

Duke University Chapel



Organ Recitals 2008-2009

ROBERT PARKINS



Sunday, October 19, 2008
2:30 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Robert Parkins, University Organist and Professor of the Practice of Music at Duke, opens this season on the Brombaugh organ with “Iberian Organ Music from the Golden Age.” He has specialized in this repertoire for many years, and his performances have been described as “fresh and spontaneous, transforming the music from museum artifacts to living works of beauty” (*The Diapason*). Presented in conjunction with “El Greco to Velázquez: Art During the Reign of Philip III,” currently on view at the Nasher Museum of Art, his program will feature images of paintings from this magnificent exhibition. *This recital will be performed in Memorial Chapel at 2:30 p.m. and again at 5:00 p.m.*

CHRISTOPHER YOUNG



Sunday, November 16, 2008

5:00 p.m.

Christopher Young has been praised by critics as “a distinguished interpreter with a firm, commanding technique” (*The New York Times*) as well as “an artist of imagination and temperate flair” (*Indianapolis Star*), whose playing shows “brilliance seldom heard on concert stages anywhere” (*Rochester Post Intelligencer*). In 1988 he was awarded first prize in the National Young Artist Competition of the American Guild of Organists. Currently Chair of the Organ Department at the Indiana University School of Music, he has performed as a featured artist at national and regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists.

DAVID ARCUS



Sunday, January 25, 2009

5:00 p.m.

David Arcus, Associate University Organist, Chapel Organist, and Divinity School Organist at Duke, has performed throughout the United States, in Europe, and in Great Britain, and he has recorded for Gothic Records. He has also won national awards in improvisation and composition, and several of his pieces are published by Concordia, Hinshaw, and Wayne Leupold Editions. More recently, Dr. Arcus has appeared as recitalist and clinician at national and regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists. During the 2008-2009 academic year, he will inaugurate the new Richards, Fowkes & Co. organ in Goodson Chapel, Duke Divinity School, and the newly-restored Aeolian organ in Duke Chapel.

DANIEL ROTH



Sunday, March 1, 2009

5:00 p.m.

Daniel Roth, one of the leading French organ virtuosos of our time, has been acclaimed as “a master both stylistically and technically” (*Musical Times*), whose performances are “electrifying, passionate, coolly logical and always utterly musically committed” (*Gramophone*). Since 1985 he has been the Titular Organist at St. Sulpice in Paris, where the illustrious list of his predecessors includes Charles-Marie Widor and Marcel Dupré. His recital will consist exclusively of French music and improvisation, for which he is justly renowned.

This program is dedicated to the memory of Fenner Douglass, former Duke University Organist and a respected scholar of French organs and organ literature.

IAIN QUINN



Sunday, March 29, 2009

5:00 p.m.

Iain Quinn, the young Welsh organist whose playing has been lauded as “brilliant . . . enthralling . . . [and paying] great attention to detail” (*Musical Opinion*), garners critical praise for his performances of both standard and contemporary works, as well as unusual and unpublished repertoire. Since 2005 he has served as Director of Music at the Cathedral Church of St. John in Albuquerque, New Mexico. His program, performed on the renovated Aeolian organ, will be a rare presentation of Charles Tournemire’s *Seven Last Words of Christ* interspersed with the corresponding biblical narration.



About the Organ Recital Series

The Organ Recital Series at Duke University is sponsored by Duke Chapel. All recitals are on Sundays at 5:00 p.m. (unless otherwise indicated), and are free and open to the public. The 2008-2009 series is made possible through the generous support of the Marvin B. and Elvira Lowe Smith Memorial Fund, established by their daughter, Alyse Smith Cooper. Daniel Roth's concert, presented in memory of Fenner Douglass, is funded by James and Eleanor Ferguson.

About Duke Chapel

Built in 1930-35, Duke University Chapel stands at the heart of West Campus. The building measures 291 feet long by 63 feet wide by 73 feet high, not including the tower; its 210-foot tower makes it one of the tallest buildings in Durham County, North Carolina. Seating about 1,600 people, Duke Chapel possesses 77 stained-glass windows depicting more than 800 figures, as well as three world-class pipe organs and a 50-bell carillon.

For directions to Duke Chapel and for other information about the recital series, call (919) 681-9488 or visit www.chapel.duke.edu. (*Please note that the parking garage next to the Bryan Center may charge an extra fee during certain special events.*)

The Benjamin N. Duke Memorial Organ

Built by Dirk A. Flentrop of Holland, the Benjamin N. Duke Memorial Organ was completed in 1976, and is located in the great arch separating the narthex and the nave. This tracker-action instrument contains more than 5,000 speaking pipes, controlled by four manual keyboards and pedal. There are two cases, connected only by the key action and the wind supply: the main case and the smaller Rugwerk division situated on the gallery rail. The main case rises approximately 40 feet above the gallery floor, and is made of solid mahogany painted in various hues and accented with gold leaf. The gallery that supports the organ is constructed of solid oak. Both tonally and visually, the Flentrop organ reflects the techniques of Dutch and French organ building in the 18th century.

At Mr. Flentrop's suggestion, the acoustics of the Chapel were improved to provide an ideal environment for the organ. When the Chapel was first built, its acoustics were deliberately deadened through the use of special sound-absorbing stone tile. The absorptive tile was sealed, increasing the maximum reverberation time, and a time-delay speech-reinforcement system was installed to accommodate the spoken word.



The Kathleen McClendon Organ

Behind the façade pipes and carved oak screens, the Kathleen Upton Byrns McClendon Organ is lodged in chambers on both sides of the chancel. It remains Duke Chapel's original organ, built and installed in 1932 by the Aeolian Organ Company of New York. This remarkable instrument was the last major organ made by Aeolian before it merged with the E. M. Skinner Organ Company, and is the firm's only significant organ built for a church. Designed in the post-Romantic tradition with electro-pneumatic action, which was in fashion at the time of its construction, the organ is known for its extremes of dynamic expression and the orchestral voicing of its individual stops. The pipes visible from the nave only hint at the Aeolian's size, for approximately 6,600 pipes are located in the large chambers. In 2008 the organ was completely reconditioned by Foley-Baker, Inc., and the original four-manual console has been replaced by a new one in similar style, built by Richard Houghten as part of the renovation.

The Brombaugh Organ

Located in a "swallow's nest" gallery, the Brombaugh organ (1997) in the Memorial Chapel is modeled after Renaissance Italian instruments. Modified somewhat to accommodate other schools of organ music as well, this two-manual and pedal instrument of nearly 1,000 pipes produces gentle, sparkling tone on very low wind pressure. The organ is tuned in meantone temperament (offering choices of e-flat/d-sharp and g-sharp/a-flat), the tuning system used for most keyboard instruments in the 16th and 17th centuries. Carved pipe shades are made from centuries-old Appalachian oak, while the Duke family crest is visible at the very top of the richly polychromed organ case.

Recordings of the Organs

CD recordings featuring the Flentrop, Brombaugh, and Aeolian organs are available in the Gothic Bookshop (Bryan Center), including: *Organ Music of Frescobaldi* (Calcante, 2003); *Iberian and South German Organ Music* (Calcante, 2001); *German Romantic Organ Music* (Gothic, 1998); *Organs of Duke Chapel* (Gothic, 1997); *Brahms: Complete Organ Works* (Naxos, 1994); and *Early Iberian Organ Music* (Naxos, 1993).



DUKE UNIVERSITY CHAPEL
Box 90974
Durham, NC 27708-0974