

THE ACADEMY AND ITS 2002 STAFF

In this second season of the **Organ Academy at the Stratford Summer Music**, five students gathered in Stratford to study in four public masterclasses with distinguished French organist Jean-Pierre Leguay, and to join the general public in hearing him perform four concerts. Their week has brought them much experience and insight into the art of playing the organ, as well as the privilege of being among some 200 artists taking part in this exciting festival in one of Canada's most beautiful cities. The 2002 season of the Organ Academy at the Stratford Summer Music media co-sponsored by Organ Alternatives magazine, will feature Ullrich Böhme, Organist of the Thomas Church in Leipzig, Germany.

From Paris, where he is titular organist in Notre Dame Cathedral, The Organ Academy at Stratford Summer Music is honoured to welcome French Concert Organist **Jean-Pierre Leguay**. Renowned for his mastery of the French organ repertoire and for his expertise in the tradition of keyboard improvisation, M. Leguay has also recorded the organ works of Bach, Liszt, Mendelssohn, and Mozart, and toured numerous times in Asia, Europe, and the United States. In addition to his frequent appearances as a performer, Jean-Pierre Leguay lectures at universities and conservatories as well as on radio. He is a member of the faculty of the Conservatoire National de Dijon where he teaches organ and improvisation. He is also a distinguished composer, with an oeuvre of over 40 works for various combinations of instruments and voices. Jean-Pierre Leguay's distinguished and diversified career is all the more impressive when one realises that, like one of his predecessors at Notre Dame Cathedral, the composer and organist Louis Vierne, he is blind.

Christopher Dawes, while being one of this country's most active and sought after freelance organists, also holds other interests and professional activities that take him into many other areas of the arts. The Organist and Director of Music at the Cathedral Church of St. James, Toronto, and founder/director of Organ Alternatives (OrgAlt.com), Canada's Internet journal of organ culture and creativity, is frequent accompanist to Toronto's finest choirs, including the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, the Elmer Iseler Singers, and the Nathaniel Dett Chorale, and appears on well over a dozen CD recordings. In 1999 he wrote and starred with Peter Tiefenbach in *Two Music in Mind*, a play in which Glenn Gould encounters Johann Sebastian Bach in an organ loft, and engages in a humorous and thought-provoking conversation.

Stratford Summer Music expresses its grateful thanks to the Edwards Charitable Foundation, Toronto, for its generous support of the Organ Academy at Stratford Summer Music.

The Academy Staff and Students wish to thank Summer Music staff and volunteers:

*John A. Miller (Artistic Producer); Kelly Lyn Baird (Manager Artist Services)
Greg Reid, Alison Reid, Lianne Huber; Barb Montgomery (house management);
Janet McCarthy (accommodations); Marc Bauer-Maison, Bruce Clark (translation)*

The Organ Academy at Stratford Summer Music

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The 2nd Annual Organ Academy at Stratford Summer Music 24 – 29 July, 2002

Jean Pierre Leguay, Academy Performer/Instructor
Christopher Dawes, FRCCO, Academy Director
John A. Miller, Festival Artistic Producer

ACADEMY FINAL CONCERT

Kirk Adsett
Alexandra Fol
Christopher Ku
Jennifer Loveless
Michelle Rae Martin

Monday 29 July, 2002, 2:00pm

Knox Presbyterian Church
Stratford, Ontario, Canada

PROGRAM

Since Jean-Pierre Leguay, this year's Academy instructor, is one of France's foremost organists, this year's academy students selected principally French music to bring to Stratford for concentrated study. Additionally, because M. Leguay is a renowned improviser as well as an interpreter of the organ repertoire, each of the five students in this year's academy studied both organ repertoire and organ improvisation. One student has elected to offer improvisation as his contribution to today's Academy Final Concert.

Louis VIERNE (1870-1937)

Alexandra Fol, organ

Symphonie 3, \sharp , op.28 (1911)

I. Allegro

IV. Final

César FRANCK (1822-1890)

Christopher Ku, organ

Prélude, Fugue et Variation, op.18

Jeanne DEMESSIEUX (1921-1968) **Te Deum, op.11 (1959)**

Michelle Rae Martin, organ

Kirk ADSETT (b.1970)

Kirk Adsett, organ

Improvisation

on a melody from Brittany

Louis VIERNE (1870-1937)

Jennifer Loveless, organ

Symphonie 2, e, op.20 (1903)

IV. Andante

V. Final

THE PERFORMERS

A native of Fergus, Ontario, Kirk Adsett is holds an honours Bachelors' degree in music from Wilfrid Laurier University with a minor in religion and culture, during the pursuit of which he was also a student at the University of Toronto. A former Assistant organist at St. John's Church, Elora and St. Clement's Church, Toronto, Kirk currently resides in Toronto and is Organist and Director of Music at St. James' United Church in Dundas, Ontario. Improvisation is a particular interest of Kirk's, and he has studied the art with Najji Hakim at La Trinité, Paris and with Mme. Marie-Louise Jacquet Langlais both at Ste-Clothilde in Paris, and at a masterclass sponsored by the Royal Canadian College of Organists in Toronto.

Bulgarian composer and organist Alexandra Fol is a recent graduate of Boston University in composition, and will this fall pursue composition and conducting at the Masters' level at Rochester's Eastman School of Music. Her works have been performed by the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra and Young Artists' Orchestra, among others. During 2001-2002, Ms. Fol worked as organist at the Marsh Chapel, Boston, whose services are broadcast live on local public radio. Her organ teachers include Julian Wachner and James David Christie. She has published articles in Bulgarian and English. Her main works include a symphony, concerti for various instruments, incidental theatre music for orchestra, a Requiem, and others.

Christopher Ku is an OAC student at St. Michael's Cathedral Choir School, and organ scholar at Saint Michael's Catholic Cathedral in Toronto. Christopher first began his organ studies in 1996 with Dr. Jerzy Cichocki. He currently studies with Brian Rae, titular organist of St. Michael's Cathedral and Choral Director of St. Michael's Choir School, and has participated in a masterclass with Mme. Marie-Louise Jacquet Langlais. In 2002, Christopher received the Associateship Diploma in Organ Performance (ARCT) from the Royal Conservatory of Music and was awarded the first prize for organ playing at the national level of the Canadian Music Competitions. Chris is Director of music at St. Thomas the Apostle Church (Markham, ON).

Michelle Rae Martin, born and raised in Unity, Saskatchewan, is a candidate for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the Eastman School of Music where she has already completed a Master's Degree. Michelle is a past recipient of the Johann Strauss Foundation Scholarship for study in Austria, the Saskatchewan Arts Board Grant to Performing Artists, the Richard Eaton Memorial Scholarship in Music and recently, the Canada Council for the Arts Grant to Professional Musicians. In May 2001, Michelle was a semi-finalist in the North American Round of the 2002 Royal Bank Calgary International Organ Competition held in Atlanta. Michelle has a special interest in experimental playing techniques and modern music. She studies with David Higgs.

Born in Woodstock, Ontario, Jennifer Loveless began piano lessons with her father at the age of four. She has since completed a Masters of Music in organ performance at McGill University in Montréal under the tutelage of John Grew. Jennifer was awarded first prize in the 1997 John Robb Competition run by the Montréal RCOO, and in 1998 received second prize in the Florence and Stanley Osborne Competition at the Summer Institute of Church Music. She has studied in masterclasses with Olivier Latry, Marie-Claire Alain, Martin Haselböck, Bernard Lagacé, Joan Lippincott and Jean-Pierre Lecaudéy. She is currently Assistant Organist at Erskine and American United Church in Montréal.