



SERVICE PLAYING WORKSHOP! Sat Sept 24 10AM Pakachoag Church/Auburn

Experienced organists share their tips on service playing and hymns.

This workshop is for ANYONE

who wants to tune up their skills, or get some new perspectives on how to approach “this thing we do each week”

The workshop will be **particularly helpful** for those who are studying for (or considering) the **AGO Service Playing & Colleague Exams.**

Pakachoag’s Dobson tracker is particularly suited for clear hymn playing, and we will be up front and close to the console to get a front row view of the techniques being discussed.

[RSVP](#) to reserve your free seat!

Hey – **did we mention it is FREE?** Invite your students and piano enthusiasts too.

Hymns: Looking “under the hood” - Inspiring your congregation to SING!

- What parts of the hymn tune are important to consider in accompanying
- Improvising Accompaniments & Introductions
- Implications of the tune; appropriate styles to use

Hymn Transposing - the Ups and the Downs -

- The low-hanging fruit – *visual tricks* for when the transposition key fits a recipe
- How to practice
- Shape and structure
- Understand the basic chords in a hymn tune (for example, harmonic analysis and secondary dominants)
- Fingering and Feeling: following proper voice leading

[RSVP](#) to reserve your free workshop seat!

WorcAGO 2016-7 AGO CALENDAR (with a few not-to-miss neighboring chapter events intermingled)

2016

August 3

Sean Redrow in concert, Worcester Organ Seires, Mechanics Hall, Wednesday noon

August 10

Brett Maguire in concert, Worcester Organ Seires, Mechanics Hall, Wednesday noon

Aug 21 (Sunday) 12:30-2:30 Preservation Worcester Tours, Worcester Auditorium 1933 Kimball

with **mini-concerts/demos on the half-hour**: “Organ Repertoire Greatest Hits”.

Pipe Petting Zoo; Will Sherwood, organist www.WorcAUD.com

September 24 10AM Saturday

Workshop on General Skill Building for Service Playing-- addressing the requirements of the Service Playing Certificate and Colleague Exam. Open to ALL, regardless of whether they are interested in exam preparation or just improving their skills.

Location: Pakachoag Church, Auburn (lots of parking)

October 3

1st Monday [Open Console](#)

Blessed Sacrament, Worcester- soon-to-be refurbished Skinner

Facilitator: Kurt Blomstrom; Host Person: Becky Noone

Oct 9 Sunday www.WorcAUD.com ← see details on the website for reserving seats (\$5 chair rental fee)
(with Chamber Music Concerts in Memorial Hall at 3PM, 5:30 & 6PM, and tours & organ demos throughout)
Kimball 1933 IV/106 at Worcester Memorial Auditorium

- **4PM William Ness in Concert**
(Wagner Meistersingers, Bach, etc.)
[Reception between concerts]
- **6:30PM Silent Film– Wings Over Worcester**
accpd by Peter Krasinski (full-length 2-hour Academy award winning film) introduced with Veterans HonorGuard

Oct 10 Monday Columbus Day *BOSTON Organ Crawl in JP*

Oct 14 Friday

(with Chamber Music Concerts in Memorial Hall at 6PM, and tours & organ demos throughout)

Worcester Auditorium 1933 IV/106 Kimball

- **7PM** Organ recital by **international artist Peter Richard Conte** (Wanamaker Organist) on the mighty Kimball introduced with HonorGuard [Reception following]

Oct 22 Saturday 10AM-1:30 BOSTON PPP in Concord MA

Wed Nov 2 7:30PM Assumption Chapel - **Marie-Bernadette Dufourcet-Hakim**, Professor, University of Bordeaux Montaigne
(co-sponsored by WorcAGO)

Friday Nov 11 Organ Crawl in Worc Area, sponsored by Springfield and Berkshire AGO

Nov 30 Wed Noon –Worcester Organ Concert at Mechanics Hall – **“All that Holiday Jazz”** (Hook organ with WPI Jazz Ensemble; broadcast live on WICN)

2017

Friday, **January 6** - **12th Night Social** --Host: Sean Redrow

Feb – MVAGO MidWinter Jubilee Mini-Convention

Spring date TBD Saturday 10AM--Pedals, Pipes and Pizza--Presenter/Facilitator: Brett Maguire

March 18 Saturday BOSTON Bach Festival (all day)

Friday March 24 7:30PM - Assumption Chapel - Dr. Loreto Aramendi, Organist of Santa Maria Basilica, San Sebastian, Spain
(co-sponsored by WorcAGO)

Apr 28 Friday 7PM --Young Artist Showcase - **Mitchell Miller, organist** --St. Joseph Church, Worcester Casavant

Sunday, **May 7 3:00 p.m.**

Organ "Plus" concert by members--Village Congregation Church, Whitinville--Facilitators: Dorothy Frisch and Kurt Blomstrom

May 15 Monday 7PM

Scholarship Recital and Annual Meeting (6:45), preceded by social time(6PM) and gourmet hors d'oeuvres
First Congregational Church, Shrewsbury--Facilitator: Malcolm Halliday

Other co-sponsored concerts at Assumption (Spring) & Trinity & All Saints (febr) are not listed yet due to planning details not yet available.

