

Aaron Sunstein, organ

600 S. Hanover St. Apt. 4, Carlisle, PA 17013
ricercara6@gmail.com (812) 391-8609
www.aaronsunstein.com

Education

Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, Bloomington, IN
Doctor of Music in organ: candidate, anticipated graduation December 2015
Minor in music theory

Musikhögskolan i Piteå (Luleå University of Technology), Piteå, Sweden
Master of Arts in organ performance, 2011

University of Iowa School of Music, Iowa City, IA
Bachelor of Music in organ performance, 2009

Boston Latin School, Boston, MA
Diploma, College preparatory curriculum, 2005

Principal Teachers

Organ: Delbert Disselhorst, Michael Kleinschmidt, Gary Verkade, Chris Young
Improvisation: Bruce Neswick
Conducting: Erik Westberg, Timothy Stalter
Voice: Stephen Swanson, Robert Gartside
Harpsichord: Elisabeth Wright
Piano: Ksenia Nosikova, A. Ramon Rivera

Professional Experience

Church Music

Minister of Music, First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carlisle, PA, August 2014-

- Directs Adult Choir, Treble Choir, Handbell Choir, and Men's Choir
- Has greatly increased participation in the church's music programs: membership in Chancel Choir (adult choir) has nearly doubled
- Has begun a Treble Choir program using the Royal School of Church Music's *Voices for Life* curriculum
- Plays the Aeolian-Skinner organ Op. 1155 (1951) for all worship services

Organist, St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Bloomington, IN, September 2011-July 2014

- Played for all worship services
- Primary responsibility for selection of liturgical music and hymns
- Accompanied the Adult and Children's Choirs for regular services and concerts
- Planned enthusiastically received Worship and Arts Series events including "A Scandinavian Christmas" and "Lutheran Heritage Hymn Festival"

Cantor, Parishes of Hosjö and Vika, Dalarna, Sweden, March 2010-August 2011

- Played for worship services including a busy schedule of baptisms, weddings, and funerals in two picturesque country churches
- Developed and led a children's choir in Hosjö
- Accompanied the Adult choir for regular services and concerts

- Planned and performed in special musical events including organ concerts, collaborative recitals, and choral concerts, including a concert of music for weddings and an evening of jazz and classical music for saxophone and organ

Organist and Choirmaster, Lake Delaware Boys Camp, Delhi, NY, Summers 2007-2009

- Played for daily masses and weekly Evensong and Benediction at free Episcopal camp attended primarily by at-risk boys from Newark and New York City
- Recruited, trained, and conducted boys' choir in hymn descants and anthems
- Commissioned report on the historic 1886 Roosevelt organ by American organ expert Scot Huntington and began work toward the instrument's restoration (now completed)
- Led athletic and other activities for campers from ages 8-16

Organ Scholar, First Baptist Church, Iowa City, IA, September 2006-May 2008

Organ Scholar, St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Milton, MA, September 2003-January 2005

Academic

Associate Instructor, Organ Department, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, August 2011-May 2014

- Developed and taught an organ literature survey course for undergraduate organ majors
- Assisted Bruce Neswick in teaching sacred music topics such as hymn playing, keyboard harmony, and improvisation to undergraduate students in a four semester sequence of sacred music course work
- Taught private lessons to non-major organ students

Member, Instructional Policy Committee, Jacobs School of Music, 2013-14

- Selected by Associate Dean for Instruction Mary Wennerstrom as student representative on committee which addresses curriculum-related issues

Performance Experience

Solo Recitals (selected)

First Lutheran Church, Carlisle, PA, March, 29, 2015

- Organ/Multimedia presentation of Chorale Fantasies for Lent by Reincken and Reger
- Parish of the Good Shepherd, Camp Hill, PA, December 14, 2014
- Recital of Music for Advent: Dupré World Awaiting the Saviour, Böhm *Freu dich sehr*, Tournemire Paraphrase-Carillon

Alumni Hall, Indiana University, March 4, 2014

- DM Recital 3: works of Dupré, Bach, Correa, Verkade, and Schuller

Loyola University Chicago Chapel Concert Series, IU Rising Star Concert, February 16, 2014

First Congregational Church, Iowa City, IA, September 22, 2013

Kloster church, Eskilstuna, Sweden, July 2013

Dala-Husby church, Sweden, July 2013

- Performance on second largest 18th century organ in Sweden of works by Mozart, C.P.E. Bach, Mendelssohn, Pachelbel, and Correa

