

MOULT MANIA -Daniel Moults Returns-



Daniel imparting expert advice to the participants.

Masterclass

Photos by Sherilyn Lim

On Saturday, 4th March 2023, Daniel Moults was back in Singapore to conduct a masterclass on the music of Eugène Gigout, Max Reger and Charles Villiers Stanford - played by Holly Yang, Isaac Koh and Loraine Muthiah respectively.

Daniel provided valuable advice and insights to the participants, covering a range of topics such as interpretation, registration, and keyboard technique. The class was well-received, with observers actively engaging by asking intriguing questions about the pieces and composers.

Observers were invited to try out the Klais Organ at the conclusion of the class.



(Left picture) Organists from left to right: Loraine Muthiah, Holly Yang, Daniel Moults & Isaac Koh. (Right picture) Observers trying out the Klais Organ.



Daniel engages a captivated audience.

Organ Rhythm

Photo by Singapore Symphony Orchestra/Junyi Yong

On Sunday, 5th March 2023, Victoria Concert Hall's Klais Organ was put through its paces, as Daniel Moults performed a selection by the classical greats, starting off with *Toccata and Fugue in C major, BWV 566a* by J.S. Bach, followed by *Theme and Variations in D major* by Mendelssohn, together with the most famous of Mozart's organ works, *Fantasia in F minor*. The highlight of the concert, was witnessing Daniel's footwork virtuosity in Thalben-Ball's *Variations on a Theme by Paganini*. Daniel concluded the evening with a touch of folk and jazz. Showcasing English pipe organ ingenuity, he played *Folk Tune* by Percy Whitlock and *Variations on Gershwin's I Got Rhythm* by Harold Britton.



Daniel Moults in action, on Victoria Concert Hall's Klais Organ.

When the Havenly Pipes are Calling

Article and photos by Rita Padawangi

For over two decades, it has been a cherished tradition of mine to seek out and experience pipe organs during my travels. Hence, when I knew I was going to New Haven for an academic writing workshop in March 2023, I contacted Isaac Lee, a fellow S-AGO member who was studying at Yale Institute of Sacred Music. It was good timing: Isaac was available on the day that I finished my workshop, and he kindly agreed to take me around the organs at Yale. I was excited!

The first stop was a three-manual von Beckerath organ at Dwight Memorial Chapel (Photos 1 and 2).

The second organ we visited that chilly spring afternoon was the Holtkamp at Battell Chapel. The pipes were organized in an asymmetrical arrangement around a beautifully crafted stained-glass window, all of which combined to create an enchanting chapel interior (Photo 3). With the chapel's atmosphere and the afternoon sunlight coming through the colourful stained glass, I felt like playing a calm and reflective piece, and I chose Brahms' Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele (op. 122, No. 5).

The third and final organ of the afternoon was the Newberry Memorial Organ at Woolsey Hall. It was a four-manual Skinner organ from 1928 - a grand organ in a magnificent hall (Photo 4). After Isaac introduced the stops, I had the opportunity to play the second movement (Andante con moto) from Mendelssohn's Organ Sonata in D major (op. 65, No. 5).

I am immensely grateful to Isaac for this wonderful opportunity and for taking the time to accompany me on this musical exploration, despite preparing for his own upcoming recital at Woolsey Hall (Photo 5). Although I had to return to Singapore before watching his recital, I learned later that Isaac was admitted to the Doctoral Programme at Juilliard (congratulations, Isaac!). For anyone with the chance to visit New Haven, I strongly recommend exploring these organs. Each pipe organ is unique, and is inseparable from the hall, chapel, or church where it is placed. I did not get to see all the organs of New Haven - only three out of four - but the chance to experience them was an inspiration for me to continue learning organ.



Photo 5. Rita and Isaac at Woolsey Hall, Yale University.

