

NEWS RELEASE AND PRESS KIT

WHAT: FRENCH ORGAN MUSIC FESTIVAL

WHEN: Sunday August 27, 2017

FESTIVAL LENGTH: (NEW TIME) 2pm-5pm

Reste comme tu veux, pars quand il te faut!

Stay as you wish...leave as you must!

WHERE: Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

416 W 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105

(On the corner of 12th and Broadway)

INFO: Open to the public. Requested donation: \$10

French Café in the south chapel with authentic pastries and sandwiches for sale.

Contact: mpearson@kcgolddome.org

WEB: www.kcgolddome.org

About the French Organ Music Festival

This organ music festival started by Dr. Mario Pearson, director of music at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception was envisioned as a sister event to the annual Bachathon that is held on the first Sunday of May each year at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral. Two Cathedrals in the heart of the city with instruments and acoustics very well suited to music of Bach and French organ literature.

The genesis and genius of the Cavaillé-Coll organ awakened a new era in organ sound, composition and performance. Because it is one of the oldest musical instruments in existence, written organ repertoire spans a time period almost as long as that of written music itself. The organ's solo repertoire is among the largest for any musical instrument.

The French Festival takes place annually on the 4th Sunday in August at the “golddome” Cathedral located on 12th and Broadway in downtown Kansas City. The event features talented performers, a French Café and a multi visual presentation including a live feed from the organ as well as a PowerPoint presentation about each performance to engage the audience.

FRENCH FESTIVAL PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

AUGUST 27, 2017 2:00pm-5:00pm

2:00pm:	Matthew Baumler, Cathedral Schola Cantorum
2:30pm:	Shayla Van Hal
3:00pm:	Paul Meier
3:30pm:	Jo Steel Kraus
4:00pm:	Jacob Hofeling
4:30pm:	Dina Evans

FRENCH FESTIVAL 2017 REPertoire TO BE PERFORMED

Jo Steele Kraus

by Rolande Falcinelli (1920-2006)

Cinq Chorals D'Orgue sur l'antienne du magnificat de la fête do saint-sacrement, Opus 28 (In mémorial Jean-Sébastien Bach)

II ...Recolitur memoria passioni ejus...

Orgue et Liturgie, Opus 38

1. Prélude à l'Introït de la Messe do Sacré-Cœur de Jésus
2. Offertoire pour la Fête de Christ-Roi

Esquisses Symphoniques en forme de variations, Op 45

1. Largo sostenuto (À Gérard Loïsemant)
7. Allegretto giocoso (A Philippe Lefèbvre)

Jacob Hofeling

Prelude, Adagio, et chorale varie sure let theme du Veni Creator op. 4 - Maurice Durufle

Matthew Baumler

César Franck (1822-1890) Choral in A minor

Shayla Van Hal

Alexandre Guilmant: Sonata no. 1, op. 42, II: Pastorale Charles Tournemire: Choral-Improvisation sur le "Victimae paschali"

Mario Pearson and the Cathedral Schola Cantorum

Victimae Paschali LAudes – Cochereau transcr. Pearson

Tantum Ergo – Laloux

Maria, Mater gratiæ, Faure Op. 47, No. 2

Paul Meier

Cesar Franck Cantabile

Cesar Franck Choral No. 2

Dina Evans

César Franck (1822-1890)

Fantaisie en La Major



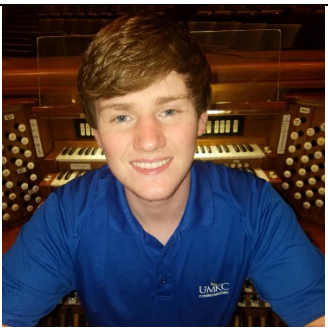
André Fleury (1903-1995)

