Historic Organs of Switzerland

May 12-25, 2014  14 Days
with J. Michael Barone
Dear Pipedreams Pals,

Would you believe that this will be PIPE-DREAMS Tour Number Thirteen?! I hope that’s not an unlucky number, but it does attest to thirteen years of intense, exciting, game-changing group adventures in the world of the pipe organ! Some of you have participated in nearly all of these, some of you were first-timers last year, and some of you may have evidenced interest and curiosity, but have not previously been able to join us. Now is the year, I hope!

Even before we had begun the previous tour, members of the group already were asking ‘what’s next?...’ and though I had some ideas then, I couldn’t make up my mind. But I had been impressed by some recordings featuring an excellent young Belgian re-citalist who now lives in Switzerland, Els Eijsenstviss (www.els.eijsenstviss.be), and discovered her to be quite intriguing by our project and able to collaborate with me in its creation.

We will travel the length and breadth of Switzerland, from Zurich to Geneva, Lausanne to Leuk, through breath-taking scenery of lakes and mountains, while experiencing a most comprehensive history of the pipe organ, from its medieval beginnings to its present-day representatives.

In addition to the world’s oldest pipe organ and other famous historic instruments by Silbermann and Bossard we’ll investigate Swiss-made installations by Mooser, Carlen, Mathis, Metzler, Goll, and Kuhn, plus the largest American-built organ in Europe, by Fisk.

A special PIPEDREAMS broadcast in December (“A Swiss Mix” #1348) should whet your curiosity and introduce you to the incredible variety of Swiss pipe organs and the music composed for them. But that is only a taste. As we have learned, nothing equals the in-person experience of a pipe organ, as the cultural contexts and architectural environments in which these instruments live greatly enhance one’s understanding and appreciation of them. Switzerland is a multi-cultural country, with strong influences from France, Germany and Italy, and because of its neutrality and prosperity, virtually every church or civic building houses a pipe organ. Our biggest challenge was determining what not to see.

As usual, comfortable shoes are a necessity, and you should be prepared to walk some distances, since several venues will not allow our coach up-close access. Typically, some days will be packed with activities, but we’ve also attempted to provide a bit more ‘free time’ for your own individual explorations. Also, feel free to come early or stay late if you are enticed by other involvements beyond those we’ve planned, as there is much to savor in Switzerland!

This will be my first visit to Switzerland, so each day will be rich with discoveries for me, and for you, too. I trust you will be able to join our crew for this wonderful experience. Make your reservations now... don’t delay!

Cheers,

Michael Barone
Tour Conditions

Hotels
Transfer this morning for the return flight to the Sun 25 May. Return to U.S.

FRI 23 MAY
Lucerne/Zurich
Get an early start for Zurich, another gorgeous Swiss city beautifully situated on an alpine lake. Upon arrival begin your exploration of the local instruments. Krone Unterrstrass (B)
- Bühlkirche (1897 Goll; III/P/44)
- St. Josef (1966 Metzler; III/P/38) and (1925 Louis Debiere)
- Neumünster — former Tonhalle organ (1881 Goll-1995 Kuhn; III/P/52)
Farewell dinner at Fraumünster (1912 Kuhn; 1953 Genf; IV/P/79).

SAT 24 MAY
Zurich
Finish with Zurich instruments today. This evening gather for a festive farewell dinner at Zun.

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SUN 25 MAY
Return to U.S.
Transfer this morning for the return flight to the U.S. (B, Meals in-flight)

- Code: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Itinerary subject to confirmation.

This tour requires considerable walking. Please check with your tour leader if you have any questions.

What’s Included?

- AIRFARE: Round-trip economy class airfare from JFK or Chicago via Swiss Airlines or other ARC/IATA approved scheduled carrier. Note that Swiss Airlines does not offer add-on flights from other cities; a separate ticket will be required from your home city to the gateway of your choice. Please allow a minimum of three hours connection time.
- MEALS: Breakfast daily and six dinners. Wine included with the farewell dinner.
- GROUND TRANSPORT: Transfers and transportation by deluxe motorcoach.
- SIGHTSEEING/PROGRAMMING: Extensive organ-related programming throughout; honoraria and entrance fees included.
- PORTERAGE: Luggage handling of one piece per person.
- ORGAN EXPERT: Ms. Els Biesemans serving as the accompanying organ impresario.
- PROFESSIONAL GUIDE: A professional tour manager/guide throughout.
- GRATUITIES: Gratuities to drivers and guides (for your convenience, $173 per person has been included).
- TAXES: Airport/foreign departure taxes (currently $621 per person).
- ALL THE INFO YOU NEED: Comprehensive documentation including travel accessory, bag tags, name tags, flight and land itineraries, destination literature, customs information, travel tips and more.

Cost Summary

- $5599
  - Group flight from JFK or Chicago
  - Airport taxes ($621)
  - Tour Gratuities ($173)

Optional Individual Supplements

- Single Room: $689

- Items Not Included
  - Fuel surcharges and/or tax increases levied since the pricing of this tour.
  - Beverages other than coffee/tea at breakfast.
  - Any meal or sightseeing item not listed in the itinerary.
  - Items of a personal nature.
  - Optional insurance for health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption is not included and highly recommended. Please refer to the Travel Insurance section.
  - Passport fees. A passport valid six months beyond date of reentry to the U.S. is required.
  - No visa is required for U.S. citizens; non-U.S. citizens may require a visa.

