

# LE VOYAGE DANS LA LUNE



WED. APR 11 12 NOON  
MECHANICS HALL

321 Main Street • Worcester • 508-752-5608 • FREE Admission  
Sponsored by Mechanics Hall and American Guild of Organists

PETER KRASINSKI, organ

*"Trip to the Moon" Silent Film & Pipe Organ Concert*

★ "STAR FILM" ★  
Geo Méliès Paris



Wednesday, April 11, 2012

## **Silent Film Extravaganza at Mechanics Hall with Peter Krasinski**

Worcester Organ Concert Series

Co-sponsored by Mechanics Hall and the Worcester Chapter American Guild of Organists  
Noon, Free Admission, Cabaret Seating

### **“A Trip to the Moon” (1902)**

See the original movie everyone is talking about, as seen in “*Hugo*”, the movie that won five of the eleven 2012 academy awards for which it was nominated, as brilliantly accompanied (silent-film-style) by Peter Krasinski on the magnificent Worcester Organ (E G & G Hook, IV/65) at Mechanics Hall.

*A Trip to the Moon (Le Voyage dans la lune)* is a 1902 French silent science-fiction film. It is based loosely on two popular novels of the time: Jules Verne’s *From the Earth to the Moon* and H. G. Wells’ *The First Men in the Moon*.

The film was written and directed by Georges Méliès, assisted by his brother Gaston. It was extremely popular at the time of its release, and is the best-known of the hundreds of fantasy films made by Méliès. *A Trip to the Moon* is the first science fiction film, and uses innovative animation and special effects, including the well-known image of the spaceship landing in the Moon’s eye.

In the movie, a group of astronomers set out to study earth’s moon by flying there in a ship that is shot from a kind of cannon. When they arrive, they are assaulted by evil moon men. After escaping, they return to earth and are honored with a parade and a commemorative statue.

Most of Méliès films were explorations of magician stage effects and film effects. The wonder of film was his playground. Unfortunately, Thomas Edison took some of Méliès films in the US, without the filmmaker’s knowledge, and redistributed them. Méliès never received a dime.

*Le Voyage* was named one of the 100 greatest films of the 20th century by *The Village Voice*, ranking at #84, and it figures prominently in the Martin Scorsese current-day film, *HUGO*, now out on DVD.

## **Peter Krasinski**

**Peter Edwin Krasinski** is a conductor, organist, and music educator that consistently delivers imaginative performances that elevate and inform diverse audiences. He is well respected in both the secular and sacred genres of his field and has taught the enchantment of music to both public and private institutions in the greater Boston area. His Bach playing has been hailed in the press as “sublimely spiritual” and his improvisations have been called “stunning” and “seamless.”