



SummerSong

SICM Celebrates 20th Osborne Organ Competition in 2008

The Summer Institute of Church Music held its first Organ Competition in 1972: from 12 entrants six finalists were chosen, and Terence Ford and Gertrude Olford were chosen as winners by a jury chaired by that year's organ instructor, George Faxon. The prizes were announced by their donor, Dr. J. N. Lowes. The competition was held again in 1973 and 1974, took on its current biennial shape in 1976, and in 2005 was formally renamed "Osborne" in honour of its founders, who endowed the tradition of the Institute giving a scholarship for advanced study in Church Music, awarded by organ competition. The 20th competition's final round on Tuesday July 8th 2008 at 8pm will be judged by a jury chaired by Michael Bloss, winner in 1982.



The Florence and Stanley Osborne Scholarship in Church Music is named for Mrs. & Dr. Stanley Llewellyn Osborne. With proceeds from *If Such Holy Song* (Whitby, 1976), his commentary on the 1971 joint Hymn Book of the United Church of Canada and Anglican Church of Canada, Dr. Osborne, founding Director of the Summer Institute of

Church Music, endowed the competition via what is now called the Osborne Organ Competition Fund.

Honouring that gift, in 2007 SICM launched the *Holy Song* (see p.3) touring program as a profile-raising initiative for the Institute and a fund-raiser for the Osborne Organ Competition Fund. To the start of SICM 2008 some \$2000 will have been raised in support of the Fund.

From its inception until 2004 Thomas Cromwell served as Competition coordinator; in 2006 the role was assumed by Mark Toews, and in 2008 by John Leek, organist of St. Mark's United Church in Whitby.

For information visit www.sicm.ca and follow the "Osborne" link.

SICM #39 - July 6-11, 2008 Songs and Stories of Our Faith – Christopher Dawes

Stories and songs are the basis for nearly every Faith. Songs recount stories and also form a unique place in faith and emotion. They are often both the first means for our children to own the faith of their baptism, and may be among their last memories as life ebbs away.

As SICM approaches the age of 40 in 2009 we are drawn to the stories of the many deeply-committed men and women that built this institution, and others that continue to dedicate it to serving the church and assisting it in giving ever greater glory. Yet, too, stories of glory and

defeat line the collective mind of church music, as accounts of hope and triumph continue to be balanced by those of deception, cruelty and abuse in our collective lore.

Find out the whole story in an article on pages 2 & 4.

Also inside this issue:

Bloss, Dolloff headline faculty for SICM 2008	2
Are we Off-Key? UCC Consultation on Music	3
Great Performances at SICM 39	2
SOCHS 10th anniversary Hymn Competition	2
Carter, Sosa, Kendrick to visit and teach in Ontario	4
TCS appoints new principal	2
Holy Song Program tours to Thunder Bay	3

"SICM AT 40: How should we mark this important milestone?"

2009 will be the 40th Summer Institute of Church Music in its home town of Whitby. Can you think of potential faculty, activities and initiatives that would help celebrate? Send your ideas to Director Christopher Dawes as below, and mark your calendar now for SICM #40, July 5-10, 2009.

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Michael Bloss, Lori-Anne Dolloff Headline Faculty at SICM 2008



Michael Bloss, as Director of Music Ministry at Dublin Street United Church in Guelph, continues a distinguished tradition of pastoral music ministry which over 30 years has included tenures at St. James

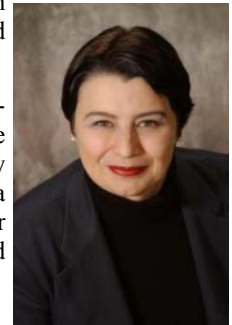
Cathedral in Toronto, First (Park) Congregational Church in Grand Rapids, MI and Timothy Eaton Memorial Church, Toronto. He is an international competition winner (First Prize in the 1982 Osborne Competition, First Prize in the 1986 International Organ Competition at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and Preisträger at the 1992 IX. International J.S. Bach Organ Competition held in Leipzig, Germany), and has appeared throughout the world and on radio and

television. A veteran of parish choral ministries small and large and advanced choral studies at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, he recently led the Toronto group "Sursum Corda" to distinction in the CBC Radio 2 Competition for Amateur Choirs. Increasingly, he is in demand as adjudicator and clinician in organ, piano and choral music at festivals and workshops across the country.

