

**Cleveland Composers Guild &
American Guild of Organists**
present

New Music for Organ

Sunday, October 20, 2024 | 3pm

**Helen Rockwell Morley Memorial Hall
391 West Washington Street | Painesville**

Works by

**LARRY BAKER
LORENZO SALVAGNI
MATTHEW SAUNDERS
STEPHEN STANZIANO
JAMES WILDING**

Performances by

**KELSEY BERG
MARIO BUCHANAN
ANNA JUDKINS
MAYUMI NARAMURA
CHARLOTTE BEERS PLANK
WITH THOMAS LEMPNER**

67 years of presenting new music in Northeast Ohio.

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**Cleveland Composers Guild
2024-2025 Season
Concert 1: New Music for Organ**

**Sunday, October 20, 2024 | 3:00pm
Helen Rockwell Morley Memorial Hall
Painesville, Ohio**

Program

Presented in collaboration with the Cleveland Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Grant Them Rest

Stephen Stanziano

**Charlotte Beers Plank
Thomas Lempner, alto saxophone**

Meditation

James Wilding

Mario Buchanan

Collect

Larry Baker

Kelsey Berg

Seven Last Words

Matthew C. Saunders

**II. I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise
III. Dear woman, here is your son... here is your mother
V. I am thirsty
VI. It is finished**

Anna Judkins

Prelude and Fugue

Lorenzo Salvagni

Mayumi Naramura

Composers—Music—Performers

DR. STEPHEN STANZIANO is an active composer, educator, and bassist in Northeast Ohio, and holds a Ph.D. in music theory and composition from Kent State University. His works have been performed by the Cleveland Chamber Collective, Grammy-award winning guitarist Jason Vieaux, baritone Andrew White, several Cleveland Orchestra members including violist Lisa Boyko, flutist Peter Bloom, members of the Greater Cleveland Flute Society, the Gruca White Ensemble, and the Cleveland Chamber Symphony. His music has been recorded by the Gruca White Ensemble on Big Round Records, the St. Cecilia Foundation, and performed live throughout the United States and Europe, including St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. He is a 2023-24 ASCAPPlus award winner, past chair of the Cleveland Composers Guild, and on the music faculty at Cleveland State University, Hiram College, and Lakeland Community College. Stephen and his wife live in Lyndhurst, Ohio.

GRANT THEM REST is composed for organ and alto saxophone. The melodic content consists of variations on two different sacred requiem chants of the Middle Ages, as well as variations on John Coltrane's A LOVE SUPREME. The structural design is a slow, ominous-sounding introduction, followed by a ternary form featuring tonally-bright and up-tempo music framing a dissonant passage based on a tritone ostinato.

CHARLOTTE BEERS PLANK is Associate Director of Music and Organist for First Congregational Church (UCC) in Hudson, where she has served since 2015.. Charlotte earned a Bachelor of Music in organ performance and Bachelor of Arts in German studies from Oberlin College and Conservatory. She studied organ at Oberlin with Jack Mitchener and David Boe, and previously with Ralph Valentine in West Hartford, Connecticut. Charlotte served as the organist for Christ Episcopal Church in Oberlin, Ohio from 2010 to 2015. She lives in Twinsburg with her husband and their two sons.

Saxophonist **THOMAS LEMPNER** has performed in Serbia, Hungary, Germany, Czech Republic, United Kingdom, and the Dominican Republic. He has premiered the works of over a dozen Northeast Ohio composers. Lempner performs with Ekklésia Reed Quintet, Akron Symphonic Winds, Neo-Tessares Saxophone Quartet, and Dave Banks Big Band. Lempner earned a masters degree from Kent State University, degrees in music therapy and performance from Baldwin Wallace College Conservatory of Music, and a diploma from the Armed Forces School of Music. His faculty experience includes Cleveland State University, Baldwin Wallace University Conservatory of Music, and the College of Wooster. Thomas Lempner is a Conn-Selmer Performing Artist and is a U.S. Army Veteran with various awards and decorations.

DR. JAMES WILDING is of British heritage, and was born and raised in South Africa. He studied at the University of Cape Town, and later moved to the United States to continue his studies at Youngstown State University and Kent State University. Wilding's mastery of structure and lyricism, and his use of ethnic instruments, folk tunes, connections to art, photography, literature, and stories, capture audiences in the US and abroad. His work has been enthusiastically championed by such groups as the Escher String Quartet, the Stow Symphony Orchestra, the Factory Seconds Trio, and the Chamber Music Society of Ohio. He has received commissions from Bayerischer Rundfunk, the South African Music Rights Organization, the Tuesday Musical Association, and the Orange County School of the Arts. His piano pieces *Etude* and *Poem* were prescribed for the UNISA-Transnet International Piano Competition and the Hennie Joubert National Competition. His music is published by Hal Leonard, Musica Ferrum, Afri-Piano, and Wilding Publications. Dr. Wilding teaches composition and theory at The University of Akron in Ohio.

