

# *Duke University Chapel*



*Organ Recitals 2009-2010*

# CATHERINE RODLAND

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Sunday, October 18, 2009

5:00 p.m.

**Catherine Rodland**, whose playing has been described as “transcendent” (*The American Organist*), is an Artist in Residence at St. Olaf College. Since her days as a prizewinner in several organ performance competitions, she has concertized throughout North America and in Europe. A specialist in Baroque and 20th-century organ music, Dr. Rodland received her graduate degrees from the Eastman School of Music, where she also earned the prestigious Performer’s Certificate.

# GERRE AND JUDITH HANCOCK

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Sunday, November 15, 2009

5:00 p.m.

**Gerre Hancock**, one of America's most highly acclaimed concert organists, returns to Duke this season with his wife, **Judith Hancock**, for a program of solo and duo organ works. Gerre, lauded as "a legend among organ recitalists and a titan among improvisers" (*American Record Guide*), will conclude the recital with a large-scale improvisation. Judith, acclaimed as a "virtuoso performer" (*The Cleveland Press*), assisted him at St. Thomas Church in New York City for many years. Both have now joined the faculty at the University of Texas, where they direct the Sacred Music Center.

# DAVID ARCUS

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Sunday, January 24, 2010

5:00 p.m.

David Arcus, Associate University Organist and Chapel Organist at Duke, has performed throughout the United States, in Europe, and in Great Britain. His performances for Gothic Records are described as full of “exalted pomp and spirit, and a genuine affection for his listener” (*Fanfare*). He has also won national awards in improvisation and composition, and several of his pieces are published by Concordia, Hinshaw, and Wayne Leupold Editions. Dr. Arcus’s program will include selections on the Chapel’s Brombaugh and recently restored Aeolian organs.

# MICHAEL RADULESCU

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Sunday, February 21, 2010

5:00 p.m.

**Michael Radulescu**, Professor of Organ at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, has been widely in demand since his debut in 1959, performing throughout Europe as well as in North America, Australia, and Asia. A specialist in the interpretation of J. S. Bach's organ and choral works, he currently pursues a busy career as a conductor, composer, scholar, and editor, as well as a performer and teacher. In 2004 he finished the massive project of recording Bach's complete organ works.

# ROBERT PARKINS

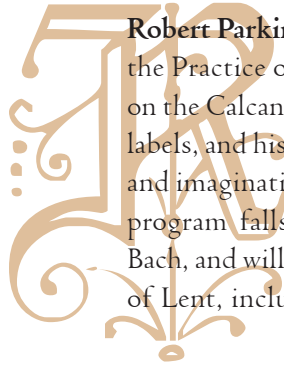
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Sunday, March 21, 2010

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 playing praised as “artistic, technically flawless, and imaginative” (*The American Organist*). This season’s recital program falls on the 325th birthday of Johann Sebastian Bach, and will feature works by Bach appropriate to the season of Lent, including a recently discovered chorale fantasy.





### 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 2009-2010 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.

### 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](http://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).



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