



METHUEN
MEMORIAL
MUSIC HALL

METHUEN MEMORIAL MUSIC HALL MMMh UPDATE

NUMBER 23

APRIL 2018

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our 2018 Season, extending from May through December, includes widely varied events, and features outstanding musical programs, superb artists and reasonable ticket prices. This exciting programming encompasses weekday and weekend performances; classical, traditional and operetta repertoire; and solo and ensemble artists.

The Wednesday evening Organ Recital Series has long been recognized as the premier showcase for organ performance on an historic instrument in the nation. The 2018 fifteen-week series begins on May 23 and continues through August 29. Extraordinarily talented organists from across the United States and South Korea will perform on the Great Organ.

This year's season will also include: an "Open Console Day"; the Methuen Young People's Theatre performances of the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta "The Pirates of Penzance"; the Fall Scholarship Fund Organ Recital to be performed by Hector Olivera; the "Christmas Open House"; and the "A Merry Music Hall Christmas" concerts.

We sincerely appreciate your interest, patronage and financial support. Thank you for helping us to maintain the fine performance tradition at the Music Hall, and to continue to preserve the Great Organ as a stunning example of the "King of Instruments".

Ed Sampson

MMMh ON-LINE

The MMMh website (www.mmmh.org) provides: detailed information on all Board of Trustees-sponsored recitals and concerts; a description and stop list of the Great Organ; a history of the Music Hall; and mail order information about available CD, SACD and DVD recordings.

MMMh TELEPHONE

To contact us by telephone via voice mail, please call (978) 685-0693.

WHERE WE ARE

The Methuen Memorial Music Hall is located at 192 Broadway (Route 28) in Methuen, Massachusetts. Methuen lies between Lawrence, Massachusetts to the south and Salem, New Hampshire to the north. It is 28 miles north of Boston.

The two principal interstate highways in the area are Routes 93 and 495. From Route 93, travel to Exit No. 48 for Route 213. Go east on Route 213 and exit at Route 28. Turn right at the end of the exit ramp and head south on Route 28 about 1/2 mile through Methuen center to the Music Hall on the right. From Route 495, travel to Exit No. 47 for Route 213. Go west on Route 213 and exit at Route 28. Turn left at the end of the exit ramp and head south on Route 28 about 3/4 mile through Methuen center to the Music Hall on the right.

A BRIEF HISTORY

The Great Organ was originally built during the years 1857 through 1863 in Ludwigsburg, Germany by the firm of E. F. Walcker and Company for the Boston Music Hall. This first concert organ in the United States exerted considerable influence on American organ design and construction during the latter part of the 19th-century.

Edward F. Searles of Methuen purchased the instrument in 1897, rebuilt it and erected it in a specially built concert hall designed by the English architect Henry Vaughan. In 1947, G. Donald Harrison of the Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company of Boston completed an extensive tonal reconstruction. Today, the organ's resources include four manuals, five divisions, 85 stops, 116 ranks and 6,088 pipes.

WE ARE A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

The Methuen Memorial Music Hall, Inc. is a private, nonprofit organization established to preserve the famed Great Organ. It was incorporated in 1946 under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and was granted a tax-exempt status in accordance with Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code in 1949. Financial contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

2018 SEASON

ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

Fifteen Wednesday Evenings at 8:00 P.M.
Doors open at 7:30 P.M.; Tickets at the door
Adults: \$12.00; Children: \$5.00

May 23 Greg Zelek
Madison, Wisconsin
Works by Bach, Franck, Liszt, Weaver, Schumann
and Guilment
Sponsored by Edward S. and Susie W. Rowland

May 30 John Walker
Baltimore, Maryland
Works by Jongen, Bach, Sowerby, Franck, Vierne,
Cochereau, Chen and Paine
Sponsored by Enterprise Bank

June 6 Abbey Siegfried
Andover, Massachusetts
Works by Bach, Starer, Alain, Liszt, Walker,
Siegfried, Pinkham and Duruflé
Sponsored by The Savings Bank