A favourite of SICM students of the recent past, Lori-Anne is Coordinator of the Music Education division of the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music and Organist/Director of Music for Church of Our Saviour in the Don Mills area of Toronto. She teaches undergraduate courses in elementary methods, and choral conducting. At the graduate level she teaches courses in "reflective practice", narrative research methodology, and music in higher education. Dr. Dolloff has published on teacher identity in the British journal "Research in

Music Education" and the Canadian Journal of Research in Music Education. Her monograph, *Das Schulwerk* provides an excellent philosophical discussion of the role of the Orff approach in the artistic development of children. She is also a contributing author to the text "We Will Sing!" An Associate of the International Association for Choral Music Education, Dr. Dolloff has taught courses on conducting, score study and reflective practice across the United States and in Canada, and in Great Britain and Sweden.

An emerging composer/arranger, she is also frequently sought out as a guest conductor for choral festivals and workshops.



New Principal at TCS



The Board of Governors of Whitby's Trafalgar Castle School recently announced the appointment of J. Brian McClure, a Whitby native and 30-year veteran teacher of the 135-year old school for girls as its new Principal. From 1948 to 1968, SICM Founder Dr. Stanley L. Osborne (see p.1) served in the same capacity when TCS was the Ontario Ladies' College.

SOCHS Hymn Competition

In celebration of its 10th anniversary, the Southern Ontario Chapter of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada has announced a hymn competition under the title "Singing God's Song in a Strange Land."

For details, guidelines and registration visit the SOCHS web site at www.sochs.org. Entries may be submitted to Emmanuel College Church Music, 75 Queen's Park Crescent, Toronto, ON M5S 1K7, or competition@sochs.org.

SICM #39: Songs and Stories of Our Faith—and food for thought

Circumstances at SICM 2008 have resulted in an unusual wealth of performance events marking the five evenings of Institute week.

On Sunday July 6th at 7:00pm the tradition of an opening performance continues with the Hilariter Singers and Players and their founder/director and manager, Andrew and Wendy Donaldson. The group celebrates the songs of the world church, and draws others into the world of faith and mission they can represent to us in the west.



Monday July 7th at 7pm SICM welcomes Whitby Storyteller Heather Whaley and harpist Kim Michele in their unique musical version of *The Nightingale* by Hans Christian Andersen—this beautiful story of life, music and technology has profound implications for the church and its music, and a special connection with the SICM 2008 theme, "Songs & Stories of Our Faith."

On Tuesday July 8th St. George's Church, Oshawa will for the 20th time host the final round of the Osborne Organ Competition.

On Wednesday July 9th St. Mark's United Church, Whitby will be the site of the annual student choral concert, conducted by Lori-Anne Dolloff and accompanied by Michael Bloss. This recent SICM tradition seeks both performance pedagogy and a memorable experience for the directors of choirs that may find performing major works challenging or impossible.

On closing night—Thursday the 10th of July—the annual gala Organ Concert will be given by SICM 2008 principal organ instructor Michael Bloss, again at St. George's Memorial Church in Oshawa.

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“Are we Off Key?” A Cross-Canada Think-Tank on Church Music and Ministry Targets Church’s Views of Music and Musicians

In March 2008 the United Church of Canada convened a meeting of 14 prominent church musicians from across Canada, and Paul Westermeyer of Lutheran Seminary, Minneapolis. It was given the task of asking some tough questions about how music and musicians are seen and treated in the context of the church.

In just over three days of frank and imaginative discussion, sharing and soul searching, the group learned from and taught itself to focus thought and emotion concerning the work and life of the church’s music and its musicians. Its objective: to help the United Church (and by implication, other churches) towards newer understandings of music’s place and nature in the life of the church, and in particular those understandings that impact the lives and work of church musicians.

