

Rockefeller Chapel, Chicago

The Schantz Organ Company has completed the rebuild of and modifications to the E. M. Skinner Opus 634 (1928) at Rockefeller Chapel, Chicago. When installation and tonal finishing is complete the organ will stand at 132 ranks. The tonal design of the instrument was restored to the original Skinner design. Additions and tonal modifications to the organ have been made in keeping with Skinner tonal concepts. The project is scheduled for completion later this spring. Built into the chapel in 1928, this organ is one of the few remaining masterworks of Skinner. The original design featured four manuals and 126 stops. For information: <www.schantzorgan.com>. (Photo credit: Dean Christian.)



Blower



Blower motor



Low C of 32' Major Bass



Restored pipework



Restored façade



32' Open Wood and 32' Major Bass



32' Open Wood and 32' Major Bass

Carillon News

by Brian Swager

Sixth International Queen Fabiola Carillon Competition

Since its foundation in 1922, the Royal Carillon School "Jef Denyn" in Mechelen, Belgium, has been involved in the support and development of the art of carillon playing. As part of this effort, the school organizes the international Queen Fabiola Carillon Competition in cooperation with the city of Mechelen. This competition, widely recognized as the most prestigious of its kind, provides a powerful stimulus for the recognition of carillon playing as an artistic expression of the highest level.

The winners of the previous competitions have acquired international fame:

- 1987 - Geert D'hollander
- 1990 - Boudewijn Zwart
- 1993 - Gideon Bodden
- 1998 - Tom Van Peer
- 2003 - Twan Bearda.

The sixth international Queen Fabiola Carillon Competition will take place on September 10–14, 2008. Carillonners from all over the world are invited to participate; there is no age limit. Candidates should submit nine compositions of a high degree of virtuosity: three baroque or classical works, one of them being a prelude by Matthias Vanden Gheyn; three romantic works originally composed for carillon; and three contemporary works also originally composed for carillon. Candidates must send one copy of each score along with their application. These scores may not show any references or indications from which the name or the nationality of the participant could be traced. An obligatory work is to be performed in the elimination round and in the finals.

All performances will be played on the new carillon in the tower of St. Rombouts in Mechelen. It was cast by Royal Eijsbouts, Astén, the Netherlands, in 1981. This carillon comprises 49 bells: B-flat, C1, D1—chromatic through—C5. The instrument transposes down a fourth: the pitch of C1 is G0. Candidates are offered the opportunity to practice on this instrument as well as on the practice consoles in the carillon school.

The elimination round takes place on Wednesday, September 10 and, if necessary, also on Thursday the 11th. During the elimination round, all candidates will perform three works: the obligatory work, one work chosen by the candidate, and one work chosen by the jury and selected from the candidate's repertoire. The order of performing is assigned by lot. Performers are unknown to the members of the jury. The five competitors who receive the highest marks will be selected for the finals. Those who are not selected for this final round will receive an allowance of €125.

The finals will take place on Saturday and Sunday, September 13–14, 2008, at 7:30 pm. On Saturday, finalists will perform three works chosen by the jury: one baroque or classical, one romantic,

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completed at Our Savior Lutheran in Iron Mountain, Michigan; St. Peter Lutheran in Chaseburg, Wisconsin; and St. Paul Lutheran in Rockford, Illinois. A 4-rank residential instrument was produced for Steve Jensen of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The instrument is prepared for a future reed voice. St. Peter's Catholic Church in Antioch, Illinois, received the tonal addition of an 8' Trompette rank.

Mid-year 2007, Fabry Inc. became the authorized service directors for northern Illinois and Wisconsin for the Wicks Pipe Organ Company of Highland, Illinois. The final major project for 2007 was a complete rebuild at St. Paul Lutheran in Albion, Michigan, that included a new blower unit, ICS-4000 solid-state

conversion of console and relay systems, all main and offset chestwork rebuilt using electric valves, tonal revoicing, and a new expression motor. This project also included enlarging the Swell chamber to eliminate double stacking of windchests and to allow tuning room for numerous crowded ranks.

The year 2008 includes the following major projects: the addition of eight ranks for the Peace Lutheran Church in Platteville, Wisconsin; a complete rebuild for the instrument at Calvary Lutheran Church in New Windsor, Illinois; a complete rebuild at the First Presbyterian Church in Lincoln, Illinois; and the addition of another rank of pipes and a few mechanical changes at Culver Military Academies in Culver, Indiana. For information: <www.fabryinc.com>.



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and one contemporary. On Sunday, the candidates will perform the obligatory work as the contemporary composition, a baroque or classical work chosen by the jury, and a romantic composition also chosen by the jury.

First Prize: €3000, Prize of the Minister of Culture of the Flemish Government

Second Prize: €2000, Prize of the Province of Antwerp

Third Prize: €1500, Prize of the City of Mechelen and the Mechelen City Guides League

Fourth Prize: €1300, Prize of the City of Roeselare and the Royal Tower and Carillon Society "Jef Denyn"

Fifth Prize: €1000, Prize of Mr. A. Jans, honorary president of the Archeological Society and Mr. P. van den Broek, honorary director of the carillon school

Extra Prize: €1000, Prize of SABAM for the best interpretation of a Belgian contemporary work.

Applicants should send their curriculum vitae with a suitable photograph, the nine scores, and the choice of which work they will perform in the elimination

round before May 15 to the Royal Carillon School "Jef Denyn," Frederik de Merodestaat 63, B-2800 Mechelen, Belgium.

The organizers may refuse any submissions that do not meet the required standards. No appeal against their decision is possible. After approval by the organizers, candidates will receive a confirmation and additional practical guidelines.

In the wind . . .

by John Bishop

Life's rhythm

Working with the Organ Clearing House is all about travel. Most organ-builders spend most of their time in the workshop building an instrument, and then go on the road to install it. Ours is mostly site work. The OCH crew is busy dismantling or installing organs, shipping organs and organ parts around the country, or preparing organ cham-



John Bishop

bers for the installation of new instruments built by others. This means that we travel frequently—sometimes it feels like constantly. Many of our trips last two or three weeks. We arrive in a city, settle into a hotel, find our way around, and establish a temporary life rhythm of work, rest, meals, and calling home.

It's fun to visit the sites that make a distant city special. While on business

trips, I've visited art museums from Whitney to Walker and from Getty to Guggenheim. I've participated in a census of migrating whales in southern California, been to baseball games in a dozen cities, and attended a performance of *A Prairie Home Companion* at the Fitzgerald Theater in St. Paul. I've worshipped in many of America's great churches. On one notable Sunday morning, I attended the radio broadcast at the Mormon Tabernacle, a nine o'clock service at the Episcopal cathedral, and eleven-thirty at the Roman Catholic cathedral, all in Salt Lake City. I've visited organbuilding shops all over the country. And restaurants—sushi in Los Angeles, an Argentinean steak house in Dallas, Dungeness crab and salmon in Seattle, and I've mentioned before the Brazilian steak house in Philadelphia next to the Wanamaker store.

"If you got to ask, you ain't got it . . ."
(Fats Waller answering a fan's question about rhythm)

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