A New Appointment as Artist in Residence at Christ Church, New Haven

Thomas Murray

It will seem a bit unusual for an honoree to write about an honor received (as I am about to do ...), but having just been named Artist in Residence by the Rector of Christ Church, the Rev’d David Cobb and Robert Lehman, Organist and Choirmaster, I wish to offer a few thoughts about what we hope will be achieved in this promising new association, particularly for the benefit of our organ majors in the ISM. Choral and service accompaniment has long been a favorite branch of music-making for me. It became a passion well over thirty-five years ago upon hearing the
great George Thalben-Ball train and accompany his magnificent choir at the Temple Church in London; “Temple” immediately became a place of pilgrimage, both to attend services and observe rehearsals! That memory shapes my musical approach to this day.

Our superb heritage of accompanied choral works constitutes by far the largest part of an organist’s collaborative repertoire, a counterpart to the pianist’s chamber music. This repertoire is rich, and ever growing with new music, encompassing anthems, canticles, Anglican chant, settings of the mass and larger works where one can transcribe accompaniments originally conceived for orchestra. Over the years I have coached our organ majors on some of this music as they prepared it in their church situations, but this diversion from teaching the solo literature tended to happen in an ad hoc way. The new alliance with Christ Church and Rob Lehman formalizes and carries on collaborations already begun, offering frequent occasions for me to accompany services and concerts with the Christ Church Choir, to “take apart the nuts and bolts,” technically speaking, of what we are preparing in order to show students how it is done, and to coach organ majors with a particular interest in learning this art. For those who have experienced Rob Lehman’s superb choir and witnessed his amazing rigor and efficiency in rehearsals the benefit for our students of this new association will be manifest.

And then . . . there is the exciting new organ! The pathetically frail and lethargic instrument many of you will remember was supplanted last year by a 63-rank Lively-Fulcher — especially rich in sonorities conceived for accompanimental and liturgical use — an instrument that Christ Church

is already sharing generously with us for teaching and recitals. A Choral Evensong in thanksgiving for the ministry of all church musicians has become an annual event each November, and as of this writing, Martin Jean is there, polishing Marcel Dupré’s Stations of the Cross for the Fifth Sunday in Lent. Both liturgies and concerts spirituels in the exquisite architectural and acoustical setting of Christ Church are not to be missed! I hope, as time goes on, that ISM alumni will find their way to Christ Church and rejoice in the fruits of this happy new association.

– Photos in this article courtesy of Christ Church Episcopal

And then . . . there is the exciting new organ! The pathetically frail and lethargic instrument many of you will remember was supplanted last year by a 63-rank Lively-Fulcher — especially rich in sonorities conceived for accompanimental and liturgical use — an instrument that Christ Church

is already sharing generously with us for teaching and recitals. A Choral Evensong in thanksgiving for the ministry of all church musicians has become an annual event each November, and as of this writing, Martin Jean is there, polishing Marcel Dupré’s Stations of the Cross for the Fifth Sunday in Lent. Both liturgies and concerts spirituels in the exquisite architectural and acoustical setting of Christ Church are not to be missed! I hope, as time goes on, that ISM alumni will find their way to Christ Church and rejoice in the fruits of this happy new association.

– Photos in this article courtesy of Christ Church Episcopal
In Memoriam: William Sloane Coffin, Jr.

Gustav Spohn

William Sloane Coffin Jr., the fiery Yale University chaplain who inspired a generation of 1960s and 1970s college students with preaching that rankled the establishment even as it engaged the anti-war community, died Wednesday, April 12.

Coffin was chaplain at Yale from 1958 until 1975 and then served for a decade as senior minister at Riverside Church in New York City from 1977-87, after which he became president of SANE/FREEZE, later known as Peace Action. In recent years Coffin spent much of his time writing, including his 2004 national bestseller, Credo, as well as A Passion for the Possible: A Message to U.S. Churches, and Letters to a Young Doubter.

During one of his last major public appearances—at a celebration of his life and work held at Yale in April 2005 attended by the likes of Yale football great Calvin Hill, Doonesbury cartoonist Garry Trudeau, and musicians Peter and Paul of Peter, Paul and Mary—Coffin was still prodding and pushing, encouraging seminaries to equip future church leaders to challenge the status quo.