Sessions provided historical background to the today’s state of church music and musicians, reviewed existing policies, examined case studies (some disturbing) from the lives of musicians and then settled to a two-part visioning/writing task:

“Are we Off-Key?”

Working Group, March 5-8 ‘08

David Chodorivsky
Christopher Dawes
John Derksen
Fred Graham
Daniel Hansen
Nancy Hardy
Kenneth Inkster
Ron Klusmeier
Lloyd MacLean
Blair Odney
Fran Ota
Judith Snowdon
Janet Wilson
Patricia Wright

Denominational Guests

Douglas Cowling (Anglican)
Andrew Donaldson (Presbyterian)
Bev Foster (Baptist)
Debbie-Lou Ludolph (Lutheran)

Program Co-ordinator, Worship & Music (UCC)

Rev. Betty Lynn Schwab

Facilitator

Dr. Paul Westermeyer

1. Draft a Theological Statement on music for possible adoption by the UCC.
2. Draft a UCC Resource Document for congregations concerning musical ministry entitled “Singing Faith Alive!”

Some of the “Are We Off Key?” Working Group will reconvene at SICM #39 for a special panel discussion and release of the current drafts of these two potentially influential resources, and potentially provide further meeting time for the group after the formal conclusion of the Institute on Friday July 12th. The Session will be held Thursday July 10th at 10:00am—students are suggested to invite guests (especially Ministers, Board members and interested others).

This talented group of thinkers and deeply committed musical ministers will enrich our gathering at SICM #39—and will look for your feedback in enrichment of its work. Its work may well impact widely upon the church musical vocation. *Don’t Miss It!*

Holy SONG! Programs in Ottawa, Whitby, Barrie, Thunder Bay



In November 2007 the Holy SONG! tour program was at a holy location indeed—the historic hilltop Holy Trinity Church in Barrie, Ontario. SICM Director Christopher Dawes offered the 90-minute program with the help of the Parish Choir, and with the great assistance of recent SICM students Marina Laking and Susan Reichenbacher.

The next performance, 1300 km northwest (incredibly not even being close to leaving Ontario) will be at the Church of St. John the Evangelist, 228 Pearl Street in Thunder Bay, April 23rd at 7:30pm.

As in Barrie, the choir of St. John’s will take part in the April 23rd event; as in the performance at St. Stephen’s Presbyterian Church in Ottawa young musicians will make their contribution. As everywhere, a congregation grappling and seeking to grow in its song uses its own hymn book to celebrate and engage the history and culture that has brought us to where we are today.

To May 1st 2008 Holy SONG! will have directed \$2000 towards the prizes of the Osborne Organ Competition. For more information, visit <http://sicm.ca>

Worship at SICM #39 to Explore Storytelling and Story-Singing in a variety of Worship Traditions

One of the most frequently praised and widely-appreciated annual aspects to SICM is daily chapel worship. In keeping with the 39th Session Theme “Stories and Songs of Our Faith”, Chaplain the Rev. Dennis Dolloff will lead the story of SICM worship following a number of liturgical forms.

Because of the need to accommodate the Osborne Organ Competition at SICM #39 the recent tradition of an evening “Crucible Service” at Hebron Christian Reformed Church will be moved to a longer, later Wednesday morning chapel time slot.

Rev. Dolloff, who is Rector of the Anglican Church of Our Saviour the in Don Mills area

*SICM 2008 Chaplain,
The Rev. Dennis Dolloff*

of Toronto is an enthusiastic and gifted preacher, and as an added bonus a talented musician with a unique perspective to bring to church music — not least of this that he is married to his organist, SICM choral faculty Lori-Anne Dolloff.

Start each day at SICM in song and meditation of the kind that seems so scarce when you are ministering in music in your home congregation!





CANADA'S SUMMER INSTITUTE OF CHURCH MUSIC

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SUMMERSONG is the annual newsletter of Canada's Summer Institute of Church Music. It is mailed free of charge to recent students and faculty of the Institute and others in Canada and abroad, and to others wishing to follow its ongoing life and work. It may also be downloaded free of charge anytime from SICM's website at www.sicm.ca.