“Composed in 2021, **MEDITATION** can fill any part of a religious service requiring quiet reflection. It was written for a family wedding, and in that sense is a personal work. It is the third I've written with this title, following the **MEDITATION ON BASC**, written for the 50th anniversary of the Bascom Little Fund, and the **MEDITATION** for organ and brass quintet, premiered at the 2017 AGO Great Lakes Regional Convention. All three works promote an atmosphere of calm spirituality. The current **MEDITATION** is also the third in a series of five works from 2021-22 that use the principle of augmentation canon, inspired by Arvo Pärt's *Festina Lente*, although unlike Pärt's great work, where the proportions are relatively strict, my pieces tend to conceptualize the idea with some freedom, where strict augmentation is replaced by a slight lengthening of the notes.”

MARIO BUCHANAN serves as Director of Music and Organist at Christ Church Episcopal in Hudson. Born and raised in Akron, Mario is a graduate of the University of Akron where he earned a Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance, studying primarily with Valerie Thorson and secondarily with Nicole Keller. He performed Francis Poulenc's Concerto for Organ and Orchestra with the University of Akron Symphony Orchestra to great acclaim. Mario concertizes around the country, including most recently at St. Philip's Cathedral in Atlanta and Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston. He has received additional organ instruction from Todd Wilson and Marie-Louis Langlais (widow of Jean Langlais). Mario is a Colleague of the American Guild of Organists (AGO), Past Dean of the AGO Akron Chapter, and past Music in Worship Chair for the Ohio Choral Directors Association. He currently serves at the Chair of the Lay Professional Advocacy Committee for The Association of Anglican Musicians.

LARRY BAKER taught at the Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM) from 1973 to 1993. He also directed the New Music Ensemble, Performance Group and Reconnaissance, conducting numerous performances and premiers in Cleveland and throughout the United States. In 1983, he received the Cleveland Arts Prize for Music. Performances of his music include **TARANTULA** by the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra with soloist Tim Adams; **HAYDN'S HEAD** by Lyric Opera Cleveland; **SCARLET DANCES** by the Cleveland Chamber Symphony; and **RAINMUSIC** at the 2010 Musical Olympus Gala at Carnegie Recital Hall. Recordings include **RAINMUSIC** by Cornelia Monske (2005); **WITH** by Karel Paukert released by the Cleveland Museum of Art (2006); and **WHEN AIR IS NOT ENOUGH** with **COIL** by Tim Lane (2024). Mr. Baker studied composition with Spencer Norton and piano with James Mathis at the University of Oklahoma. He studied composition with Donald Erb at CIM.

COLLECT takes inspiration from Joseph Albers' series of artworks entitled “Homage to the Square.” In these works, Albers would take a square of color and surround that square with different colors. This showed how we perceive the same color differently when a color is placed in various environments. In this work for organ, I set different intervals and pitches against pedal points to show how we perceive dissonance and consonance differently in changing contexts.

KELSEY BERG serves as the Assistant Organist & Choirmaster at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Akron and is a doctoral candidate in Organ Performance at CIM, studying with Professor Todd Wilson. At CIM, she teaches secondary organ lessons to both graduate and undergraduate students and was the 2023 recipient of the Heinrich Scholarship in organ. Kelsey also teaches organ lessons, as well as music theory for non-majors at Case Western Reserve University. Prior to attending CIM, Kelsey received both a Master of Music in Organ Performance and a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from Mercer University. She also attended Salem College, receiving both a Certificate in Injury Preventive Keyboard Technique and a Master of Music in Piano Performance and Pedagogy with an Emphasis in Injury Preventive Keyboard Technique. Kelsey is a member of the Association of Anglican Musicians, the Society of Women Organists, and is Sub-Dean of the Cleveland Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

DR. MATTHEW C. SAUNDERS is a Northeast Ohio composer, conductor, trombonist, husband, and father. All his work is connected to teaching students from kindergarten to college in styles from madrigal to mariachi. He draws inspiration from the vastness of space, the waterways and forests, mountains and prairies of America, the motion of atoms, and the mysteries of existence, but most importantly from collaboration with other musicians and his students. Dr. Saunders is a lover of both solitude and camaraderie, Cincinnati-style chili, road trips, movies, and random facts. His favorite dinosaur is the Parasaurolophus, but he thinks the best dinosaur is the Stegosaurus. He lives in Willowick with his wife Becky and their two children.

