



Upcoming Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series Recitals

Please join us!

Lich/Lee Duo – Ji Sun Lee, organ & Michael Lich, guitar

Guests Artists

January 27, Sunday, 7:00 p.m.

Holsclaw Hall, \$10, 7, 5

Michael Lich and Ji Sun Lee will perform concertos by Vivaldi and Rodrigo, as well as tangos by Piazzolla. Their charismatic program will showcase eclectic and exciting music from Baroque to contemporary, including world-premiere performances of works for organ and classical guitar by Pamela Decker and Michael Lich.

Pamela Decker, organ – “Bach and the Mid-Century Modernists”

Faculty Artist

March 31, Sunday, 4:00 p.m.

Holsclaw Hall, \$Free

Pamela Decker, professor of organ and music theory at the Fred Fox School of Music, will present a program titled “Bach and the Mid-Century Modernists.” Music by J.S. Bach will be juxtaposed with works by composers born in the middle of the twentieth century, including Dan Locklair, A.F. Schultz and Pamela Decker.

The program will spotlight the world premiere of “Ground Variations and Fugue” by A.F. Schultz, which was written for Pamela Decker. Violist Adrienne Cannon will join Dr. Decker in music for viola and harpsichord.



SAAGO

SOUTHERN ARIZONA
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

*Co-sponsored by the Southern Arizona Chapter
of the American Guild of Organists*



Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series

Damin Spritzer
organist



*Co-sponsored by the Southern Arizona Chapter
of the American Guild of Organists*

Sunday, October 14, 2018

Isabelle B. Harris Organ – Holsclaw Hall – 7:00 p.m.



**THE UNIVERSITY
OF ARIZONA**

**COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS
Fred Fox School of Music**



Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series

Damin Spritzer, organist

Sunday, October 14, 2018
Holsclaw Hall
7:00 p.m.

PROGRAM

- Improvisation sur le "Te Deum"Charles Tournemire (1870-1939)
Cantilene..... René Louis Becker (1882-1956)
Postlude in D Minor, 75a René Louis Becker
Elegiac Romance.....John Ireland (1879-1962)
Fantasia in G (Piece d'Orgue)Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) BWV 572 (c.1723)

INTERMISSION

- Bach's Memento: Miserere Mei, DomineJ. S. Bach arr. Ch-M. Widor
Mood Fantasy..... Alec Rowley (1892-1958)
Elegy (In memoriam H.L.B.)Healey Willan (1880-1968)
Rhapsody C Sharp, Op. 17, No. 3 Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

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Roy A. Johnson Organ Series Endowment

The Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series, established in Professor Johnson's memory shortly after his tragic death, has been the vehicle for showcasing superb performers on the beautiful Schoenstein pipe organ, made possible by donor Isabelle Harris. To create ongoing funding for the series, Elizabeth and Keith Hege and Stardust (Dusty) Johnson have made generous gifts to establish a permanent endowment in the School of Music. They invite you to join with them in ensuring that this fine series will continue in the future to bring outstanding organists to Tucson and the School of Music. What a fitting way to honor the legacy of Professor Johnson! All gifts to the endowment are made through the University of Arizona Foundation and are tax-deductible as prescribed by law. Gifts will be acknowledged in future series programs.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift payable to UAF/Roy A. Johnson Organ Series Endowment

Gift amount: \$ _____

Name on card: _____

Visa Mastercard American Express

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____


Cardholder's Signature: _____

If your employer has a matching gift program, please contact your company's personnel office for the necessary form to include with your gift.

Please mail this form and your gift to:

Office of Development, College of Fine Arts
The University of Arizona
P.O. Box 210004, Tucson, AZ 85721-0004

We are deeply grateful for your help and support!


*We extend our sincere thanks to the following donors
 to the Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series Endowment.
 We encourage you to join them!*