Reservations Application • Photocopy, Clip and Mail

Pipedreams: Switzerland • May 12-25, 2013 • (G#140516) • Nicole Greenly • American Public Media • 480 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55101

(Name as it appears on passport)

1. ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________  Date of Birth_____________________
   First Name  MIddle Name      Last Name  Month/Day/Year

2. ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________  Date of Birth_____________________
   First Name  MIddle Name      Last Name  Month/Day/Year

Address (no P.O. boxes) ___________________________  Tel. (Day) ____________________  (Eve.)__________________

City ___________________________________ State__________ Zip Code_________________

Roommate ___________________________ I will pay the supplement for a single room.  I wish to play the organ.

Please make checks payable to American Public Media.

Form of Payment

Check
Charge my deposit(s) to
Credit Card # ___________________________
Exp _____________________________
Security Code _________________________
Name as it appears on credit card: ___________________________

Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________
MICHAEL BARONE is a well known voice on public radio as host for national broadcasts of American Public Media’s PipeDreams®, which celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2012. He came to Minnesota Public Radio in 1968, served as its system’s music director through 1993, and continues as a Senior Executive Producer.

Barone is a graduate (B.M. in Music History) of the Oberlin Conservatory in Ohio, and an internationally known advocate for the pipe organ and its music. He has received special honors from the American Guild of Organists, the Organ Historical Society, the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), and the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame for his contributions to the musical community at large and to organ music in particular.

ELS BIESEMANS was born in Antwerp and is at home on a number of different keyboard instruments, performing concerts on the clavicord, fortepiano, modern concert grand piano, harpsichord, and organ in most European countries, Japan, Canada and the US.

She received a Master’s degree in music performance majoring in piano, organ and chamber music at the Lemmens Institute in Leuven, Belgium. She subsequently completed advanced studies in fortepiano (Jesper Christensen) and organ (Andre Marcon, Wolfgang Zerer) at the Schola Cantorum Basiliens in Basel, Switzerland.

TOUR CONDITIONS

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: Your reservation and deposit of $750 per person are requested immediately to fulfill the group deadline requirements. Note that space is limited and reservations are taken on a first come, first served basis. Final payment is due March 7, 2014. For credit card payment APM accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express.

REFUND POLICY: All cancellations must be in writing. There is no refund for partial or unused land arrangements. Note: Airline tickets will be issued well in advance prior to departure and may be nonrefundable. The following penalties will apply: Up to January 7, 2014 - $100 per person administrative fee plus any unrecoverable deposits; January 8 – April 21, 2014 – Deposit plus any unrecoverable payments to hotels, tour operators or airlines; April 22, 2014 or after – No refund. 

CHANGES TO GROUP FLIGHTS: The group airfare contract for this tour may not allow travelers to make any date or itinerary changes. If you are considering other dates or cities, please submit your request in writing well in advance to secure the best rates and schedule, but no later than January 7, 2014. A minimum fee of $175 per person will apply for changes to group flights in addition to possible airfare increase.

LATE BOOKINGS: Passengers registering within thirty days of tour departure will be charged a $50 per person fee. Tour payment in full is required before we can request and confirm space. This fee does not cover any additional ground service charges.

ACCOLADES TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is included as an option with the initial tour deposit and is highly recommended. Accolades offers a competitive policy from an independent company. By purchasing insurance at the time the tour deposit is made, you can be covered for events that may cause you to cancel or interrupt your trip, i.e., pre-existing medical conditions (certain restrictions apply). If you decline travel insurance at the time of reservation, you may purchase it within 14 days with the pre-existing conditions waiver. You may contact Travel Insured International for further information before making your decision: 800-243-3174.

ACCOLADES TRAVEL INSURANCE INCLUSIONS

Trip Cancellation..................up to Tour Cost*
Trip Interruption...........up to 150% of Tour Cost**
Travel Delay.....................................................$750
Missed Connection..................$300
Baggage..................................................$1,000
Baggage Delay..................................$200
Medical Expense......................................$50,000
Evacuation/Repayment..................$500,000
Accidental Death..............................$10,000
Political Emergency Evacuation.........$100,000
ID Theft Resolution Services..............................$100,000
Assistance Service..........................included

* a maximum of $6000 per person
** a maximum of $9000 per person

Cost of this optional Accolades Travel Insurance is $320 per person ($330 in single occupancy). Additional coverage provided as needed; the full cost of your tour must be covered.

CONDITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITY

Group Travel Directors (GTD) acts solely as an agent for the sale of travel arrangements, service, product or other instrumentality which is owned, operated or otherwise used by a supplier; (3) any intentional, wrongful, negligent or unauthorized act or omission on the part of any supplier, its agents or employees; (4) any failure by suppliers; (5) any other cause, condition or event whatsoever beyond the direct control of GTD. GTD cannot guarantee any rates, bookings or reservations of any supplier. Your retention of tickets, reservations or bookings after issuance shall constitute a consent to the foregoing provisions. All prices quoted are subject to change if airlines or ground operators increase their prices, the U.S. dollar is devalued significantly against foreign currencies, the group falls below minimum numbers, or a fuel surcharge, government tax or user’s fee is imposed. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. GTD reserves the right to withdraw from any tour any tour member whose conduct is incompatible with the interests of the group as a whole. The above Conditions and Responsibility also includes J. Michael Barone, American Public Media, Minnesota Public Radio and their representatives.

NOTE TO OUR TRAVELERS:

Please be assured that Accolades continually monitors industry events, such as airline strikes and bankruptcies, etc. If any such events affect your tour, you will be notified. At the time this tour was developed there was not a U.S. State Department Travel Warning in effect for this destination; please refer to the following website for current information or call Accolades. http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/12764.html

For payment information, contact:

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For more tour information, contact:

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Fax: 952-747-2255
Email: groups@gtd.org