

Mildred Flood Mahoney Memorial Organ Recital

Dr. Lisa Ham

Guest Organist



A Tribute to Dhira Mahoney

*Also featuring
Jean-Pierre Gabriels, Mahoney Scholar*

*Sunday, April 28, 2019
Isabelle B. Harris Organ
Holsclaw Hall
4:00 p.m.*



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Ciacona..... Dieterich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)

Jean-Pierre Gabriels, Mahoney Scholar

Sonata, Op. 98 Josef Rheinberger
(1839-1901)

1. *Tempo Moderato*
2. *Intermezzo*
3. *Fuga Cromatica*

Symphony No. 5 Charles-Marie Widor
(1844-1937)

1. *Allegro Vivace*

Flores del Desierto (Desert Wildflowers)..... Pamela Decker
(b.1955)

- I. *Albarda*
- II. *Expuelita*
- III. *Saiya*

INTERMISSION

Allein Gott in der Höh sei her, BWV 663.....J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

L'Ascension for Organ.....Olivier Messiaen
(1908-1992)

- I. *Majesté du Christ demandant sa gloire à son Père*
(*Majesty of Christ praying that His Father should glorify Him*)
- II. *Alléluias sereins d'une âme qui désire le ciel*
(*Serene Alleluias from a soul longing for Heaven*)
- III. *Transports de joie d'une âme devant la gloire du Christ qui est la sienna*
(*Outburst of joy from a soul before the Glory of Christ which is its own glory*)
- IV. *Prière du Christ montant vers son Père*
(*Prayer from Christ ascending towards His Father*)

Toccata on "Amazing Grace" J. Christopher Pardini
(b. 1973)

Please join us for a reception in the Green Room following the performance,
hosted by the Southern Arizona Chapter of the AGO
in honor of Dhira Mahoney



The purposes of the American Guild of Organists are:

- To advance the cause of organ and choral music, to increase their contributions to aesthetic and religious experiences, and to promote their understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment.
- To improve the proficiency of organists and choral conductors.
- To evaluate, by examination, attainments in organ playing, choral techniques, conducting, and the theory and general knowledge of music, and to grant certificates to those who pass such examinations at specified levels of attainment.
- To provide members with opportunities to meet for discussion of professional topics, and to pursue such other activities as contribute to the fulfillment of the purposes of the Guild.

Guild-sponsored activities include a series of examinations for professional certification as well as programs and an extensive list of publications, CDs, DVDs, and learning resources for all levels of interest. The Guild sponsors competitions in organ performance and improvisation and in organ and choral composition. National and regional conventions, held in alternate years, present the finest performers. The American Organist magazine, published monthly by the AGO, is the most widely read journal devoted to organ and choral music in the world.

The Southern Arizona Chapter (SAAGO) was founded on April 19, 1937, at the University of Arizona, 41 years after the founding of the AGO in 1896. As such, the SAAGO has been in existence for two-thirds of the life of the guild itself.

The SAAGO has a rich history; it has been and continues to be a leading force in education and the arts from its Pedals, Pipes and Pizza events and concerts featuring world-renowned artists, to hosting a Regional Conclave. A look back over the past 80 years yields an impressive list of events and individuals that have been an integral part of the musical life of the city of Tucson and beyond. Among the past deans of the chapter are the renowned organist, teacher, composer and conductor, Camil Van Hulse, who was the founding conductor of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra; and Roy Andrew Johnson, former professor of organ at the University of Arizona.

*More information about the American Guild of Organists
can be found at www.agohq.org, and more information
about the Southern Arizona Chapter and its events
can be found at www.saago.org*





SAAGO

SOUTHERN ARIZONA
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) is the national professional association serving the organ and choral music fields. The Guild serves approximately 15,000 members in more than 300 chapters throughout the United States and abroad.

Founded in 1896 as both an educational and service organization, the Guild seeks to set and maintain high musical standards and to promote understanding and appreciation of all aspects of organ and choral music.

Under the leadership of the National Council, a network of volunteer committees and officials at the regional, district, and local levels directs the activities of the Guild. The American Guild of Organists National Headquarters is in New York City, where a full time staff supports and coordinates publication, administration, and development activities of the organization. For purposes of administration and representation, the Guild is divided into seven geographical regions, and each chapter is assigned to one of them.