June 13 Bálint Karosi
Hartsdale, New York
Works by Koloss, Karosi, Hindemith and Peeters
Sponsored by Christopher Morss

June 20 Boston Organ Studio
Christian Lane - Dor Amram - Brandon Santini -
Jennifer Hsiao
Boston, Massachusetts
Works by Elgar, Franck, Vierne, Morel and Reubke
Sponsored by Randy Steere

June 27 Eric Plutz
Princeton, New Jersey
Willoughby Frederick and Emma Jacobson Watts
Memorial Organ Recital
Works by Hollins, Purvis, Mendelssohn, Hirten,
Flagler, Widor and Vierne

July 4 Samantha Koch
Warrensburg, Missouri
Works by Tchaikovsky, Reger, Joplin, Bach and
Price
Sponsored by Law Offices of Arthur Broadhurst

July 11 Amanda Mole
Rochester, New York
Works by Mendelssohn, Liszt, Bach, Wammes,
Schumann, Alain and Messiaen
Sponsored by Kenneth H. Pollard Funeral Home, Inc.

July 18 Carson Cooman
Cambridge, Massachusetts
Works by Willscher, Dalton, Lo Muscio, Cooman,
Ferrari and Åberg
Sponsored by Salem Co-operative Bank

July 25 Clara Gerdes
Davidson, North Carolina
Works by Bach, Whitlock, Conte, Hindemith and
Dvořák
In Memory of Kenneth T. Morse

August 1 Margaret Harper
Exeter, New Hampshire
Summer Scholarship Fund Organ Recital
Works by Bach and Liszt
Sponsored by William H. Drury

August 8 John Robinson
Cambridge, Massachusetts
Works by Bach, de Grigny, Howells, Webber,
Franck, Vierne and Dupré
Sponsored by Dick Kenney

August 15 Alexander Pattavina
New York, New York
Works by Reger, Elgar, Vierne, Bach, Mendelssohn
and Messiaen
Sponsored by Nashoba Analytical, LLC

August 22 Dong-ill Shin
Seoul, South Korea
Works by Messiaen, Bach, Dupré and Elgar
Sponsored by Campbell Steward

August 29 Colin Lynch
Brookline, Massachusetts
Works by Widor, Wright, Gammes, Parry and
Duruflé
Sponsored by Michaud Insurance Agency, Inc.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Saturday, May 19, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
Open Console Day
An opportunity for area organists and organ students
to play the "Great Organ".
For sign-up and open schedule times, e-mail:
joyceorganist@aol.com
*Co-sponsored by the American Guild of Organists
Merrimack Valley Chapter*

Saturday, September 8, 2:00 and 7:30 P.M.
Sunday, September 9, 3:00 P.M.
Methuen Young People's Theatre
Gilbert and Sullivan: "The Pirates of Penzance"
Adults: \$10.00, Children: \$5.00

Advance Tickets: Mail order, with check made payable to MYPT, after August 1 to Mrs. Janet Jaber, 205 Forest Street, Methuen, MA 01844-2333. (Please specify if tickets are to be held at the door or mailed back. A stamped return envelope is appreciated.) Any remaining tickets will be available for purchase at the door.

Friday, October 26, 8:00 P.M.
Fall Scholarship Fund Organ Recital
Hector Olivera
Sarasota, Florida
Works by Vierne, Jongen, Rabey, Lefébure-Wély,
Handel and Bach
Doors open at 7:30 P.M., Tickets at the door
Adults: \$12.00, Students: \$5.00
*Sponsored by The Salem Five Charitable Foundation
The Methuen Memorial Music Hall Board of Trustees
extends its appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Leon-
Diego Fernández for his partial funding of this recital.*

