

AGO 2001 CONVENTION ARTISTS

The program committee for the 2001 Convention has been hard at work developing an exciting and varied program. We are excited to announce that all of the performers have now been signed. Workshops will be forthcoming. It is the program committee's hope that members of the AGO will continue to support the convention and will look forward with enthusiasm to what promises to be a wonderful event. The artists are as follows:

Olivier Latry, Raymond and Elizabeth Chenault (organ duo), John Ferguson, Samuel Metzger and Ann Marie Rigler and David Bohnert (organ and trumpet).

Over the next few months the *Pipeline* will feature one of the artists including biographical information as well as reviews.

THE CHENAULTS

3/2000

Elizabeth and Raymond Chenault's frequent performances throughout the United States and Europe, their best selling recordings, and sizable contribution to the organ duet literature through their commissions have made "organ four hands, four feet" virtually synonymous with "The Chenaults."

The Chenaults' duet career began in 1979 when Arthur Wills of England's Ely Cathedral composed "Toccata for Two" for them. This was followed by John Rutter's "Variations on An Easter theme." Other commissions (composers now number over 40 and include Gaston Litaize, Naji Hakim, Ronald Arnatt, Stephen Paulus, Charles Callahan, Alan Gibbs, Gerre Hancock, Douglas Major, Phillip Moore, Daniel Pinkham, Myron Roberts, Richard Shepherd, Conrad Susa, Paul Lindsley, Thomas Robert Hobby, Francis Jackson and Bruce Neswick) followed and the Chenaults were soon performing extensively each season. They have been featured artists at conferences and conventions of the American Guild of Organists, The American society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, The Association of Anglican Musicians, and in Charleston during the Spoleto Festival. Recitals at such locations as the Crystal Cathedral, Washington National Cathedral, St. Paul's Cathedral in London, York Minster and the Birmingham Town Hall in England have highlighted their schedule.

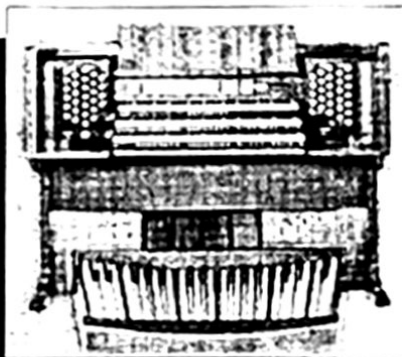
Mr. And Mrs. Chenault, natives of Virginia, completed music degrees at Virginia Commonwealth University. Mr. Chenault received his Master of Music degree in organ performance from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. Upon graduation Mr. Chenault became a Fellow in Church Music at Washington Cathedral. Teachers have included Harold Abmyer, Arthur Poister, Wayne Fisher, Paul Callaway, Lawrence Robinson and John Fenstermaker.

Since 1975 the Chenaults have been Organists and Choirmasters of All Saints' Episcopal Church in Atlanta, and since 1976 have taught choral music at the Lovett School there where Raymond Chenault is Director of Fine Arts. The duo's recitals have been featured on public radio's "Pipedreams" and "Performance Today." They record for Gothic Records.

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Reflections on Membership In AGO

In an effort to dispel certain misconceptions regarding membership in AGO I wish to state why it was that I joined the Red River Valley Chapter.

I developed an appreciation of classical music and the organ literature when I was 14 years old. In those days my first organ recordings were 78 rpm records and, beginning with my high school years LP's bought in Fargo with paper route money. After spending most of my life as an "outsider" I decided to become a participator in the local "organ scene." I joined the AGO because I wanted to be able to have a small influence in promoting the pipe organ and it's music to the general public and because I wanted to learn more about the instrument and it's music.

Because of my association with our Chapter I feel that I have grown as a "musician" and that I have an opportunity to make the organ a larger part of our local music milieu.

There is a place in the AGO for non-performing and "part-time" musicians. All you need for membership is the desire to be involved.

Mrs. Pat N. Unkenholz
Senior Sales Representative

1962 East Capitol Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501
(701) 221-2843
e-mail: Bellpat2@AOL.com



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