SEVEN LAST WORDS (2016) arose from a conversation with Pastor Jon Wilterdink of Shoregate United Methodist Church in Willowick, Ohio about music in worship and the role of the artist in the life of the church. John asked me to contribute music for Lent, and I immediately thought of the traditional Seven Last Words of Christ. The full set of pieces is intended for the six Sundays of Lent and Good Friday, with the hope that the congregation will focus on one of the final sayings of Jesus during his crucifixion each week during that season of contemplation. Each piece is also inspired by a Psalm (for the movements performed today, Psalms 62, 2, 69/42 and 118, in order); set in one of the seven diatonic modes (Ionian, Mixolydian, Aeolian, and Phrygian); and melodically-oriented around a pitch interval symbolizing an aspect of Christian faith (the unison (Unity), fourth (The Church), fifth (Humanity), and seventh (God)).

ANNA JUDKINS received her Bachelors in Organ Performance from Brigham Young University. She studied with Don Cook and Douglas Bush. She has taught and helped to organize multiple BYU organ workshops in Utah, California, Canada, and Ohio, and taught at the 2018 RCCO Organ Festival in Calgary. She received third place in the Utah Quimby Scholarship Competition for the American Guild of Organists in 2015. She has served multiple congregations across the United States, including, Church of the Incarnation in Florence, Alabama with Ian Lepsky, St. Mary's Episcopal in Provo, Utah as organist/choir director, and St. Ann's Catholic Church in Great Falls, Montana. She currently serves Westlake United Methodist Church with Christopher Neely, and St. Rocco Catholic Church with Francisco Prado as their organist/pianist. She teaches piano and organ at Westlake Music Academy, as well as being a collaborative artist for local musicians in the schools and universities in the area.

A native of Rome, Italy, **DR. LORENZO SALVAGNI** is a well-established composer, pianist, organist, translator and language instructor. He is Director of Music at Holy Rosary Church in Little Italy, Lecturer of Italian at John Carroll University, and Staff Pianist at Hathaway Brown School in Shaker Heights. Dr. Salvagni's compositions are frequently performed, recorded and broadcast nationally and internationally, and are currently available on all major streaming services. Dr. Salvagni is the current chair of the Cleveland Composers Guild. For more information and a list of upcoming events, please check the composer's website at lorenzosalvagni.com

“Written specifically for this collaboration with the American Guild of Organists, my **PRELUDE AND FUGUE** is a humble and quite transparent homage to J.S. Bach. It also incorporates elements of the late-Romantic French style, especially in the opening and closing sections. The main theme encompasses a major ninth and can be first heard in the pedal, accompanied by quickly repeated chords played by both hands that alternate with slower, recitativo-like sections. The same opening theme then becomes the subject of a 4-part fugue. The piece concludes by reverting to its original, free-flowing character, with a final and majestic statement of the original idea.”

Before pursuing music full-time, **MAYUMI NARAMURA**, earned a medical degree and spent many years in biomedical research. Her transition to music was inspired during her time in Nebraska, where she joined the St. Cecilia Cathedral Choir and began playing the organ. Mayumi holds a bachelor's degree in organ performance from Oberlin College and Conservatory, and a master's degree in early keyboard instruments from the University of Michigan. Currently, she is the Director of Music Ministry at St. Christopher Catholic Church in Rocky River. In her role as music director, Mayumi aims to rediscover and promote traditional church music, emphasizing the importance of organ music for younger generations. Outside of music, Mayumi enjoys knitting and taking walks with her yorkie-poo, Boo.

Skinner Organ Company, Opus 647

The organ in Helen Rockwell Morley Music Hall was hand-built by E.M. Skinner in 1927, with the hall designed around the instrument. Following initial renovations in the 1970s to modernize the sound and console, the organ suffered damage from weather and time and was unplayable by the 1990s. The combined efforts of Lake Erie College and the Painesville community allowed for the complete renovation of the hall and instrument in 2006 by the Muller Organ Company.

