



Pipe Lines

The official newsletter of the Kotzschmar Organ

100TH SEASON OF CONCERTS

WINTER 2011-12

FOKO's 32ND YEAR

The Kotzschmar Centennial celebratory year
continues with the all time favorite

Christmas with Cornils

A KOTZSCHMAR CHRISTMAS

Tuesday, December 20, 7:30 pm.

This will be your last chance to attend
A Kotzschmar Christmas at Merrill until
2014! Join Ray, the Festival Brass, the
Parish Ringers, Choral Art Camerata and
special guest, baritone Aaron Engebret
for this holiday tradition. Enjoy wonderful
arrangements of holiday favorites and
open your hearts and ears to some new
and provocative sounds!



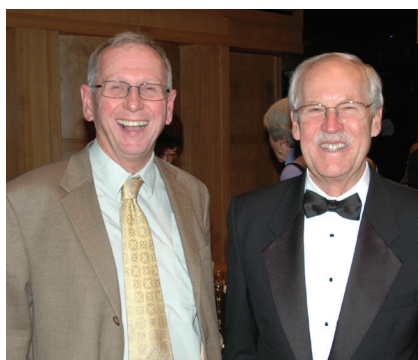
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HEAD
INVEST

Friends of the Kotschmar Organ Announces Campaign for the King of Instruments

Portland, Maine – Founding Friends of the Kotschmar Organ (FOKO) board member Peter Plumb announced the launch of a major fundraising effort aimed at generating the monies needed to for the organ's repair and renovation.

In remarks made after the intermission at the *And the Glory* concert, Plumb outlined the initial goal of raising \$3 million dollars by August, 2012 when the organ will be removed from Merrill Auditorium for renovation. The organization has an ultimate goal of generating \$4 million in total by the time the renovated organ is returned sometime in 2014.



FOKO'S FOUNDING PRESIDENT PETER PLUMB (R) WITH MIKE FOLEY OF FOLEY-BAKER, INC., WHICH IS CHARGED WITH THE ORGAN'S RENOVATION IN 2012-2014.

"We are focused on matching the City's commitment of up to \$1.25 million initially," explained Plumb. "To date we've secured \$2.2 million total toward the renovation. However, to ensure the long-term sustainability of the organ and organ programming, we have set the additional goal to raise a total of \$4 million by the time the renovation is complete."

The Kotschmar Organ, now in its Centennial season, can reproduce virtually any sound, from thunderous roars to soft, ethereal whispers. The Kotschmar has earned a prominent position in the cultural life of Portland. Over 60,000 Mainers and visitors marvel at the breadth and power of the King of Instruments annually. When it was first installed it was the largest concert organ in the western hemisphere, and it remains one of the world's great organs today.

The world's most talented organists have visited Portland in order to perform on the Kotschmar Organ throughout its history. John Weaver played for 50 consecutive years as a guest on the Summer Series. Kotschmar fans have experienced renowned organists including Dame Gillian Weir, Thomas Murray, Felix Hell, Cameron Carpenter, Peter Richard Conte, Thomas Heywood and the rising stars of tomorrow.

The Centennial is a significant historic marker for the city of Portland and provides the opportunity to take the Kotschmar Organ into its next century. FOKO is committed to securing the future of this

An Archivist's Look Back in Time Kotschmar's 50th Year



The 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Kotschmar Memorial Organ in Portland was held evening of Wednesday evening, August 22, 1962. Municipal Organist John Fay selected Alfred Brinkler, Municipal Organist 1935-1952, as the performer for the occasion.

Dr. Brinkler took his program mostly from the popular compositions that were played at the original dedication week concerts in 1912 by Will C. Macfarlane of New York, Ralph Kinder of Philadelphia and R. Huntington Woodman of Brooklyn, New York.

The capacity crowd heard Boëllmann's *Suite Gothique*, Bach's *Prelude and Fugue in a minor*, *Priere et Berceuse* by Guilman, Overture to *Lohengrin* by Wagner and Macfarlane's *Evening Bells* and *Cradle Song*.

Richard Hayden, baritone, sang the same solos that he had performed in 1912. The concert came to a stirring finale with *Toccata and Caprice*, composed in 1939 by Dr. Woodman and dedicated to Dr. Brinkler. The encore was Macfarlane's splendid setting of *America the Beautiful*, as sung by Mr. Hayden, and drew vigorous applause.