Oct 9 & 14, 2016 – Worcester Memorial Auditorium Extravaganza

- Great Hall Concerts: *The Mighty Kimball Pipe Organ —first Silent Film (with organ) ever at the AUD!*
- Memorial Hall—Chamber Music Concerts:
The Finest Concert Acoustics in Worcester (7 sec. reverb.) – the first concerts ever in this space!

Schedule of Events

www.WorcAUD.com

Oct 9 Sunday

- *Memorial Hall:*
3PM Seele Musicale Chamber Ensemble, Alesia Tringale, soprano – *acclaimed performances*
Memorial Hall Tour (Preservation Worcester)
- 3:30 – Kimball Organ demo (WorcAGO) and Great Hall tour (Preservation Worcester)
- **4PM William Ness in Concert** – *dazzling technique grips audiences with awe*
(Wagner Meistersingers, Vienne Symphony, Patriotic Masterpieces, Shostakovich Symphony)
- *Memorial Hall:*
5:30PM St John’s Schola Cantorum vocal ensemble – *one of Worcester’s finest professional choirs*
6PM Coriolis Chamber Players – *a fresh approach to chamber works*
Memorial Hall Tours (Preservation Worcester)
- 6:20 –Great Hall docent introduction (Preservation Worcester)
- **6:30 PM Silent Film– Wings Over Worcester** (WINGS-full-length 2-hour Academy-award-winning film)
acqpd by Peter Krasinski, *international improvisation competition winner & silent film meister*
introduced with Veterans HonorGuard

Oct 14 Friday

- *Memorial Hall:*
6PM String Quartet Concert – *hear the mesmerizing warm sounds of this fine group*
Memorial Hall Tours
- 6:30 – Kimball Organ demo and Great Hall tour
- **7PM International Organist Peter Richard Conte** introduced with Veterans HonorGuard
- *organist titulaire of one of the most famous and largest pipe organs in the world: Wanamakers*

Brainstorming Hooks/Headlines:

- Fanfares to Replace *The Sounds of Silence* at the AUD
- The Re-invigoration of a Worcester Jewel
- Hand-Crafted Live Music Returns to AUD - First concerts since 1990s
- Piping Hot! Organists Pull Out All The Stops at the AUD

➔ Continue next page for background materials ***

WORCESTER, THE CITY OF ORGANS

by Leonardo Ciampa

September 2, 2016

PIPE ORGAN CAPITAL OF NEW ENGLAND

The city with the richest array of pipe organs in the Northeast is not Boston. It is Worcester, Massachusetts. Worcester boasts over 25 large and powerful organs, and innumerable smaller instruments, to say nothing of the organs in neighboring communities.

HOW PIPE ORGANS EVOLVED

Centuries before the invention of the synthesizer, the organ produced sounds imitating trumpets, oboes, clarinets, flutes, and even string instruments. In fact, until the invention of early computers, the pipe organ was the most complex machine in the world. Even today, with its thousands of pipes ranging in size from 32 feet high to smaller than a pencil, the organ inspires awe, with sounds that are not only heard, but felt.

That the pipe organ is, in many people's minds, inextricably linked to the church is something of a curiosity. In antiquity, the organ was considered an utterly pagan instrument, beloved by the Ancient Romans – who, it is rumored, played organs in amphitheatres while Christians were being consumed by lions! It is no wonder, then, that when the organ was introduced into the church in the Medieval times, Christians were aghast. (Whatever objection people had to electric guitars in church, the objection to organs was far stronger!)

Fortunately, organs in non-religious auditoriums are enjoying a renaissance. In the past 25 years, numerous gigantic instruments have been built in important concert halls across the US, such as Meyerson Hall in Dallas, Walt Disney Hall in Los Angeles, the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia, and the Kennedy Center in Washington.

SUPERLATIVES AT THE AUD

Worcester is the home of not one but two huge concert hall instruments: the world-renowned 1864 Hook organ in Mechanics Hall, and the even larger Kimball organ in the Auditorium.

- **Our Kimball is the only unaltered major municipal organ in the US**
- **Our Kimball is the second largest instrument in Worcester.**
- **The organ, like the building, is a time capsule of the 1930s aesthetics.**
- **The October events contain two Firsts:**
 - **First Silent Film at the AUD ever (with organ accompaniment)**
 - **First time chamber music concerts are held in the Memorial Hall (mosaic gallery)**

The Art-Deco Worcester AUD, built to honor and remember those served in WWI, has served for generations as a multi-purpose municipal auditorium and center for community events—serving admirably until the 1990s when the facility went dark. Renewed interest by the community and especially arts groups has raised hopes that the AUD can once again become a vibrant venue.

QUALITY NOT FORGOTTEN

The AUD's Kimball organ, though neglected for years, fortunately has *not* gone to ruin. Partly because **it was neglected**, it has survived—no one cared enough about it to bother trying to alter or "improve" it. It has survived, too, because it was beautifully made. It represents a style of organbuilding, and manifests a high quality of construction, that we are *not likely ever to see again*. It is our great good fortune that it is intact.

Although not owning the instrument, the Worcester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is leading the charge to showcase the Kimball for the community to hear once again the grandeur of our mighty King of Instruments, just as audiences heard it during the Great Depression.

Unplug your earbuds and come to hear great live music!

Additional References:

[AUD History](#) [History from 1933 Dedication](#) [Timeline](#) (color coded) [Press Articles](#)
[AUD Kimball Pipe Organ Repository of Information](#) (multiple pages; espec see [Fun Facts](#))