Before an audience of about 400 at the Yale Commons, Coffin summoned the energy to rise from his wheelchair and speak for over 20 minutes. He declared, “Clearly, parish clergy could use a little more starch; they are gumption-deficient. But they also need more instruction from their seminaries to face difficult situations that lie ahead.”

Over the course of the last half-century Coffin’s name has become a yardstick of sorts in the broader world of faith and life. Ironically, perhaps providentially, in an issue that hit the newsstands just last month, The Nation magazine hailed Coffin’s continuing engagement: “When asked who is the contemporary equivalent of Coffin...several mainline Christians sighed and said, ‘Well, I guess—Coffin.’”

– Photo © Gabriel Amadeus Cooney, 2005

GUSTAV SPohn is Director of Communications and Publications at Yale Divinity School
MEMO FROM THE DIRECTOR’S DESK

To: ISM Alumni
From: Martin D. Jean, director

Please remember to respond to the online survey for ISM alumni: https://questionweb.com/81649.
Your input is critical as we consider ways to strengthen the programs we offer students as they prepare for their vocational fields.
You should already have received a card in the mail and an e-mail if we have your current e-mail address on file (please update this if need be; you can do it online at http://www.yale.edu/ism/alumni/alumni.html).
Thanks for helping build a strong future for the ISM!

---

Derek Chester (MM ’06 - tenor) has been granted a Fulbright Award for the coming academic year to study with tenor Christoph Prégardien at the Hochschule für Musik in Köln, Germany.

Steven Fraser (MM ’06 - organist) has been accepted into the Concours de Chartres. The competition will take place in late August and early September.

Ian L. Howell (MM ’06 - countertenor) recently took third place in the solo competition of the Oratorio Society of New York, receiving a cash award as well as “great networking opportunities.”

Robinson McClellan (MM ’06, MMA ’07 - composer) has received a Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and will attend the awards ceremony in New York City on May 17. Harmony Ives, the widow of Charles Ives, bequeathed to the Academy the royalties of Charles Ives’ music, which has enabled the Academy to give the Ives awards in music since 1970.

Fred Teardo (MM ’05, MMA ’06 - organist) has accepted the post of Assistant Organist at St. Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue (New York).

---

Yale Institute of Sacred Music
2006 Summer Study

SUMMER TERM AT STERLING DIVINITY QUADRANGLE
WEEKLONG NONCREDIT COURSES IN JUNE

• Preaching and Worship in a Postmodern Context
• Worship for the Whole Congregation
• Church Music Clinic
• Writing Workshop: Contemporary Poetry as Theology
• Music Composition Workshop
• Mozart’s Sacred Music and the Sacred in Mozart’s Music
• Heavenly Glory on Earth: The Art of Icon Painting in the Orthodox Church: Theory and Practice

Tuition scholarships available. Other courses offered through Yale Divinity School. Details at www.yale.edu/sdqssummerterm

YALE AT NORFOLK
YALE SCHOOL OF MUSIC SUMMER SCHOOL / AUGUST 14–20 / NORFOLK, CT

• Chamber Choir and Choral Conducting Workshop

Information at 203.432.2692
ALUMNI NEWS

Rebecca Beam Chamberlain (UTS '57): In 1990 Rebecca contacted a group of friends who were at UTS in the mid-fifties and invited them to spend several days at her home. Since then they have met each summer for sharing memories and sometimes visiting organs in nearby churches/colleges. Over the years 25 or more alumni have been a part of these get-togethers and, in additions to the Chamberlains, they have been hosted by group core members including Stephen Klyce, Dan and Emily (Hills) Byrens, Vernon and Nancy (Bookout) Wolcott, and Margaret (Leech) Jenkins. This “core” group has been together every summer. Twenty or so other UTS friends have joined them one or two summers.

S. A. K. Durga (Post Doctoral Research Fellow 1985-86) has been running the Center for Ethnomusicology at Chennai, India for the past twenty years. Until recently, he was Professor Emeritus at the Department of Indian Music at the University of Madras, Chennai, India. He has been the author of seven books including On Ethnomusicology, Voice Culture, Opera in South India and Research Methodology for Music. He has presented several papers in conferences on Thevaram, the Sacred Music of South India. Presently Mr. Durga is working on a book on the same subject which will include a comparative study with Gregorian Chants which he studied as part of his research work at ISM.

