

# Renowned organist to play SW Manitoba towns



by Ben Kroeker

Patrick Kabanda was but a young chorister at St. Paul's (Anglican) Cathedral in Kampala, Uganda, in the mid-1990's. Just one of the boys.

That's where Dale Whetter first encountered this musically gifted lad while Whetter was teaching at Mmengo Senior School on the outskirts of Kampala. (Dale Whetter, an organist himself now teaches piano in Boissevain).

"I didn't know him personally at the time," Whetter says. "Patrick was one of the young boys in the church choir that I accompanied from time to time."

But Patrick Kabanda remembered Dale Whetter and contacted him recently. Further discussion led to the possibility of his making music in this small corner of Canada, a world away from his native Uganda.

He has become a renowned organist. Graduating from New York City's Juilliard School with a Master of Music in organ performance, Patrick Kabanda won the 2003 William Schuman Prize. He is currently the coordinator of a music enrichment program at the Phillips Academy, near Boston.

No stranger to solo performances in places such as London's St. Paul's Cathedral; the Hong Kong Cultural Centre; Cairo's All Saints' Anglican Cathedral; New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral; Washington National Cathedral among others in the USA, Patrick Kabanda is coming to southwestern Manitoba for his Canadian debut to

play five towns. He will be performing in Boissevain, Deloraine, Killarney and Souris as well as Brandon in June.

His wide-ranging repertoire includes original compositions such as *Tranquility*, *Twelve-Tone Row on B-A-C-H*, and a *Toccata on an African Folk Song*, *Njabala Njabala*, for organ. Performance and arrangements for which he is known span the church classics and secular masterpieces as well as jazz and gospel.

Ancillary to his stellar career as a performer, Patrick Kabanda has published several journal articles including *"Sylff Music and Minds in Cairo"* and *"African Odyssey: Bringing the Music Home."* He has also been in high demand as a speaker at music workshops and conferences.

Fluent in English and Luganda, he admits to many personal interests beyond music, which range from filming, mountain biking and soccer to photography and traveling.

On his brief itinerary through southwestern Manitoba, he will be playing on the available church organs wherever he appears, though he is also quite at home on huge pipe organs in cathedral and music halls worldwide.

Instead of buying admission tickets, music lovers who wish to hear him will only be asked to make a freewill contribution when offering plates are passed.

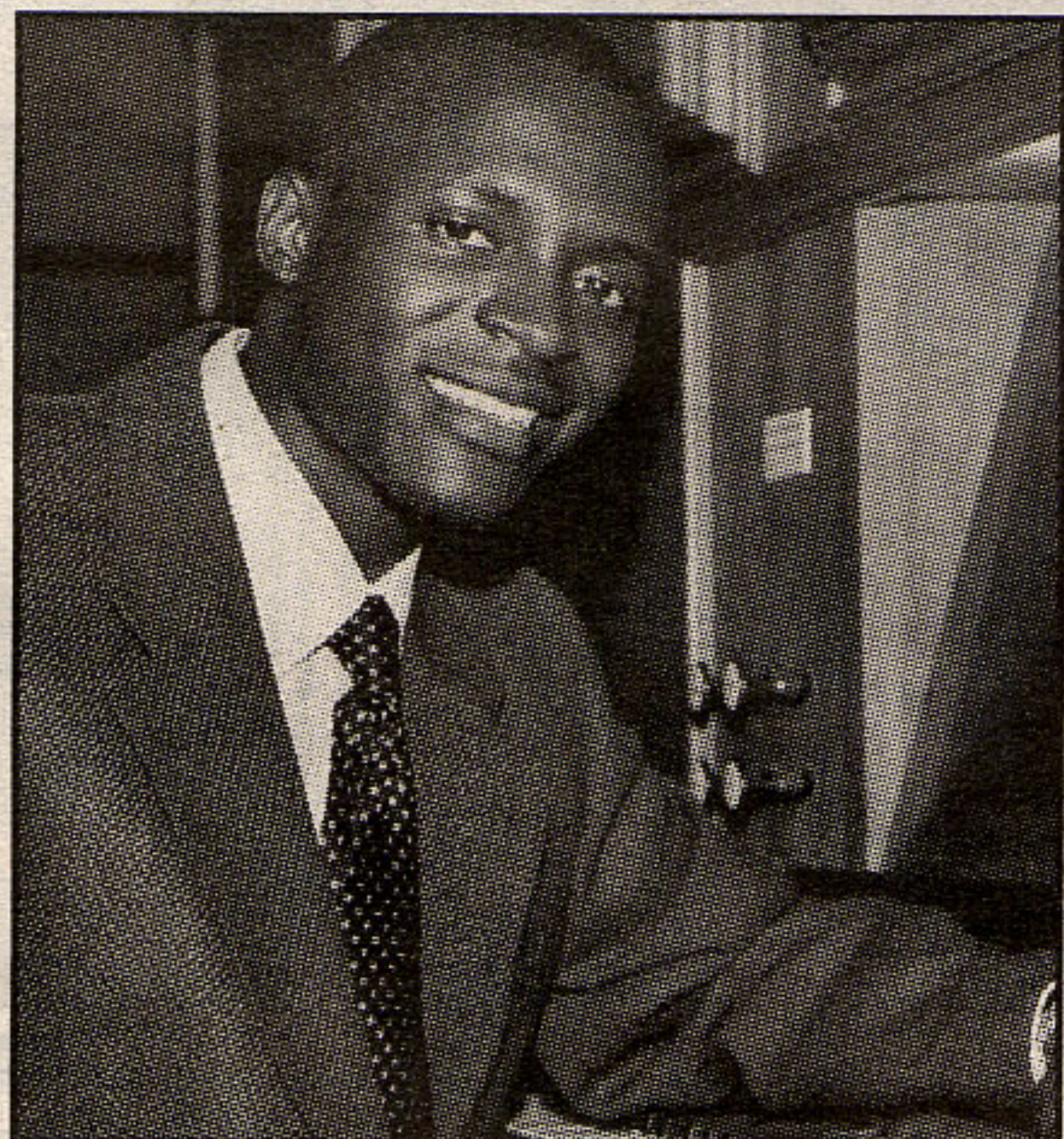
Full details about the times and places Patrick Kabanda will be playing are listed in an advertisement.

*World Renowned*

## PATRICK KABANDA IN CONCERT

at the organ of St. Antoninus Church  
Deloraine, MB

Wednesday, June 21 at 7:30 p.m.



From Hong Kong, Cairo, London, Washington and New York to Brandon for his Canadian debut, Patrick Kabanda, a native of Uganda and a graduate of the Juilliard School in New York City, will perform works by Bach, Mendelssohn and Healey Willan among others. The program will include some hymn singing and improvisations on favourite hymn requests. A freewill offering will be taken towards an honourarium.