

Ann Marie Rigler



Organist **Ann Marie Rigler** is Professor of Music and College Organist at William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, where she plays weekly for Chapel services and teaches applied organ, music history, class piano, and courses in Christian hymnody and worship practices. She previously served on the faculties of the Pennsylvania State University, Wayne State College, the University of Northern Iowa, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Simpson College.

Dr. Rigler maintains an active schedule as a solo recitalist, speaker, choral and chamber musician, and adjudicator, with recital and lecture presentation credits at venues throughout the United States, including performances at conventions of the American Guild of Organists, the Organ Historical Society, and the College Music Society. Upcoming engagements include programs for the Central Missouri chapter of the American Guild of Organists, Central Synagogue in New York City, the Early Music Society of Iowa City, and the organ studios of the University of Kansas and the University of Iowa. As a recitalist, she is especially committed to offering programs that represent a wide variety of faith traditions, and she has recorded a program titled “God of Many Names” on the 2005 Létourneau organ housed in the multi-faith Pasquerilla Spiritual Center at Penn State University. In addition, she regularly performs as organist for Musica Vocale and the Liberty Community Chorus, and in the spring of 2012 she appeared as both organ soloist and accompanist at sites throughout the United Kingdom. Having worked as a church musician for parishes of various denominations in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania, she currently enjoys serving as co-organist for her own congregation, Colonial Church (United Church of Christ) in Prairie Village, Kansas.

Dr. Rigler’s research interests in both historical and contemporary organ pedagogy have generated a variety of presentations ranging from lecture-recitals on 19th-century American church music, organ teaching, and the theology of Henry Ward Beecher to the video-based “Conversations and Legacies: Exploring late 20th-century American organ pedagogy through oral history.” In the fall of 2011, the American Guild of Organists released for sale the DVD of her 2010 national convention presentation, “How We Got Here from There: Trends in Pedagogy, 1860-1960.” She has also presented classes on the organ for the OSHER Lifelong Learning Institute, in partnership with the University of Kansas.

Dr. Rigler’s research interests in both historical and contemporary organ pedagogy have generated a variety of presentations ranging from lecture-recitals on 19th-century American church music, organ teaching, and the theology of Henry Ward Beecher to the video-based “Conversations and Legacies: Exploring late 20th-century American organ

Ann Marie Rigler

pedagogy through oral history.” In the fall of 2011, the American Guild of Organists released for sale the DVD of her 2010 national convention presentation, “How We Got Here from There: Trends in Pedagogy, 1860-1960.” She has also presented classes on the organ for the OSHER Lifelong Learning Institute, in partnership with the University of Kansas.

A native Pennsylvanian, Dr. Rigler lived in Pittsburgh for several years before her family relocated to Rolla, Missouri. She attended Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa prior to earning the B.Mus. degree in Organ Performance from Southern Methodist University, where she received the Dora Poteet Barclay award in organ as a student of Robert T. Anderson. She received the M.S. in Library and Information Science and the M.M. in Musicology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she was a University Fellow and held teaching assistantships in organ and music history while studying with Jerald Hamilton. She was a Rahn Scholar at the University of Iowa, from which she earned the D.M.A. in Organ Performance and Pedagogy as a student of Delores Bruch Cannon and Delbert Disselhorst. Her dissertation research on organist John Zundel was supported by grants from the Organ Historical Society American Organ Archive and the Newberry Library Center for Renaissance Studies. Faculty research awards from Wayne State College allowed her to pursue post-graduate harpsichord study with Larry Palmer at Southern Methodist University.

A strong advocate for young organists, Dr. Rigler served the American Guild of Organists on the national committee for the AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young Organists from 2005 to 2011, taught at five Pipe Organ Encounters, and was Faculty Coordinator for the Greater Kansas City chapter’s Pipe Organ Encounter for high school students in June 2009. In addition to co-authoring the script for the videotape, *The Organ and You: A Young Person’s Guide to the King of Instruments*, she has written articles and reviews for *The American Organist*, *The Diapason*, *The Journal of Singing*, and *Music Library Association NOTES*. She nurtures her interest in early music through membership in the Historical Keyboard Society of North America and through occasional performances in the greater Kansas City area with her husband, a violinist/violist who specializes in Baroque music performance on a 1780 instrument by English luthiers Charles and Samuel Thompson.