

Duke University Chapel



Organ Recitals 2013-2014

DAVID ARCUS



Sunday, September 15, 2013

5:00 p.m.

David Arcus is the Chapel Organist and Associate University Organist at Duke, as well as the Divinity School Organist and an Adjunct Associate Professor of Sacred Music. Dr. Arcus has won national awards in improvisation and composition, and several of his pieces are published by Concordia, Hinshaw, and Wayne Leupold Editions. He opens this year's Organ Recital Series on the Aeolian organ with music by Arcus, Franck, Rheinberger, Reger, and Jongen.

ANNETTE RICHARDS & DAVID YEARSLEY



Sunday, October 20, 2013

5:00 p.m.

Annette Richards and David Yearsley are Professors of Music at Cornell University. Richards, also the University Organist, is a laureate of international organ competitions at Dublin and Bruges. Yearsley, active as a performer on other keyboard instruments as well as the organ, lists among his awards all major prizes at the Bruges Early Music Festival. Their recital in Duke Chapel will include solo and duet repertoire on the Brombaugh and Flentrop organs by early English composers, J. S. Bach, and Soler, as well as transcriptions of works by Mozart and Rossini.

HERBERT BUFFINGTON



Sunday, November 10, 2013
5:00 p.m.

Herbert Buffington (Trinity '80) returns to his alma mater as part of the "Alumni Series" in a recital on the Aeolian organ. Recognized for his ability as an improvisateur, he won Second Prize in the American Guild of Organists National Competition in Organ Improvisation in 2010. A recent review praised his improvisation as a "fascinating solo organ fantasy . . . a tour de force" (*Kansas City Star*). His program will offer works by Mendelssohn, Franck, Reger, and Tournemire—plus an improvisation on submitted themes.

DAVID ARCUS



Sunday, January 26, 2014
5:00 p.m.

David Arcus has performed throughout the United States, Europe, and Great Britain, and his playing has been described as full of "exalted pomp and spirit, and a genuine affection for his listener" (*Fanfare*). His CD, *The Organs of Duke Chapel*, was released on the Gothic label. The second program by Dr. Arcus in this season's series, performed on the Flentrop organ, will feature "Last Movements: Finales, Postludes, and Other Endings," including music of Bach, Mendelssohn, Franck, Messiaen, and Arcus.

DOROTHY PAPADAKOS



Sunday, February 23, 2014

5:00 p.m.

Dorothy Papadakos, a renowned international performer and improviser, came to international attention as the first woman organist at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in New York City. “When Dorothy Papadakos climbs into the organ loft . . . she rolls up her sleeves and rocks” (*The New York Times*). A member of the seven-time Grammy Award winning Paul Winter Consort, she has received rave reviews for her silent film accompaniments. At Duke Chapel she will present *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (1923), accompanied on the Aeolian organ.

ROBERT PARKINS



Sunday, March 23, 2014

5:00 p.m.

Robert Parkins is the University Organist and a Professor of the Practice of Music at Duke. His recordings have appeared on the Calcante, Gothic, Musical Heritage Society, and Naxos labels, and his performances described as “fresh and spontaneous, transforming the music from museum artifacts to living works of beauty” (*The Diapason*). This season’s program, “Magnificat,” will include music by early Iberian and French composers, plus works of Bach and Rheinberger on the Brombaugh and Flentrop organs. He will be assisted by Kristen Blackman, cantor, and members of the Duke Vespers Ensemble, directed by Brian Schmidt.



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 2013-2014 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 (WC '30).

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. Expanded 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).



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