Dan Locklair (UTS '73): Dan Locklair’s “Symphony of Seasons” (Symphony No. 1) was webcast on WDAV Classical Public Radio from Davidson College in Davidson, North Carolina on Sunday, March 26. The Louisville Courier-Journal said the complete symphony was, “brimming with lusty melodic invention”, and that, “Locklair...certainly knows how to translate extra-musical notions into specific, evocative soundscapes.” His new website is at http://www.locklair.com.

Keith D. Shawgo, Jr. (UTS '66) retired after 32 years of public school music education. He now owns a gift shop, The Red Barn, located in East Morris, CT. Keith also continues to serve as Music Director of the First Church of Christ, Congregational in Redding, CT.

John Stanley (UTS '72) is completing his 33rd year as organist and choir director of First United Methodist Church of Warren, Pennsylvania. He writes of the Robert Baker Festival at Yale last October “[It] was truly outstanding, as was the memorial service in May at First Presbyterian Church of NYC.”

Carol Wade (MDiv '03, STM '04) will be installed as Canon Precentor of Washington National Cathedral on May 7.

Paul Weber (MM '03, MMA '04) recently accepted the tenure-track faculty position at Franciscan University at the rank of assistant professor. He hopes to put in place a major in sacred music in the near future and asks “for your prayers that I can live up to the task at hand.”

More Alumni News

Jerry L. Black (UTS '62) writes that he is “old enough to be retired – but still working!” He is in his fourteenth year at Covenant Presbyterian in Marietta, GA, as Director of Music and Organist. He is also in his eighth year at The Temple (a Hebrew Benevolent Congregation) in Atlanta, where he is an organist, keyboardist, and choir leader. He has two granddaughters “who are a joy!”

Paul R. Jacobson (UTS '72) toured Spain for the second time this December with the orchestra he co-founded, The Lyra Baroque Orchestra. The Spanish Glossa label will soon (around Christmas) release a recording with Lyra and The Escalonia de El Escorial of S. Villancicos by Antonio Soler.

Janice Wagner West (UTS '60) retired as an organist/ director at Concordia Lutheran in Dayton, OH in August, 2004. Previously, she served as Minister of Music at United Methodist and ELCA Lutheran churches (where she had been since 1960), and was ordained a Deacon in the UM church on June 8, 1999. Presently, she is teaching private piano and voice students (twenty) and substituting as an organist and director.

Robert Wisniewski (MM '80) has been Principal(Organist/Assistant Director of Music at St. Joseph Cathedral in Columbus, Ohio since July of 2004, and eagerly awaits the delivery and installation of their new III/100 Paul Fritts organ this June. Meanwhile, he continues to be “amazed at the wealth of literature and improvisations that can be played on a very small, but creatively designed and well-voiced 2-manual tracker organ!”

On October 14, 2005, Marianne Van Campen Decker (UTS ’65) was the Artistic Director for a huge concert at Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims, bringing 4 choirs (one, her own, called “Brooklyn Sings!”) together, with brass quartet, 6-piece jazz ensemble, and two organists. Dancers also figured prominently in the concert, called “Plymouth Rocks—Let Freedom Ring!” She writes, “It was an amazing performance by all, and thrilling for me to direct.” As well as conducting, she was also one of two organists.

Other alumni who responded:

Fred S. Maus (UTS '58)
Janet Waggoner (MDiv '01)
Warren C. Leist (UTS '58)

Lynda Paul, ISM Special Projects Assistant, collated and edited the information from the winter alumni mailing, featured in these latest two issues of Prism.
**Connecticut**

**Christ Episcopal Church, Guilford**

Director of Music (part-time). Growing Episcopal church in Guilford seeks an energetic and experienced organist and choral leader to develop a new children's music ministry and re-invigorate adult choir. The Southfield organ is a 2 manual instrument installed in 2003. A baby grand piano is available. The church’s music style is traditional, open to innovation, especially in the development of a youth choir. Young, enthusiastic families form the growing edge of the church. Music Director will also seek both paid and volunteer musicians to enrich the overall music program, using available parish funds. Position is flexible, anticipated to be an average of 12-15 hours per week, year round, lighter in the summer. Four weeks paid vacation. Opening no sooner than 7/1/06 and no later than 9/1/06. Salary negotiable. Please contact the Rev. Norman MacLeod, Christ Episcopal Church, Guilford, CT 06437, or email cechurch@snet.net, or call 203-453-2279.