SICM NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT: it exists solely on students' tuition fees, the volunteer labour of its Board and members, and on donations from a variety of sources. Tax-deductible donations (Charitable reg.# 89064 1541) may be made to the Institute's operations, to the Dr. Kenneth Inkster Bursary Fund and to the Osborne Organ Competition Fund. Contact the SICM office or visit the "Help SICM" section of www.sicm.ca for information on how you can help.

SICM 2008
Songs and Stories of our Faith



Prominent Church Musicians Visit and Teach in Southern Ontario

Drawing lines and boundaries in church music becomes increasingly difficult, which flipping through any recently-published hymn book will confirm. Yet three internationally-known church musicians visiting Toronto and Kitchener-Waterloo in the next few weeks provide a simplistic expression of the three principal current streams in church music, which can only imperfectly be named as Choral Tradition, Folk (/Global) and Praise Tradition. With the disclaimer that none of these three gifted and committed ministers of music, nor those who will learn from them this spring should be so pigeon-holed,

- **Andrew Carter** (appearing Saturday April 12 in a "Choir Day" at Grace Church-on-the Hill in Toronto, courtesy the Toronto Centre of the Royal Canadian College of Organists and the Toronto Branch of the Royal School of Church Music), composer and choir director, was a chorister and later founder of the Chapter House Choir at York Minster, U.K.
Info: www.rscmtoronto.org/Carter.htm
- **Pablo Sosa** (appearing April 24-26 as part of "Renewing Worship: Stepping Forth" at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary), composer from the Instituto Superior Evangélico in Buenos Aires, Argentina whose approach to worship includes an effort to bring a global perspective to local congregations, accounting them as the real focal point for all church renewal.
Info: www.seminary.wlu.ca/globalworship.php
- **Graham Kendrick** (appearing May 13-16, along with Marva Dawn and others, in "Refresh!", a conference at the University of Toronto's Wycliffe College) has been described as the 'father of modern worship music', and has recorded over 30 albums and written over 400 songs. Kendrick is the songwriter behind the global phenomenon March for Jesus.
Info: refresh.wycliffecollege.ca

SICM #39, July 6-11 2008: Songs and Stories of Our Faith (from p.2)

Invitations have been extended to other laureates of past Osborne Competitions (Bloss won the competition himself in 1982).

Stories and songs are the basis for the Christian Faith, and indeed for nearly all religions and societies. Both have a pervasive power linking hope, memory, life and imagination.

Songs and stories have a unique two-way relationship with one another—not only are songs the traditional vehicle for remembering and sharing stories; both are inherently performative and communicative. That is to say, that the mere existence of songs and stories also implies that there is a singer or storyteller in the role of giving, and one or more others in the role of receiving.

In Hans Christian Andersen's "The Nightingale", the Emperor of China, a man of immense power, presumes to possess the song of a bird—widely thought to be the most beautiful thing in his Empire. This misuse and misun-

derstanding of his considerable power is brought to fulfillment when he is given the gift of a magnificent jewel-encrusted mechanical nightingale, whereupon he banishes the real one. For the end of this story you must come to SICM 39 and hear Heather Whaley and Kim Michele's beautiful recounting—but perhaps you already understand the implications for church music: does the church



Trafalgar Castle School, Whitby, Ontario, Canada: grand and elegant, nestled in greenery, and home to SICM since 1970.

'own' its song? Its singers? Or is there a more nuanced relationship to which it, and we, must aspire?

SICM 39 is dedicated to the intimate relationship between song and story in the Christian context: students will learn techniques of telling stories with songs, ways of understanding stories about songs—ways of shaping the ongoing story of their home churches and congregations through song. And as a special case, the United Church's *Are we Off-Key?* panel meets in the hopes of relocating song in its story.

As we welcome yet another stellar lineup of faculty and, we hope, offer an interesting and inspiring week of study, retreat and fellowship for the church musicians of all levels and denominations, I invite you to add SICM 2008 to the story of your journey, and you to add yourself to this chapter in its story. You'll come home with a few stories to tell - and we hope, much more.

-Christopher Dawes, Director