About the Artists



LISA HAM began piano study at age five and organ study at age eleven. She studied organ with Roger Sherman during her high school years. Dr. Ham has been awarded numerous scholarships during her college years and was the first-prize winner of the Mildred Flood Mahoney Memorial Competition in Tucson in 1999. She was selected for the semifinalist of the AGO National Competition at Philadelphia in 2002 and received the special prize from the Mikael Tariverdiev International Organ Competition in Russia in 2003. She earned a bachelor of music degree in organ performance from the University of Washington, studying with Dr. Carole Terry and Dr. Melvin Butler, and a Master of Music degree from the University of Arizona, where she studied organ and harpsichord with Dr. Pamela Decker. In 2009 she received a Doctor of Musical Art in organ performance at the University of Washington. Her doctoral dissertation was *An Analysis of the Influence of Tangos on Selected Organ Works by Pamela Decker: Flores del Desierto*. Dr. Lisa Ham has been the music director and organist at the First Presbyterian Church in Burbank, California since 2004.



The Baxter Theater Concert Hall Cape Town, South Africa was the site of **JEAN-PIERRE GABRIEL**'s organ debut in January 2003. He studied organ with Professor Shirley Gie and piano with Dr. Brenda Berger at the University of Cape Town. Here he was awarded the Leslie Arnold Prize for two consecutive years for best undergraduate organ major and featured as a soloist with the UCT String Ensemble (Handel's Organ Concerto, Op. 3 No. 4 in G Minor) under the direction of Anmari van der Westhuizen. In 2010, he was awarded the John Doris Organ Scholarship for entry into the master's graduate program at Southern Methodist University in Dallas Texas. He participated in various AGO Dallas Chapter recitals, where he completed his master's degree in music performance (organ and harpsichord) under the tutelage of Dr. Larry Palmer. He is currently pursuing a DMA in organ performance at the Fred Fox School of Music, and studies counterpoint and performance under the mentorship of distinguished composer and professor of organ and theory, Dr. Pamela Decker.



*A Brief History of the Mildred Flood Mahoney
Memorial Scholarship*

Mildred Flood Mahoney was raised in the South and began studying the piano when her family moved to St. Louis, Missouri, where she became an accomplished amateur pianist. She was a member of the Church of Christ Scientist, and began playing the piano for services in Plymouth, Indiana, teaching herself to play the organ when the congregation purchased one. She gained skill and experience by playing increasingly complex instruments, and served as substitute, assistant, and chief organist in her churches in Indiana and subsequently Tucson for many years.

In 1998 her son James Mahoney had the idea of honoring his mother by endowing a graduate scholarship in organ performance at the University of Arizona. The holder of the scholarship would be required to give an annual public recital. The first event, in April 1999, was the result of a nationally announced competition: the three top candidates were invited to perform in a recital held in Holsclaw Hall. The winner of the competition, Lisa Ham, then held the scholarship for 1999-2000, giving her recital in April 2000. Subsequent recipients of the scholarship,

all studying under Professor Pamela Decker, have been Don Grice (2005-6), Matthew Whitehouse (2007-8, 2008-9), Shinji Inagi (2009-10, 2010-11), Douglas Leightenheimer (2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15), Joel Pierce (2015-16, 2016-17), Kevin Seal (2017-18), and Jean-Pierre Gabriels (2018-19).

In years when there was no holder of the scholarship, guest artists have been invited to play the annual recital. Such artists have been Todd Wilson (2001), Kimberly Marshall (2002), Herndon Spillman (2003), Susan Jane Matthews (2004), and Shelly Moorman-Stahlman (2005). James Mahoney died in February 2007; his death was commemorated in April of that year by a recital given by Lisa Ham (the first scholarship recipient), with Pamela Decker and Christina Jarvis. Subsequent guest artists have been Namhee Han (2012), Emma Whitten (2015), Pamela Decker and Friends (including Joel Pierce) in 2016, and Angela Kraft Cross with Kevin Seal (2018).

The scholarship honors Mrs. Mahoney's memory by enabling others to enjoy and benefit from the formal organ training that she never had. At the same time it contributes to one of the goals of the Southern Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, to encourage excellence in organ performance.