



**The Executive Committee of
Grand Rapids AGO
2021-2022**

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THE CIPHER

May 2022

Dear friends and colleagues,

Welcome to Spring! We have a fabulous event planned in collaboration with the Muskegon-Lakeshore Chapter which takes place over the course of two days. This includes hearing some of the most inspiring organ repertoire (complete works of César Franck played by Scott Dettra) and time to connect with friends and colleagues over a fabulous meal. Our Regional Councillor, Caron Farmer, will facilitate our election of officers.

One of the treasured traditions of the Grand Rapids Chapter is catered dinner before our Monday program. This has not been possible since early 2020. We are so pleased to bring the meal back, and we are counting on you to RSVP by May 6 to help our planning. Please respond by email to carolm@grfumc.org with your intention to attend and whether you want the chicken or the vegetarian option. Below is a summary of the event:

Sunday, May 15 at 3pm

Scott Dettra, organist at LaGrave Christian Reformed Church

Program I

Pièce héroïque
Pastorale, Op. 19
Prière, Op. 20
Choral I in E Major
Cantabile
Grande Pièce symphonique,
Op. 17



Monday, May 16

5:30 Dinner and brief business meeting at LaGrave. Cost \$20.

(payment due at the event, by cash, check or PayPal). RSVP by May 6 to carolm@grfumc.org.

Catered by eatEGR

Menu:

Mediterranean Grilled Chicken topped w/ sun dried tomatos and capers

*Vegetarian Option - Sauteed portobello and veggies

Roasted Herb Mini Potatoes

Garden Green Salad in a lite vinaigrette

Homemade Herbed Focaccia Bread

Sweet treats

Flavored water & lemonade

7pm Scott Dettra, organist. César Franck

Program II

Choral III in A Minor

Fantaisie in C, Op. 16

Choral II in B Minor

Fantaisie in A

Prélude, Fugue et Variation, Op. 18

Final, Op. 21

We would like to thank LaGrave Church and Larry Visser for hosting this program. Included in this newsletter is a poster. Please print and share widely in our community. Take a moment to read Scott's impressive bio on the next page.

We look forward to connecting with all of you on May 15 and 16.

Julia and Carol

Election of Officers

Chapter members will have the opportunity in May to vote for the following slate of incumbent officers for the 2022-23 program year:

Julia Brown, Co-Dean

Carol McNally, Co-Dean

Chris Witte, Treasurer

John Tiemstra, Secretary

Barbara Dulmage, chair, Nominating Committee

May Special Concert Event

Sunday, May 15, 3: 00 p.m., LaGrave Avenue Christian Reformed Church

Monday, May 16, 5:30 p.m. dinner, 7:00 p.m. concert, LaGrave Avenue Christian Reformed Church

**LaGrave Avenue Christian Reformed Church
107 LaGrave Avenue S.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49503**

César Franck Bicentennial:

In collaboration with the Muskegon-Lakeshore AGO Chapter Scott Dettra performs the complete organ works of Cèsar Franck in two recitals at LaGrave CRC.



Praised as a “brilliant organist” (*Dallas Morning News*), an “outstanding musician” (*The Diapason*), and described as a “prodigy” by *The New York Times* at age 13, Scott Dettra is acclaimed as one of America’s leading concert organists. Mr. Dettra’s playing is praised for its clarity, rhythmic intensity, and musical elegance, and has been described by *The American Organist* as “music making of absolute authority and sophisticated expression.” He combines an active performance schedule with his post as Director of Music at the [Church of the Incarnation](#) in Dallas, where he leads a vibrant music ministry in one the country’s largest Episcopal parishes. In addition to his work at Incarnation, he is a member of the organ faculty at Southern Methodist University, and is organist of [The Crossing](#), the Grammy-winning professional chamber choir based in Philadelphia. Prior to his appointment in Dallas, he was Organist of Washington National Cathedral.

Recent and upcoming performances include appearances in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston, Washington, Atlanta, Houston, San Diego, Phoenix, Kansas City, Barbados, Canada, and Germany. Festival appearances include the Lincoln Center Festival, the Carmel Bach Festival, the Arizona Bach Festival, the Bermuda Festival of the Performing Arts, and the Piccolo Spoleto Festival. He has been a featured performer at national conventions of the American Guild of Organists, the Association of Anglican Musicians, the Organ Historical Society, and the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians, and is in demand as a clinician and adjudicator for master classes, workshops, and competitions.

Mr. Dettra is featured on many compact disc recordings, including *The Anglo-American Classic Organ* (Gothic), *Majestus* (Loft), recorded at Washington National Cathedral, and *Tongues of Fire* (Pro Organo), recorded on the 325-rank instrument at West Point's Cadet Chapel. Additional recordings may be found on the Gothic, Innova, Lyrichord, Pro Organo, and Linn labels. In addition to commercial recordings, his performances have been broadcast numerous times on such radio programs as American Public Media's *Pipedreams* and *Performance Today*, the BBC's *Choral Evensong*, and *The New York Philharmonic This Week*.

An accomplished choral conductor, Mr. Dettra's choirs have been featured on national radio broadcasts in the United States and the United Kingdom, and at conventions of the American Guild of Organists and the Organ Historical Society. He has prepared choirs for performances with such ensembles as the National Symphony Orchestra, the Juilliard Orchestra, and the Dave Brubeck Quartet, and has also led and taught several courses for the Royal School of Church Music.

A native of Wilmington, Delaware, Mr. Dettra began piano study at age 3 and organ study at age 8 as a student of his father, Lee Dettra, holding his first church organist position at the age of 9. He made his New York debut at Riverside Church at the age of 11. Mr. Dettra holds two degrees from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, where he was a student of Joan Lippincott, and has also studied organ and jazz piano at Manhattan School of Music.

In addition to Washington National Cathedral, he has previously held positions at the Washington Bach Consort, the Cathedral Choral Society, the American Boychoir School, and church positions at St. Paul's, K Street in Washington; St. Mark's, Locust Street in Philadelphia; and Trinity Church, Princeton. He and his wife Haley reside in Dallas with their daughter.

Please download and print poster on following page and post wherever you can.

Invite your friends to this wonderful event.

The Complete Organ Works

César Franck



Scott Dettra

International Concert Organist

LaGrave Avenue Christian Reformed Church

107 LaGrave Avenue SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Sunday, May 15, 3:00 p.m.

Monday, May 16, 7:00 p.m.

Two completely distinct concerts comprising the complete organ works

FREE ADMISSION