY

Prompted by the recent substantial bequest of former Music Hall Trustee Sally Slade Warner to the corporation, the Board of Trustees has established the Edward F. Searles Society to recognize

individuals who have remembered the Music Hall through planned giving. By including the corporation in your estate planning, you will help to ensure the future of the Music Hall and our programming for years to come. Opportunities for planned giving are numerous, including: bequests, life insurance, trusts, annuities and retirement plans. For further information on planned giving and the Edward F. Searles Society, call Emery Rice at (978) 463-0898.

SCHOLARSHIPS

For 37 years, the Music Hall Board of Trustees has awarded scholarships to graduating high school seniors who pursue music as their major at the collegiate level. To date, 74 students have received a total of \$53,000 in scholarship awards.

Two \$1,000 scholarships were awarded in 2010. Funding was obtained from Scholarship Fund Recitals, Scholarship Fund contributions and the Methuen Young Peoples Theater. Congratulations to the following recipients who were selected by our Youth Committee from an array of many outstanding applicants.

Benjamin Barker, a graduate of North Andover High School, is pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree in Musical Theater at Northwestern University.

Catarina Bongiorni, a graduate of Georgetown High School, is now attending the Hartt School at the University of Hartford in Connecticut as a music education and performance major.

Applications are being accepted through May 15 for the two 2011 \$1,000 scholarships which will be awarded to graduating high school seniors from Methuen and neighboring areas of the Merrimack Valley, and who are planning to major in music at college. Further information may be obtained by checking the appropriate line on the order/contribution form.

Your contribution to the Scholarship Fund (please see the order/contribution form) and your attendance at the Summer Scholarship Fund Organ Recital (July 13) and the Fall Scholarship Fund Organ Recital (September 30) will help us to continue to provide financial assistance for the education of future generations of musicians.

Other youth-oriented activities sponsored by the Music Hall Board of Trustees include the annual Gilbert and Sullivan operetta presentation by the Methuen Young People's Theatre; and "Music Hall Days", funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council as administered by the Methuen Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, which provide an opportunity for fourth graders from local schools to come to the Music Hall to hear an introduction to the organ and to gain an appreciation of the Hall and its history.

RECITAL ENDOWMENT AND SPONSORSHIP

Two recitals of our 15-week Wednesday evening series are specially designated, named recitals. Any individual, family, organization, or corporation may establish a named recital by making an endowment contribution to permanently underwrite the production cost of such a recital. This is a unique way to honor a family member or friend, to recognize a group, or memorialize a deceased loved one.

We also offer individuals, families, organizations and corporations the opportunity to underwrite any of the non-endowed recitals of our 15-week Wednesday evening series on an annual basis. See the order/contribution form.

MUSIC HALL RENTALS

The Music Hall may be rented for weddings, meetings, concerts and recitals. The hall provides a truly magnificent venue for any such event. For rental rates and date availability, write to us, attention "Rentals".

BERJ ZAMKOCHIAN MEMORIAL ORGAN RECITAL

Berj Zamkochian (1929-2004), an ardent Armenian and Boston native, graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music. He went on to become an organ recitalist and recording artist of international stature. In 1957, Charles Munch named him organist of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Arthur Fiedler appointed him to the same position with the Boston Pops. His account of Saint-Saëns' Third Symphony, with the BSO under Munch, is regarded as a classic, as is his performance of the Poulenc Organ Concerto. The RCA compact disc that re-released them together was hailed by the New York Times as "one of the 50 most important recordings of all time". In 1970, Zamkochian founded the Gomidas Organ Fund, in tribute to Gomidas Vartabet (1869-1935), a much beloved Armenian priest and composer. For over thirty years, he presented an annual organ recital in the Music Hall to benefit the Gomidas Organ Fund. The fund has donated more than 22 organs to Armenian churches and centers of education throughout the world.

The Music Hall Board of Trustees is grateful to the Gomidas Organ Fund for its commitment to funding a series of annual organ recitals in memory of Berj Zamkochian.

We are pleased to announce that Janette Fishell has been engaged to perform the 2011 Berj Zamkochian Memorial Organ Recital on Friday, October 21 at 8:00 P.M.

Janette Fishell, a graduate of Indiana University and Northwestern University, is a recitalist and teacher of international standing. She has performed in many of the world's greatest concert venues and has been



a featured recitalist and lecturer at five national conventions and five regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists.

Previous to her 2008 appointment as Professor of Music and Chair of the Organ Department at the Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University, she headed Organ and

Sacred Music Studies at East Carolina University and served Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, Greenville, North Carolina, where she remains Director of Music/Organist *Emerita*.

Ms. Fishell will perform works by Bach, Howells, Vierne, Eben, Franck and Liszt. Mark your calendar now, and don't miss her recital.

MMMh APPEAL

In the final analysis, it is only through the ongoing financial support of you - our patrons and benefactors - that the Music Hall continues its rich legacy of performance, entertainment and enrichment. We thank you for all you have done, and for what we hope you will continue to do, to assist in covering the cost of operations and capital improvements of the "Great Organ" and the Music Hall.

Your contribution to our "MMMh Appeal" would be greatly appreciated. Please see the order/contribution form.

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OUR MAILING ADDRESS

Send the order form, your check and any requests for further information to:

Methuen Memorial Music Hall, Inc.
Post Office Box 463
Methuen, Massachusetts 01844-0463

ORDER / CONTRIBUTION FORM

CUT ALONG DASHED LINE

Methuen Memorial Music Hall, Inc.

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____
for the items and/or contribution indicated below.

2011 Organ Recital Series Subscription

Individual \$125.00 (admits 1)
 Couple \$225.00 (admits 2)
 Organization \$400.00 (admits 6)

"Mr. Searles and the Organ" Book
\$18.00 postpaid

\$ _____ MMMH Appeal Contribution

\$ _____ Scholarship Fund Contribution

Organ Recital Series Program Folder

Scholarship Application Information

Recital Endowment and Sponsorship
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Please keep me on the mailing list.

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