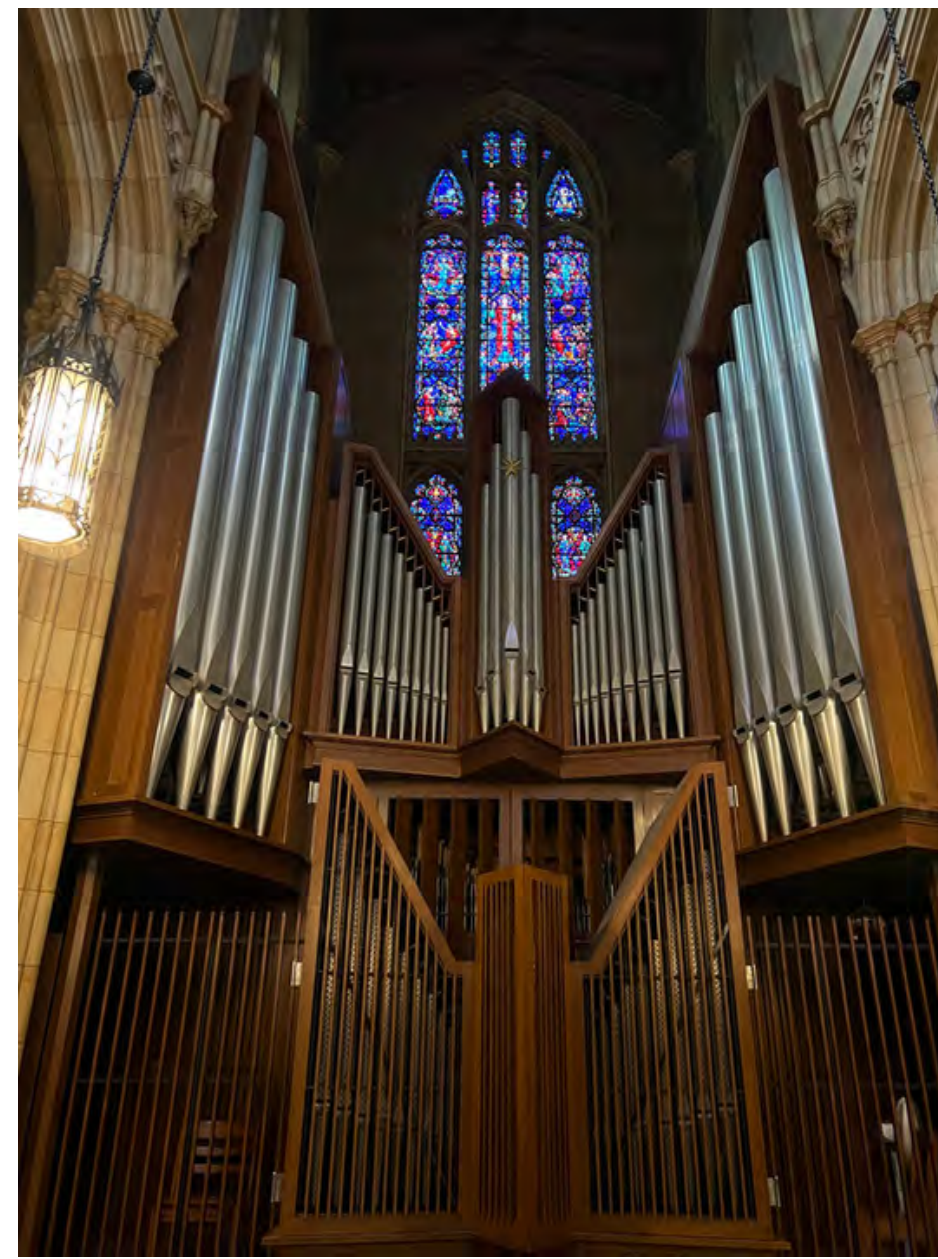


Photo 1. Dwight Memorial Chapel Organ.

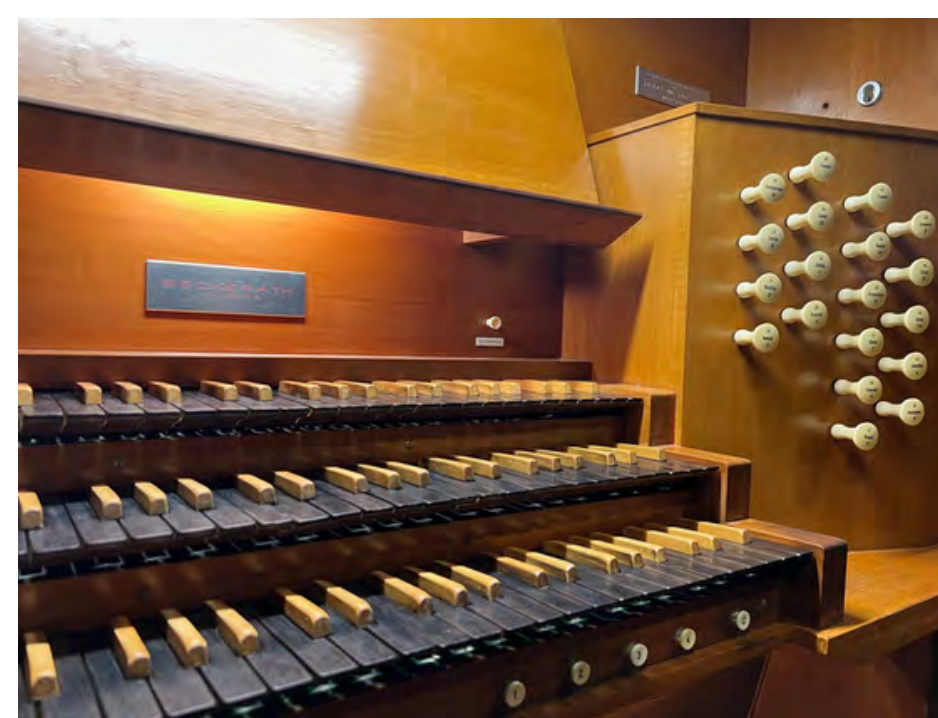


Photo 2. The three manuals of the von Beckerath (1971) Organ.



Photo 3. The Holtkamp Organ (1951) at Battell Chapel.



Photo 4. The Newberry Memorial Organ at Woolsey Hall.