STOP LIST

	GREAT	8'	Cornoepen		ECHO
16'	Bourdon	8'	Oboe D'Amour	8'	Fern Flute
8'	First Diapason	8'	Vox Humana	8'	Vox Angelica II
8'	Second Diapason	4'	Clarion	8'	Vox Humana
8'	Claribel Flute		Tremolo		Tremolo
4'	Octave				
4'	Flute		CHOIR		PEDAL
2 $\frac{3}{4}$ '	Twelfth	16'	Dulciana	32'	Bourdon
2'	Super Octave	8'	Geigen Principal	16'	Diapason
IV	Mixture	8'	Concert Flute	16'	Violone
16'	Ophicleide	8'	Dulciana	16'	Bourdon
8'	Tuba	8'	Kleine Erzähler II	16'	Echo Bourdon
4'	Clarion	4'	Rohr Flute	16'	Dulciana
	Chimes	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ '	Nazard	8'	Octave
		2'	Flautina	8'	Cello
	SWELL	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ '	Tierce	8'	Gedeckt
16'	Bourdon	8'	Clarinet	8'	Still Gedeckt
8'	Diapason	8'	Orchestral Oboe	4'	Super Octave
8'	Gedeckt		Tremolo	4'	Flute
8'	Gamba			32'	Bombarde
8'	Voix Céleste II		SOLO	16'	Trombone
8'	Flauto Dolce	8'	Orchestral Flute	16'	Waldhorn
8'	Flûte Céleste (TC)	8'	Gamba	8'	Tromba
4'	Octave	8'	Gamba Céleste	4'	Clarion
4'	Violina	8'	French Horn		Chimes
4'	Flute Triangulaire	8'	English Horn		
2'	Fifteenth	8'	Tuba Mirabilis		
III	Dolce Cornet		Tremolo		
V	Chorus Mixture		Chimes		
16'	Waldhorn				

The **AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS** (AGO) is the national professional association serving the organ and choral music fields. Founded in 1896 in New York City, the AGO now serves more than 17,000 voting members in over 340 chapters throughout the United States, Europe and Asia, with 1,000 subscribing members worldwide. Membership is open to all working professionals – organists, teachers, choir directors, organ builders, technicians, and suppliers to the field – as well as students, clergy, dedicated supporters, and amateur musicians. Founded 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.

Programs include a comprehensive series of examinations for professional certification and an extensive list of publications and educational resources. The Guild sponsors competitions in organ performance and improvisation and in organ and choral composition. National and regional conventions, held in alternating years, present the finest performers and teachers. *The American Organist* magazine (TAO), published monthly by the AGO, is the most widely read journal devoted to organ and choral music in the world. Articles cover contemporary and historic instruments; musicological studies; reviews of new music, books, and recordings; practical aspects of sacred music practice; listings of resources and events; and news of the field, plus display and classified advertising. Other publications of the Guild include books, recordings and resources on topics as diverse as performance practice, organ construction, and compensation.

The Cleveland Chapter has non-profit, 501(c)(3) status; donations are welcome and will be used to benefit the chapter. For more information, visit www.agocleveland.org

The **CLEVELAND COMPOSERS GUILD** is one of the nation's oldest new music organizations, and has had over 200 composer members over its sixty-seven-year history. There are currently about 40 professional composers in the Guild whose work represents a wide range of musical styles. In recent years the Guild has collaborated with the North Coast Winds, Factory Seconds Brass Trio, Cleveland Chamber Symphony, Burning River Baroque, the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra, ContempOpera Cleveland, the Chamber Music Society of Ohio, Cleveland Opera Theater, the Cleveland Chamber Choir, The Syndicate For The New Arts, Cleveland Ballet, and with various local artists, to create multidisciplinary concerts that engage with the arts in a new way. The CCG produces numerous live concerts every season featuring the finest performers available in Northeast Ohio. In addition to regular series programs, the Guild produces an annual *Creativity: Learning Through Experience* concert in tandem with the Music Settlement in University Circle and recognizes young undergraduate composers in Northeast Ohio through its Collegiate Composition Contest.

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Upcoming Performances

Our 2024-2025 Season

Join us during our 67th season for music for organ, strings, voices, and much more, in exciting venues across Northeast Ohio!

New Music for Organ | October 20, 2024 | 3pm

Morley Memorial Hall | Lake Erie College | Painesville

Guild members in collaboration with members of the American Guild of Organists

Chamber Music | February 16, 2025 | 3pm

West Shore Unitarian Church | Rocky River

Duos, trios, and quartets by Guild members, and our Collegiate Composition Contest winner.

Poiesis Quartet | March 16, 2025 | 3pm

Drinko Hall | Cleveland State University

The Graduate Quartet-in-Residence at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music presents works by Guild members.

Chamber Music and Sestina Choir | April 13, 2025 | 3pm

Holy Rosary Church | Little Italy

A program of chamber and choral works presented in collaboration with Sestina Choir of Cleveland's soaring voices.

Creativity: Learning Through Experience XXXIII | May 18, 2025 | 3pm

The Music Settlement | University Circle

Latest edition of our annual Junior Concert! Works written specially for young musicians by Cleveland Composers Guild members.

Innovations!

Sundays | 9pm | WLCV 90.3FM

Don't miss Mark Satola's weekly radio program of music by local composers.

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