Friday, November 30, 7:00 to 9:00 P.M.
Christmas Open House
Fidelio Society
a cappella choir of Phillips Academy, Andover
Abbey Siegfried, Director
Seasonal Music on the "Great Organ",
Christmas Carol Sing-Alongs, Raffles and
Light Refreshments
Free Admission
Donations to the Organ Restoration Fund

Saturday, December 1, 7:00 P.M.
"A Merry Music Hall Christmas"
Ray Cornils, organ
Robinson Pyle and Greg Gettel, trumpets
Reserved Seating: Adults: \$20, Children: \$5
Advance Ticket Sales information at www.mmmh.org
website after November 1

Sunday, December 2, 3:00 P.M.
"A Merry Music Hall Christmas"
Ray Cornils, organ
Robinson Pyle and Greg Gettel, trumpets
Reserved Seating: Adults: \$20, Children: \$5
Advance Ticket Sales information at www.mmmh.org
website after November 1

RECITAL SERIES SUBSCRIPTIONS

Series subscriptions to all fifteen Wednesday evening Organ Recitals are available at substantial savings. Subscription rates are \$125.00 for an individual, \$225.00 for a couple and \$400.00 for an organization (admits 6). Tickets purchased at the

door are priced at \$12.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12 years of age. Subscribe using the order/contributions form.

SCHOLARSHIPS

For 44 years, the Music Hall Board of Trustees has awarded scholarships to graduating high school seniors who pursue music as their major at the collegiate level. To date, 87 students have received a total of \$66,000 in scholarship awards.

A \$1,000 scholarship was awarded in 2017. Funding was obtained from Scholarship Fund Recitals and from Scholarship Fund donations from the public. Congratulations to the following recipient who was selected by our Youth and Scholarship Committee from an array of several outstanding applicants.

David Shane, from Georgetown, Massachusetts, graduated from Georgetown High School, where he achieved a superb academic record with many honors credits. His musical accomplishments have been remarkable and wide-ranging, including study and performance in cello, voice, percussion and theater and a number of music-related activities. He has had the honor of participating in the Massachusetts All State Chorus and has won awards from the Massachusetts Music Educators' Association, the Northeastern Massachusetts Youth Orchestras and the National Association of Teachers of Singing. David was accepted to the prestigious Ithaca College School of Music on both cello and voice. In addition to his performing, David hopes also to pursue an interest in sound recording technology.

Applications are being accepted through May 15, for two 2018 \$1,000 scholarships, which will be awarded to graduating high school seniors from Methuen and neighboring areas of the Merrimack Valley who are planning to major in music at college. Further information may be obtained by checking the appropriate line on the order/contributions form.

Your contribution to the Scholarship Fund (please see the order/contributions form) and your attendance at the Summer Scholarship Fund Organ Recital (August 1) and the Fall Scholarship Fund Organ Recital (October 26) will help us to continue to provide financial assistance for the education of future generations of musicians.

Other youth-oriented activities sponsored by the Music Hall Board of Trustees include the annual Gilbert and Sullivan operetta presentation by the Methuen Young People's Theatre. In the summer of 2018, youth from grade 4 through high school will learn "The Pirates of Penzance", which they will perform at the Music Hall the weekend after Labor Day. The Board of Trustees also holds "Music Hall Days" each spring, funded by a grant from the

Methuen Cultural Council. This event provides an opportunity for fourth graders from local schools to come to the Music Hall to hear a demonstration of the organ and to gain an appreciation of the Hall and its history.

RECITAL SERIES PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

If you would like a folder listing all fifteen recital programs of the Organ Recital Series, check the appropriate line on the order/contributions form and include a stamped, self-addressed business size envelope.

EDWARD F. SEARLES SOCIETY

The Music Hall Board of Trustees has established the Edward F. Searles Society to recognize individuals who have remembered the Music Hall through planned giving. By including the corporation in your estate planning, you will help to ensure the future of the Music Hall and our programming for years to come. Opportunities for planned giving are numerous, including: bequests; life insurance; trusts; annuities; and retirement plans. If you have included the Music Hall in your estate planning, please let us know. For further information on this significant way to show your loyal support of, and confidence in, the future of the Music Hall, check the appropriate line on the order/contributions form.