Message From The Dean

Dear Friends,

The Singapore Chapter turned 20 this year! Inaugurated in February 2003, we started as a group of organists and supporters of organ and church music. Adopting the general principles of our sister Chapters - the American Guild of Organists - we have constantly sought to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ, and to engage, support, and uplift organists.

As with most other Chapters, collaborations with churches, performance venues and educational institutions have been key in our programmes and outreach. A huge thank you to our precious members and friends, past and present; for those who helped shape us from the beginning, and others who joined us along the way. May each of us continue to find the journey fruitful!

With every good wish,

Dr Evelyn Lim
Dean (2022-2024)



Illustration by [Adobe Stock](#)

Organ Exhibition @ VCH

Photos by Dr Evelyn Lim & Singapore Symphony Orchestra/Choo Jun Clive

Members of the S-AGO were seen in action on Saturday, 17th June 2023, manning the various stations and fringe activities after "The Composer and the Mouse" concert, performed by the Scott Brothers Duo.

The exhibitions included engaging infographics showcasing the inner workings of a pipe organ, a live demonstration of a pipe organ model, and an exploration of the diverse sounds produced by the chamber organ and its pipes. In addition, the young attendees had the chance to express their creativity in an arts and craft session, crafting their paper pipes – an exciting hands-on experience.

This being a school holiday concert, multitudes of children of all ages thronged the exhibits, all curious, wide-eyed, and excited to learn about the magnificent instrument they heard in the concert hall.

Here are our members on the ground:



Christian Low assisting a young attendee on the chamber organ.



Blast from the past: Tete Sedalo is back! Here he is at the Organ Info Panels station.



The devil is in the details: Angela Lim & Ng Chet Wei, together with Erin Tan & Lynnette Chng, meticulously crafting the paper pipes.



Dr Margaret Chen, together with an attendee, after a go on the chamber organ.



Rushil Thomas demonstrating the pipe organ model to an adorable attendee and his dad.

In Memoriam

Mrs Esther Seet

In March this year, our dear friend and fellow organist, Mrs Esther Seet passed away. A charter member of the Singapore Chapter, she dedicated much time and resources to the cause of organ and church music.



Always ready with words, and deeds of kindness and encouragement, her wise counsel and practical guidance helped to form and shape the people who worked with her. She served as Honorary Publicity Officer in the Executive Committee, and subsequently as Honorary Advisor until her passing. Esther is greatly missed, but the memory of her will always be in our hearts.



Esther, together with Winfried Böning and members of the AGO after the "Celestial Pipes" concert in 2018.

~Those who touch our lives stay in our hearts forever~

Stay Connected With Us!

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Editor's Column



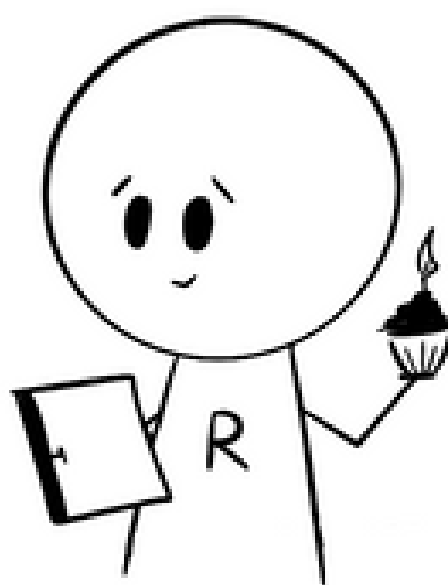
Happy 20th Anniversary everyone!
Wow, we've come a long way!

Don't get sentimental yet! We still have half a year of activities to go!



Oh right! I'm looking forward to our member's concert: Season's Pippings! It's a great opportunity to make music together as a Chapter. Do look out for the poster for more details!

What's more, Vincent Thévenaz will be in Singapore to play two concerts... Details below!



Stay tuned... ^-^

Coming Soon...

➡ **Acoustic Shock – An Organ and Electronic Music Spectacular**

- Concert at the Victoria Concert Hall (VCH), Sunday, 20 August 2023, 4:00pm

➡ **Season's Pippings: Praise & Thanksgiving**

- Member's concert at Orchard Road Presbyterian Church (ORPC), Saturday, 30 September 2023, 7:30pm

➡ **Unboxing the Organ with Dr Phoon Yu and the Lorong Boys**

- Lecture at the Victoria Concert Hall (VCH), Sunday, 01 October 2023, 4:00pm

➡ **A Haunted Halloween Hymn**

- Concert at the Victoria Concert Hall (VCH):
✓ Saturday, 28 October 2023, 7:30pm
✓ Sunday, 29 October 2023, 4:00pm

➡ **The Geneva Connection: Vincent Thévenaz**

- Concert at Orchard Road Presbyterian Church (ORPC):
✓ Tuesday, 14 November 2023, 7:30pm
✓ Wednesday, 15 November 2023, 12:30pm

. Behind PIPE ECHOES - Advisor: Dr Evelyn Lim . Editorial Team: Mr Rushil Thomas (Editor) . Ms Patricia Darana (Co-Editor) .

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