It was hoped that Mrs. Mary Louise Curtis Bok Zimbalist, daughter of Cyrus Hermann Kotschmar Curtis, donor of the organ, would be able to travel from her home in Camden, Maine to attend this special event. However, she was unwell, and also mourning the death of her elder son, Judge Curtis Bok, in May of 1962. She wrote to Graham Watt, City Manager, expressing her "deep disappointment" at being unable to attend the concert. Her letter ended with this charming vignette:

"A visitor once remarked upon the questionable expense involved by these unusual concerts. Whereupon, the Chief of Police replied, "Well, you see, quite a lot of that cost is saved right here in our own department! Sunday afternoons are now quiet. Even the crooks attend those popular Organ Concerts!"

The 1962 summer series of 28 concerts ended later that week with concerts by George Faxon, organist at Trinity Church, Boston, and Henry Hokans, organist at All Saints Church, Worcester, MA.

—Janice Parkinson-Tucker

national treasure and to sustaining its unique cultural, educational, historical, and community importance to Greater Portland and the world of grand pipe organs.

For more information on the Campaign for the King of Instruments, please contact Kathleen Grammer, Executive Director, Friends of the Kotschmar Organ. Kathleen can be reached at 207.553.4363 or kgrammer@foko.org.

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From the President



Have you had a chance to attend one of the great Kotschmar Centennial events yet? If you haven't, you don't want to miss any more! Merrill Auditorium was packed as we started the Centennial celebration with an inspirational Hymn Festival. Next, we attracted one of our largest Silent Film audiences ever as favorite, *Phantom of the Opera*, returned to send chills through everyone watching. Finally, hundreds came to see the Choral Art Society join us for a wonderful Centennial celebration of masterpieces for chorus and organ. We hope to continue filling Merrill Auditorium with the Centennial performance of Christmas with Cornils — the last Kotschmar Christmas program before the organ is removed for renovation next August.

We want as many people as possible to enjoy these Centennial events. To make this happen, we need volunteers like you to help spread the word! FOKO has identified five initiatives to ensure our Centennial audiences remain large, but we just don't have the "people power" to cover them. Help us by becoming the primary liaison with Retirement Communities, Churches and other religious organizations, Homeowner/Condo Associations or Performing Arts groups. You could manage the distribution of our beautiful posters throughout our communities. We are also looking for organizations that would like to hear about the history and learn more about the Kotschmar Organ. Docents and Board Members are ready to share many interesting and amazing facts about this 100 year-old treasure.

Get excited! We could really use your help! There is no better way than to become involved in this once in a lifetime event — the Centennial Celebration of the Kotschmar Organ. Please contact the FOKO offices now, to get started. You won't regret a minute of your involvement and every individual who attends a Kotschmar event, will appreciate your efforts to get them there.

— Bruce Lockwood

Kotschmar Kause – Two Grand Prize Trips

The successful drawing for one of two Grand Prizes at the March, 2012 Bach Birthday Bash may still be yours! Enjoy a six-night stay for two in Puerto Rico including air travel, or . . . a three-day excursion to Philadelphia. Raffle tickets at \$20 each or 6 for \$100 are available at all FOKO concerts and also give you the chance to win themed baskets and Maine getaways at each concert. YOU NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN! All monies from our goal of \$25,000 benefit our annual programs and education projects.



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Centennial Season 2011-2012

The Centennial Celebration officially opened in the Fall of 2011 and culminates with the Centennial Festival in August 2012 - a year-long tribute to the Kotschmar Organ. These are the remaining concerts:

Tues., Dec. 20, 2011

Christmas With Cornils—

A Kotschmar Christmas

Aaron Engebret, baritone,
Kotschmar Festival Brass, Parish
Ringers, Choral Art Camerata,
Ray Cornils, organ
Sponsored by HEADINVEST

Sun., Feb. 12, 2012

**Kids Kartoons and Kotschmar
Family Concert**

Rob Richards, guest organist, with
Christina Siravo, illustrator

Tues., Mar. 20, 2012

Bach Birthday Bash

Joan Lippincott, guest organist

Tues., May 22, 2012

Meet the King of Instruments

for 3rd-6th grade students,

Ray Cornils, organ

Tues., June 19, 2012

Scholarship Recipient Concert

SAVE THESE DATES!