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* *Deceased*



Damin Spritzer

Dr. Damin Spritzer is assistant professor of organ at the University of Oklahoma, and also serves the Cathedral Church of Saint Matthew in Dallas as artist-in-residence for the Cathedral Arts series. Her recent tours and performances have included recitals with the Terra Sancta Organ Festival in Israel, the La Verna Festival in Italy, recitals in Germany, Brazil, Norway, France, and at the 2018 National American Guild of Organists Convention in Kansas City. She has released five professional CD recordings for the commercial label Raven Recordings, the first three of which are world-premiere recordings of the organ music of René Louis Becker, recorded on historically significant organs in Pithiviers, France; Orléans, France; and Denver, Colorado. Becker's organ music was the topic for her doctoral dissertation, and she has written a forthcoming monograph on his life and works and has published Volume I of a continuing multi-volume critical edition of Becker's organ music with an extended preface. Her fourth disc for Raven was a collaborative project with trombonist Dr. Donald Pinson. Her fifth commercial organ CD for Raven was recorded earlier this year at Hereford Cathedral in England, where she was the first American and the first woman to make a solo organ recording on the historic Fr. Willis organ. The disc of English Romantic organ works has been released this month. Her Doctor of Musical Arts degree was received from the University of North Texas, her MM in organ performance from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, and her BM in organ performance from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. She serves on the board of directors for the Leupold Foundation, which is dedicated to the preservation of pipe organ music and culture, and on the programming committee for the Oklahoma City AGO chapter.



Roy Johnson's Legacy

Roy Johnson's twenty-nine years as faculty member of the University of Arizona School of Music resulted in significant accomplishments for the keyboard studies area, and the organ program in particular. Johnson, who studied piano in Rome, Italy, earned a doctorate in organ performance from the University of Michigan and had extensive experience as a performer as well as a church organist and choirmaster. One of his most important professional legacies at the University of Arizona, however, was guiding the design and construction of a teaching and recital organ in Holsclaw Hall, a hall specifically configured acoustically and architecturally for the pipe organ.

Obtaining a teaching and recital instrument was a project that Roy Johnson pursued passionately as a part of his vision for a flourishing organ program at the University of Arizona. To this end, he played an important role in securing the gift from Ms. Isabelle Harris, a local businesswoman, which made the dream of the installation of a pipe organ a reality. With funding secured, he consulted with many of the most respected American builders, performing on their instruments in a variety of venues. He eventually selected Schoenstein & Company of San Francisco as the builder, believing that an eclectic, electro-pneumatic instrument (as opposed to a mechanical action tracker instrument) that would accommodate the widest range of organ literature would best serve the needs of the students of the UA School of Music.

"I am thankful every day for Roy's decisions," says UA Professor of Organ Pamela Decker, "I can teach works from every period on a versatile organ that does justice to a wide range of styles." Dr. Decker says of the hall, "It has a beautiful resonance that is lengthy enough to provide richness and fullness but not so much as to disrupt clarity."

The effect of Roy Johnson's decisions will continue to shape the organ program at the Fred Fox School of Music for many years to come. His perseverance in creating the design, construction, and installation of the Isabelle Harris Organ in Holsclaw Hall has provided organ students with an excellent instrument in an acoustically appropriate concert venue, which benefits performers and concertgoers as well. It stands as a permanent legacy of his dedication to his students, the school, the university and the larger Tucson community.

Each year, the UA Fred Fox School of Music presents two or three organ recitals in memory of Roy Johnson as part of the Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series. Organists who have performed in the recent past include Pamela Decker, Charles Boyd Tompkins, David Heller, Chris Fresolone, Ashley Snavley, Norene Walters, Dorothy Young Riess, Faythe Freese, Woosug Kang, Stephen Keyl, Robert Huw Morgan, Johnathan Dimmock, Paul Hesselink, Renée Anne Louprette, Jane Smith, Brent Hylton, William James Ross, Gail Archer, Douglas Cleveland, Robert Bates, Maxine Thévenot, Hans Gebhard, Scott Montgomery, Edie Johnson, Adam Pajan, Margaret Martin Kvamme and Jeffrey Campbell.

Isabelle B. Harris Organ

**Holsclaw Hall, University of Arizona
3 Manual and Pedal Organ – 27 Voices – 33 Ranks
Encased, Detached Console, Electric-Pneumatic Action – 1994**

The Isabelle B. Harris Organ in Holsclaw Hall was built in 1994 by Schoenstein & Co., Organ Builders, San Francisco, California. The late Dr. Roy A. Johnson, professor of organ (1966–1995) worked closely with Jack Bethards, president, Schoenstein Co., in designing the organ's specifications. Professor Johnson's vision was to create a teaching and recital instrument, using an economy of resources, which would encompass all organ literature, not necessarily authentic to a particular period, but which would give students the experience of working and learning on a versatile instrument typical of the organ architecture they would most likely encounter in their future careers, whether it be as recitalist, teacher, or church musician.