

# OrganMuse

Official Newsletter of OrganMuse®

The World's First Fully Automatic Performance Assistant for Organs

Volume 1, Number 1 \* [www.OrganMuse.com](http://www.OrganMuse.com) \* (866)900-MUSE (toll free)

## OrganMuse Takes Organ World By Storm

Chicago, IL, July 2-6, 2006 - AGO National Convention.....

One would have thought that they were witnessing the parting of the Red Sea. Organists from around the world stood in awestruck wonder as they watched the newest contribution to the world of organ playing - OrganMuse.

The concept of a hands-free page-turning system has long been the dream of most organists, but the OrganMuse system crystallized in the mind of Jim Raycroft, who had been told of a similar system in Denmark. He flew to Denmark in 2000 to see it, and found a system that required the touch of a toe stud or thumb piston to activate the page turn. That wasn't enough - it had to be completely automatic, and with modern technology able to put a man on the moon, it should also be able to pull stops automatically.

Several years went into the development of the software that drives the system, and a development team was assembled in 2004. Then came the chore of getting the rest of the technology to support the system, especially, getting the music onto the computer screen. Scanners, scanning programs and notation software were tested. Hours were spent in computer stores comparing and testing hardware. Suppliers were obtained, and a mounting bracket for the monitor was designed and built. Finally, it was ready.

Brochures were inserted into the Chicago convention bags to be sure that everyone there knew about it, and when the doors to the exhibit hall opened, crowds of fascinated, and sometimes incredulous, organists descended upon the OrganMuse booth. Almost the entire team was on hand, and it was a good thing, because the crowds couldn't have been handled without them.

Interested parties were invited to sign a guest book, which had a section for comments and suggestions. Some of the comments included were "WOW!", "Incredible!", "It had to be - and now it is!", "Unbelievable!", "Fascinating - Sounds Wonderful", "This is the best thing to come along in years." and "I've been waiting for this my whole life."

In a nutshell, OrganMuse puts the music on a computer screen. The computer, which is connected to the organ by a midi connection, follows the music in real time as the organist plays and, when the organist reaches the bottom of the page, brings up the next page of music.



The OrganMuse booth and team at the AGO National Convention in Chicago

OrganMuse is talking to publishers about digitizing their libraries of organ music in the OrganMuse format, and a library of classics will be available from the OrganMuse website shortly. Also in the near future - testing the new Mini-PC for its compatibility, better ways to organize music files, and of course, the ever popular .... OrganMuse tee-shirts.

Look for OrganMuse in 2007 at the NAMM show in Anaheim, the Frankfurt Musikmesse and the RCCO convention in Edmonton.

