Upcoming
Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series Recitals
Please Join Us!

Renée Anne Louprette
Guest Artist
January 29, Sunday, 7:00 p.m.
Holsclaw Hall, $9, 7, 5

“...a communicative player with no shortage of imaginative ideas, with fingers fully capable of backing them up.”
– The Irish Times

Pamela Decker
UA Faculty Artist
March 31, Saturday, 2:30 p.m.
Holsclaw Hall, $9, 7, 5

Dr. Decker’s recital will include works by Liszt, Langlais, Whitehouse, Yukl and Decker. Each piece features connections with quotes, images, or ethnomusicological content upon which the compositional materials are based. The recent works by American composers spotlight influences from many parts of the world, making the program a melting pot of cultural diversity.
Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series

Friday, November 4, 2011 – Holsclaw Hall, 7:00 p.m.

Jane Smith
Organist

PROGRAM

In Memoriam Jehan Alain

Litanies .....................................................................................................Jehan Alain
(1911-1940)
Le jardin suspendu

Chant héroïque ........................................................................Jean Langlais
(1907-1991)

Prelude et fugue sur le nom d’Alain ..............................................Maurice Duruflé
(1902-1986)

INTERMISSION

Cortège et Litanie .............................................................................Marcel Dupré
(1886-1971)

Prière du Christ montant vers son Père .................Olivier Messiaen
(1908-1992)

Choral dorien .................................................................................Jehan Alain

Trois Danses ...............................................................................Jehan Alain
Joies
Deuils
Luttes

This concert is being recorded for future broadcast

Out of respect for the performers, and to comply with all copyright laws, no audio, video or photographs are allowed.

Roy A. Johnson Organ Series Endowment

The Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series, established in Professor Johnson’s memory shortly after his tragic death, has been the vehicle for showcasing superb performers on the beautiful Schoenstein pipe organ, made possible by donor Isabelle Harris. To create ongoing funding for the series, Elizabeth and Keith Hege and Stardust (Dusty) Johnson have made generous gifts to establish a permanent endowment in the School of Music. They invite you to join with them in ensuring that this fine series will continue in the future to bring outstanding organists to Tucson and the School of Music. What a fitting way to honor the legacy of Professor Johnson! All gifts to the endowment are made through the University of Arizona Foundation and are tax-deductible as prescribed by law. Gifts will be acknowledged in future series programs.

Name: ____________________________
Address: __________________________
City/State/Zip: __________________________
E-mail: ____________________________ Phone: __________________________

☐ Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift payable to UAF/Roy A. Johnson Organ Series Endowment

Gift amount: $ __________________________
Name on card: __________________________
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ American Express

Card Number: __________________________
Expiration Date: __________________________
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If your employer has a matching gift program, please contact your company’s personnel office for the necessary form to include with your gift.

Please mail this form and your gift to:

Office of Development, College of Fine Arts
The University of Arizona
P.O. Box 210004, Tucson, AZ 85721-0004

We are deeply grateful for your help and support!
Jane Smith has presented recitals throughout the United States, appearing both as soloist, and in ensemble concerts. She has presented numerous workshops on organ literature and service playing. She received her bachelor’s degree in organ from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music, a master’s degree in organ from Texas Christian University, and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in organ performance from the University of Arizona. Teachers include John Obetz, Emmet Smith, Roy Johnson and Pamela Decker.

An active member of the American Guild of Organists, she holds the Colleague Certificate and served as Dean of the Southern Arizona Chapter. Dr. Smith is currently dean of the Albuquerque Chapter of the AGO and director of music and liturgy at Our Lady of the Annunciation Catholic Church in Albuquerque.
Roy Johnson’s Legacy

Roy Johnson’s twenty-nine years as faculty member of The University of Arizona School of Music resulted in significant accomplishments for the keyboard studies area, and the organ program in particular. Johnson, who studied piano in Rome, Italy, earned a doctorate in organ performance from the University of Michigan and had extensive experience as a performer as well as a church organist and choirmaster. One of his most important professional legacies at the School of Music, however, was guiding the design and construction of a teaching and recital organ in Holsclaw Hall, a hall specifically configured acoustically and architecturally for the pipe organ.

Obtaining a teaching and recital instrument was a project that Roy Johnson pursued passionately as a part of his vision for a flourishing organ program at The University of Arizona. To this end, he played an important role in securing the gift from Ms. Isabelle Harris, a local businesswoman, which made the dream of the installation of a pipe organ a reality. With funding secured, he consulted with many of the most respected American builders, performing on their instruments in a variety of venues. He eventually selected Shoenstein & Co., Organ Builders, San Francisco as the builder, believing that an eclectic, electro-pneumatic instrument (as opposed to a mechanical action tracker instrument) that would accommodate the widest range of organ literature would best serve the needs of the students of the School of Music.

“I am thankful every day for Roy’s decisions,” says UA Professor of Organ Pamela Decker, “I can teach literature from all periods on a versatile organ that adapts to a wide range of styles.” Dr. Decker says of the hall, “It has a beautiful resonance that is lengthy enough to provide richness and fullness but not so much as to disrupt clarity.”

The effect of Roy Johnson’s decisions will continue to shape the organ program at the School of Music for many years to come. His perseverance in creating the design, construction, and installation of the Isabelle Harris Organ in Holsclaw Hall has provided organ students with an excellent instrument in an acoustically appropriate concert venue, which benefits performers and concertgoers as well. It stands as a permanent legacy of his dedication to his students, the School of Music, the university and the larger Tucson community.

Each year, the UA School of Music presents two organ concerts in memory of Roy Johnson as part of the Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series. Organists who have performed in the recent past include Robert Bates, Maxine Thévenot, Hans Gebhard, Scott Montgomery, Edie Johnson, Adam Pajan, Margaret Martin Kvanme, Faythe Freese and Jeffrey Campbell.

Isabelle B. Harris Organ

Holsclaw Hall, University of Arizona
3 Manual and Pedal Organ – 27 Voices – 33 Ranks
Encased, Detached Console, Electric-Pneumatic Action – 1994

The Isabelle B. Harris Organ in Holsclaw Hall was built in 1994 by Schoenstein & Co., Organ Builders, San Francisco, California. The late Dr. Roy A. Johnson, professor of organ (1966–1995) worked closely with Jack Bethards, president, Schoenstein Co., in designing the organ’s specifications. Professor Johnson’s vision was to create a teaching and recital instrument, using an economy of resources, which would encompass all organ literature, not necessarily authentic to a particular period, but which would give students the experience of working and learning on a versatile instrument typical of the organ architecture they would most likely encounter in their future careers, whether it be as recitalist, teacher, or church musician.