Variations sur un Noël bourguignon

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

Messe de la Pentecôte V. Sortie

Performer Biographies

	<p>Jo Steele Kraus is currently pursuing her DMA in organ performance at the University of Kansas. She earned a Master's in Church Music with Organ Emphasis, and in Carillon Performance at the University of Kansas in 2009. She graduated from Ft. Hays State University cum laude with a BA with voice and piano emphasis.</p> <p>Ms. Kraus is a member of the Salina Symphony Guild, and performed with Hays Symphony Orchestra on the keyboard and as a bassoonist. She also was an accompanist for Ft. Hays State University and for over twenty-five years with the Hays school system. She has performed as an organist and studied in the Netherlands, playing historical organs there and in Germany, Switzerland and France. She also has served as a church organist in Salina, Topeka, Lawrence and most recently as pianist and choir director at the Edgerton United Methodist Church.</p> <p>In addition to her studies in music, Ms. Kraus also was the co-owner/operator of the Sandburr Ranch, a multi-generational farm and cattle ranch in Ellis County, Kansas.</p>
	<p>Dr. Dina Evans</p> <p>Dina Pannabecker Evans is Co-Director of Music at Country Club Christian Church, along with Paul Tucker. She also works at the University of Kansas where she is the Assistant Dean for Student Opportunity in the School of Music. In that role she manages music scholarships, teaches the Business of Music class, and works with students to build their portfolios through on- and off-campus opportunities.</p> <p>Evans has a DMA in organ performance from KU, where she studied with James Higdon. She is a dual member of the Topeka and Greater Kansas City AGO chapters, and lives in Lawrence with her sons, Sam, 20, and Charlie, 17.</p>
	<p>Matthew Baumler is a student at the University of Missouri - Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance, where he studies Music Theory. He began his organ studies in the fall of 2015 under the guidance of Dr. Beth Elswick. In addition to his studies, he holds the position of Music Director and Choir Master at St. Luke's Episcopal Church of Shawnee. In January of 2017, Matthew started a student apprenticeship for organ at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception under the mentorship of Dr. Mario Pearson; more recently, he was appointed as a staff organist at the Community of Christ Temple and Auditorium in Independence, Missouri. Other achievements include performing on the Casavant organ in the Kauffman Center with the Conservatory Orchestra, performing in master classes with Maestro Hector Olivera, and giving a presentation at the MTNA National Conference in Baltimore.</p>



Paul Meier

Paul Meier is Director of Music at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral, Kansas City. His performance highlights include appearances as a featured organist with the Los Angeles Master Chorale at Walt Disney Concert Hall and with the Pacific Symphony at Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall. He received a Doctor of Musical Arts degree and a Master of Music degree, both with honors, from the University of Southern California and a Bachelor of Music degree from Rice University. His organ teachers have included Patricia Churchley, Clyde Holloway, Cherry Rhodes, and Harold Vogel. Prior to his appointment at GHTC, Dr. Meier was Assistant Director of Music at Grace Cathedral, San Francisco.



Jacob Hofeling

Jacob began playing the organ from an early age. At twelve he was the church organist for his local congregation. From that point on he developed a deep love for the organ and for organ music. Jacob has a Bachelor of Music degree from Arizona State University in Organ Performance, where he studied under Kimberly Marshall, Goldman Professor of Organ, and a Master of Music degree from the University of Kansas. At ASU Jacob had the opportunity to perform in a number of venues for different occasions. He has performed as part of the Phoenix Youth Rising concert series as a featured young organist for two years. As part of the degree for ASU, Jacob has performed a number of solo recitals on the fabulous Fritz organ at Arizona State. Additionally, Jacob has extensive experience as a chamber musician, accompanying works on organ, harpsichord, and piano in a variety of styles and genres. In November of 2014, he had the great opportunity to perform the organ part to Respighi's Pines of Rome with the ASU Symphony Orchestra. Jacob's music has also been recorded for use on radio at KBAQ in Phoenix, Arizona. Currently, Jacob is a graduate student at the University of Kansas, pursuing a DMA in Organ and Music Theory. He studies under Dr. James Higdon, Dane and Polly Bales Professor of Organ, and head of the Division of Organ and Church Music at KU. Jacob has had experience in organ competitions and was recently selected as one of four American finalists in the Tariverdiev International Organ Competition in Kaliningrad, Russia. He has also been awarded second prize in the Fort Wayne National Organ competition in Fort Wayne, IN. Jacob spends a great deal of time involved in his organ studies, as well as organ improvisation, composition, and arranging. Jacob's interests range far and wide. As a musician, he enjoys the music of other cultures, and has lived for a number of years in Eastern Europe. He is fluent in four languages and enjoys learning to speak and understand others. Currently Jacob is organist at Barry Christian Church in Kansas City, Missouri. He has previously held a position at Desert Hills Presbyterian Church in Scottsdale, Arizona. Jacob has ambitions to one day be an Organist at the historic Salt Lake Tabernacle, in Salt Lake City, Utah.



Shayla Van Hal

Shayla Van Hal is a second year master's student in church music at the University of Kansas and the organist at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Overland Park, Kansas. She graduated summa cum laude with her Bachelor of Arts from Luther College in 2016, where she studied organ with Dr. Gregory Peterson and Brad Schultz. Ms. Van Hal has been commended regularly for her musical and academic achievement. She was named Luther College's 2015-2016 Theodore Presser Scholar, a Luther Imagine Fellow to Europe, and a member of the musical honor society Pi Kappa Lambda. She was recently named a finalist in the 2017 Mikael Tariverdiev International Organ Competition and the Fox Valley AGO Scholarship Competition. After completing her master's degree, Ms. Van Hal plans to continue her education, hoping to return to Europe for a summer of organ study.



Mario Pearson and Cathedral Schola Cantorum

Born and raised in Cape Town, South Africa, Dr. Mario has been director music and liturgy and principal organist for the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception since November, 2006. Currently, he also serves as the music coordinator in the Office of Divine Worship of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. The schola cantorum, that he established when he came to the Cathedral is a professional singing ensemble that sings mostly early sacred polyphony. They lead the music ministry at the Cathedral's 2:30pm and Sunday 11am services.

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