**Middlebury Congregational Church, UCC, Middlebury**

Minister of Music (part-time). Church seeks a person of faith to work closely with the Senior Minister, Organist, and Music Committee to coordinate the music ministry of this vibrant congregation, with emphasis on encouraging participation. The Minister of Music will conduct sanctuary choir for all regular and special rehearsals and services; direct and/or coordinate other choirs (some led by volunteers); supervise the Organist and substitute at the organ if necessary; maintain the music library and coordinate tuning and upkeep of the 1986 Holtkamp pipe organ, Steinway grand piano and three octaves of hand bells. Requirements: minimum of BA or BFA in music, ability to recruit and motivate volunteer musicians, strong interpersonal skills, flexibility and a commitment to a collaborative style of worship planning. Competitive compensation. Send resume and references to: Minister of Music Search Committee, Middlebury UCC, PO Box 268, Middlebury, CT 06762. Email: dcalhoun@middleburyucc.org

**St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Riverside (Greenwich)**

Soprano. Position available: September, 2006. Duties: Sundays only, 1 Sunday Service – 10:00 AM (call is 9:00), Rehearsal Sundays also – 11:00 - 1:00, Concerts and Evensongs extra, Christmas Eve required. Compensation: $110 per week + some travel. Contact: Mr. David B. Johnson, Music Director, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 200 Riverside Avenue, Riverside, CT 06811. 203-637-2447 (church), 203-554-1843 (cell).

**Trinity Music Partners, LLC, Woodbridge**

Research Assistant. Seeking Graduate Musicology Students to assist researching and cataloguing music from the Vatican Library (Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana) in Rome, Italy. Requirements: 1. Graduate musicology student status with knowledge of sacred vocal and instrumental music from the Renaissance and Early Baroque periods. Able to read and transcribe neumes and pre-Baroque musical notations. 2. Basic knowledge of Italian and Latin. 3. Able to spend at least two weeks in Rome, a minimum of 30 hours a week in the Vatican Library, from June 5 to July 14, 2006. The Trinity Music Partners, LLC will pay all the expenses and honorarium. Interested applicants should send a word document resume via E-mail to toshiyuki.shimada@vaticanmusiclibrary.com. For more information, contact Toshi Shimada at (917) 312-0950 or Joseph McNulty at (207) 408-8748. http://bav.vatican.va/en/v_home_bav/home_bav.shtml

---

**Don’t miss the ISM Reception at the AGO convention**

**Tuesday, July 4**

**5 – 7 PM**

**Chicago Marriott Hotel**

The Armitage/Belmont Rooms
Placement Listings

OUT OF STATE

ATONEMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH, ROCHESTER, NY
Director of Music Ministries (20 hours/week). The candidate should have a firm grounding in traditional music and liturgical practices, and be open to emerging trends in contemporary music and worship. Duties: playing for one traditional and possibly one contemporary service on Sundays, plus special services; rehearsing and leading an adult choir; developing opportunities for children to participate in worship music; providing leadership and resources to musicians, both volunteer and paid. Parsons Organ (1989): mechanical key action and electronic stop action with two manuals, 26 ranks. Qualifications: Bachelor’s degree in music; proficiency in organ and piano performance and accompanying; experience and competency in working with youth and adult choirs. Compensation per AGO guidelines. Send letter of interest, resume to Atonement Lutheran Church, 1900 Westfall Road, Rochester, NY 14618 or office@atonement.ws. Position available September, 2006.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, MOUNT VERNON, NY
Organist (full-time). The church’s organ is a vintage Skinner organ with 3 manuals. Position to be filled June 2006. Address: The Church of Ascension Episcopal, 104 Park Ave, Mt Vernon NY 10550. Current Remuneration Package: $200 per service; $100 per rehearsal; free bedroom with kitchen amenities (located on the second floor above the church office). Responsibilities include: working with the director of music to ensure coverage of rehearsals and service music; working primarily with adult choir and some assistance with youth choir; working with the director of music to select, teach and train choirs for various songs to be ministered at Sunday services as well as additional special occasions. Please contact Roger Francis at 888-689-4548 (888-muzik4u) with questions or to schedule an interview. Making Muzik: www.muzik4u.net; roger@muzik4u.net