Centennial Festival-Aug 17-22

The celebration continues with the Centennial Festival featuring silent film, pops and classical concerts, master classes, workshops and panel discussions. The final concert will be on August 22, 2012, 100 years to the day City Hall reopened with the newly installed Kotschmar Organ.

Fri., Aug. 17, 2012

Silent Film with Tom Trenney

Sat., Aug. 18, 2012

Performathon celebrating
Maine Organists,
Tours of the Kotschmar

Sat., Aug 18, 2012

Theater Organ Night
Walt Strony & Dave Wickerham

Mon., Aug 20, 2012

The Three H's: Felix Hell,
Tom Heywood & Fred Hohman

Tues., Aug 21, 2012

Two Masters: John Weaver
& Fred Swann

Wed., Aug 22, 2012

Kotschmar Centennial:
Ray Cornils, Peter Richard
Conte and the Kotschmar
Festival Brass

For details, visit our website in January – www.foko.org

Christmas With Cornils on the air December 14!

TUNE IN DECEMBER 14th, 8 pm to MPBN MaineStage featuring Christmas with Cornils—A Kotschmar Christmas, narrated by FOKO's former Executive Director Russ Burleigh. The program features music from the concerts of 2009 and 2010.

WMED Calais - 89.7

WMEA Portland - 90.1

WMED Camden - 90.5

WMEF Fort Kent - 106.5

WMEH Bangor - 90.9

WMEW Waterville - 91.3

WMEM Presque Isle - 106.1

A Special Message from the Executive Director

As we enter this season of gift giving, time for reflection and merriment, let us all remember the importance of music in our lives. Holidays are steeped in musical traditions of all genres that remind us of Christmases past; evoking fond memories shared with family and friends.

This year, give the gift of music:

1. A charitable contribution to our Annual Fund in honor or memory of a family member or friend. This fund supports our artists and education programs, bringing artists to Merrill to perform and giving children the opportunity to learn about the Kotschmar through youth concerts and in-school programs. Help us reach our goal of \$80,000. We are one third of the way there! Please use the enclosed remittance envelope to make your contribution.

2. Purchase concert tickets to *Christmas with Cornils, Kids, Kartoons & Kotschmar* or the *Bach Birthday Bash*. Let others experience the majestic sounds of the Kotschmar Organ.

3. Purchase passes to our Centennial Festival, August 17-22, 2012 and join in the celebration with concerts, workshops and master classes with favorite organists and presenters.

4. Feeling lucky? *Kotschmar Kause* raffle tickets make great stocking stuffers! Win a gift basket or that trip to Puerto Rico or Philadelphia! See bottom right of page 3.

May the spirit of this Holiday Season bring you great joy and may the child in all of us shine as we reflect on 2011 and ring in 2012, The Kotschmar Centennial Year.

— Kathleen Grammer

A few of the ways your contribution helps . . .



DIRECTOR ROBERT RUSSELL CONDUCTED THE CHORAL ART SOCIETY IN THE NOVEMBER "AND THE GLORY" CONCERT WITH RAY CORNILS ACCOMPANYING ON THE KOTZSCHMAR ORGAN

ILLUSTRATOR CHRISTINA SIRAVO SIGNS ONE OF HER DRAWINGS FOR A FAN AT KIDS, KOTZSCHMAR AND KARTOONS

Photos by Russ Burleigh



ONE OF FOKO'S MOST POPULAR SUMMER VISITORS, FELIX HELL, WHO BEGAN PERFORMING ON THESE CONCERTS EIGHT YEARS AGO AT THE AGE OF 17



RAY CORNILS TAKES ON THE ROLE OF J. S. BACH AS HE LECTURES (AND DEMONSTRATES A BAROQUE DANCE) AT BREAKWATER SCHOOL AS PART OF FOKO'S IN-SCHOOL RESIDENCY.



NEAR CAPACITY AUDIENCES HAVE ENJOYED "CHRISTMAS WITH CORNILS" CONCERTS SINCE THEIR INCEPTION 20 YEARS AGO. THIS PHOTO IS FROM 2009. THE 2011 VERSION WILL BE ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20. CALL PORTTIX AT 842-0800 FOR RESERVATIONS.