Parish of All Saints' Ashmont, Boston, May 2013

- Benefit concert for Ashmont Hill Chamber Music

Auer Hall, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, June 2013 & June 2012

- DM Recital 2: Reger: Introduction, Variations, and Fugue on an Original Theme, Op. 73, Schoenberg: Variations on a Recitative

- DM Recital 1, *Dance*: Frescobaldi: *cento partite sopra passacagli*, Bach Passacaglia, Alain *Trois Danses*, Gunther Schuller *Orgelwalzer*
Nederluleå church, Gammelstad, Luleå, Sweden, June 2011
- Works of Mendelssohn, Fartein Valen, Bach, and Gunther Schuller
Norr fjärden church, Norrbotten, Sweden, June 2010
- Performance on organ in meantone temperament of Bach, Böhm, Buxtehude, and Peeter Cornet

Additional recital venues include: Indiana University Auditorium, St. Paul's Church, Jackson, MO; Haparanda church, Sweden; Kristine church, Falun, Sweden; Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis; Trinity Church, Boston, MA; Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, IA

Competitions

- Second Prize, Ft. Wayne National Organ Playing Competition, March 2014, Finalist, March 2012
- Semi-finalist, National Young Artist Competition in Organ Performance (NYACOP), American Guild of Organists, 2014
- Second Prize, John Rodland Organ Scholarship Competition, New Jersey, April 2012
- First prize, Twin Cities' Chapter American Guild of Organists Competition, April 2008
- Finalist, International Organweek Nuremberg Competition, Germany, June 2013

Accompanist

- Faculty Recital, Don Freund (Composer and Pianist), March 28, 2014
- Selected by Marilyn Keiser as her injury replacement to accompany soprano Claire Daniels in Freund's Psalm 121 for soprano and organ
Choralfest, Indiana University, March 2014
- Accompanied Rorem Psalm 146 for concerts in Bloomington and Indianapolis
St. Thomas Lutheran Adult Choir, Fauré Requiem, April 2012
St. Thomas Lutheran Adult Choir, Vivaldi Gloria, December 2011
G-klaven, Swedish women's choir, Concert, March 2011
Adult Choir of Svärdsjö church Sweden, 2009-2011
- Regular organ accompanist for Lessons & Carols, concerts etc.
Rehearsal accompanist, Musikhögskolan i Piteå Chamber Choir, Fall 2008

Master Classes/Private Coaching

Gerd Zacher, Guy Bovet, Ludgar Lohmann, Bruce Neswick, Martin Schmeding, David Schrader, John Schwandt, Carole Terry

Choral singer

- Erik Westbergs Vokal Ensemble (semi-professional touring choir), Piteå, Sweden, Fall 2009
- University of Iowa Kantorei, (graduate chamber choir), 2006-2009
- Musikhögskolan i Piteå Chamber Choir, Fall 2008
- Camp counselor, baritone soloist at Royal School of Church Music summer choral courses in Montreal, Washington, 2002-2006
- Choir of Men and Boys of the Parish of All Saints' Ashmont, Boston, MA, 1999-2005

Special Projects and Presentations

Presentation of paper on the organ music of Gunther Schuller with the composer in attendance, American Guild of Organists National Convention, Boston, MA, Summer 2014

Chair of Choralfest Committee, IU/Bloomington Chapter of American Guild of Organists, 2013-2014

- Chaired committee which developed the program and served as lead organizer of the organ department's annual Choralfest concerts in Bloomington in Indianapolis
- Program featured American Sacred Music for choir and organ including works by Ives, Amy Beach, Rorem, Bernstein, and Bruce Neswick

Master's Thesis: Toward's the Performance of Gunther Schuller's *Triptych* for organ, Luleå University of Technology, 2011

- Includes premiere recording of the 1976 piece

Scholarships

Associate Instructor, Indiana University, 2011-2014

Elizabeth A. Frawley Memorial Organ Scholarship, University of Iowa, 2005-2009

Harold Grant Memorial Scholarship, Boston Latin School, 2005

Professional Affiliations

American Guild of Organists, IU/Bloomington Chapter

- Sub-Dean, 2013-2014, Executive Committee, 2012-2013

Association of Anglican Musicians

Association of Lutheran Church Musicians

Languages

Swedish, French (reading)