FIRST PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC, ENGLEWOOD, CO
Director of Music and the Arts (full time). The successful candidate will be a person with an obvious passion for and calling to church music and its vital and integral role in worship. S/he will have at least a bachelor’s degree (or its equivalent) in music, 3-5 years of professional choral conducting skills in a progressive church setting, proven organizational, supervisory and management skills, and keyboard skills. Will oversee all music programs of the church, direct or supervise directors of all choral groups and small ensembles and oversee all music components of Sunday morning and other worship services. In addition s/he will supervise all paid and volunteer music staff. Ensembles: Adult Choir (40), Youth Choir (25), Children’s Choir (25). Position Available summer, 2006 Website: www.firstplymouthchurch.org. Email resume to: ganastos@firstplymouthchurch.org

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SILVER SPRING, MD
Organist/choral director for youth and adult choirs (full-time). Pay based on AGO scale and on experience. Send resumes to: Grace Episcopal Church, Attn: Janice Robinson (director), 1607 Grace Church Rd, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Tel (301) 585-3515 for questions.

SOUTH SALEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SOUTH SALEM, NY
Minister of Music (part-time): We seek someone who can be adventurous and creative, is comfortable with both traditional and contemporary church music, and who will enjoy working collegially with our pastor, youth leader and volunteer hand bell choir director. We have a small but committed adult choir, a crowd of children who delight in singing and a cluster of teenagers in between. Our minister of music will be someone who interacts easily with all ages. In our sanctuary we have a Russell 2 manual 17 rank pipe organ and a piano, and we seek someone who is adept at both. We worship at 10 am Sundays and at other services throughout the year. Please send your resume to pastor@southsalempc.org or call the church at 914/763-9282. The position is 12-15 hours a week.

ST. JOHN’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, TAMPA, FL
Organist/Choirmaster (full-time). Responsibilities: Choir of Men and Boys and Choir of Junior and Senior Girls; Mendelssohn Choir; three Sunday morning services; five choir rehearsals weekly; monthly Evensong or meditative services. Three-manual organ, 64 ranks with antiphonal division. Requirements: knowledge of Hymnal 1982; experience with RSCM curriculum; master’s degree in music performance, minimum two years of music education for youth and junior choirs; thorough preparation in organ playing, performance and literature, mechanical knowledge of organ; minimum five years of choral direction, organ performance, planning liturgical music in parish setting. Will oversee organ maintenance, choir library, care/maintenance of parish musical instruments. Compensation per AGO guidelines. Send letter of interest, résumé, references, current recording demonstrating choral conducting and organ technique, brief statement of personal philosophy of church music to: Chairman, Organist/ Choirmaster Search Committee, St. John’s Episcopal Church, 906 S. Orleans Ave., Tampa, FL 33606. 813-259-1570; e-mail: organistsearch@stjohnstampa.org
2006 marked the elevation of the Yale Gospel Choir to totally new levels. For the very first time in 32 years of existence, the Yale Gospel Choir was able to travel on an international tour for Spring Break, supported in part by the ISM. The theme of the tour, “Perfect Works” could not have been more fitting. God did indeed do a “perfect work” on this tour. The ten days spent in Africa were utterly breathtaking. We treasured our experience wholeheartedly and hope that we are able to share all of our blessings and remembrances with those who were unable to join us. Between singing at churches, ministering to the inmates of a local prison, walking through poverty-stricken Capetonian townships, and experiencing the excitement of thousands of South African school children, our schedule was busy. Yet it was well worth it. One thing that the South Africans impressed upon us as a choir is their immediate and generous hospitality. So openly accommodating they were, that it truly relieved any of the tensions we may have had in traveling to a foreign country. They worked tirelessly to make us as comfortable as possible. When relaying our experiences to others so far we find ourselves almost literally speechless.

Overall, our trip was a success, and we cannot wait to embark on another international tour and immerse ourselves in more cultures as we fulfill our now worldwide mission to spread and minister the Gospel of Jesus Christ through song.

Rachel-Maria Brown is an undergraduate at Yale University (YC ’06) and candidate for a Bachelor’s Degree in History of Science, History of Medicine. She served as Yale Gospel Choir Vice-President and Tour Manager.