EXPANDED PROGRAMMING

While the primary focus of our programming continues to be classical repertoire recitals performed on the "Great Organ", the Music Hall Board of Trustees has augmented this season's offerings with some alternative programming. In an effort to reach out to people with other interests, and to increase our audience base, we have included: an "Open Console Day"; the Christmas Open House; and the two Christmas programs featuring organ and trumpets.

RECITAL ENDOWMENT AND SPONSORSHIP

One recital of our fifteen-week Wednesday Evening Organ Recital Series is a specially designated, named recital. Any individual, family, organization, or corporation may establish a named recital by making an endowment contribution to permanently underwrite the production cost of such a recital. This is a unique way to honor a family member or friend, to recognize a group, or memorialize a deceased loved one.

We also offer individuals, families, organizations and corporations the opportunity to underwrite any of the

non-endowed recitals of our series on an annual basis. See the order/contributions form.

The following were memorialized in 2017.

Despina Chatis Clark	Gertrude P. Meehan
C. Cabot Easton	Kenneth T. Morse
Donald Foss	Chandler Holmes Noyes
Edmund B. Furber	Everett Wagner
Edward S. Hodgson	Hilda Wagner
Valorie Hodgson	Renea Waligora
William S. Hurst	Emma Jacobson Watts
George Krajian	Willoughby Frederick Watts
Lee W. Malone	

MUSIC HALL RENTALS

The Music Hall may be rented for weddings, meetings, concerts and recitals. The hall provides a truly magnificent venue for any such event. For rental rates and date availability, contact us through the website.

MMMh APPEAL

In the final analysis, it is only through the ongoing financial support of you - our patrons and benefactors - that the Music Hall continues its rich legacy of performance, entertainment and enrichment. We thank you for all that you have done, and for what we hope you will continue to do, to assist in covering the cost of operations and capital improvements of the "Great Organ" and the Music Hall.

Your contribution to our "MMMh Appeal" would be greatly appreciated. Please see the order/contributions form.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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2017 ORGAN RECITAL SERIES SUBSCRIBERS

Andover Organ Company

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Robert and Susan True

OUR MAILING ADDRESS

Send the order form, your check and any requests for further information to:

Methuen Memorial Music Hall, Inc.
Post Office Box 463
Methuen, Massachusetts 01844-0463

ORDER / CONTRIBUTIONS FORM

CUT ALONG DASHED LINE

Methuen Memorial Music Hall, Inc.

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____
for the items and/or contributions indicated below.

2018 Organ Recital Series Subscription

___ Individual \$125.00 (admits 1)

___ Couple \$225.00 (admits 2)

___ Organization \$400.00 (admits 6)

\$ _____ MMMH Appeal Contribution

\$ _____ Scholarship Fund Contribution

___ Organ Recital Series Program Folder

___ Scholarship Application Information

___ Recital Endowment and Sponsorship
Information

___ Edward F. Searles Society Information

___ Please keep me on the mailing list.

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name _____

Address _____

City or Town _____

State and ZIP+4 Code _____

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Methuen, Massachusetts 01844-0463

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2018 MMMH UPDATE



THE GREAT ORGAN



Photograph by John D. Woolf, 2011

Originally in the Boston Music Hall

E. F. Walcker and Company
Ludwigsburg, Germany
Opus 200, 1863

Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company, Inc.
Boston, Massachusetts
Opus 1103, 1947

4 manuals, 5 divisions

Great:	24 stops,	38 ranks,	2,302 pipes
Swell:	16 stops,	19 ranks,	1,147 pipes
Choir:	10 stops,	12 ranks,	702 pipes
Positiv:	13 stops,	17 ranks,	1,037 pipes
Pedal:	22 stops,	30 ranks,	900 pipes
Total:	85 stops,	116 ranks,	6,088 pipes