



Peoria
Chapter

American
Guild of
Organists

JAY PETERSON

ORGAN CONCERT

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1979

3:30 P.M.

FIRST FEDERATED CHURCH

3601 N. SHERIDAN ROAD

PEORIA, ILLINOIS

JAY PETERSON

Jay Peterson began his studies in organ with two noted teachers in the Cleveland area, Warren Berryman of Baldwin-Wallace College, and Henry Fusner, now of Nashville. Dr. Peterson continued his musical studies at the Eastman School of Music where his principal teacher was David Craighead. He earned his bachelor and master of music degrees with distinction and was awarded the coveted performer's certificate in organ.

As a Fulbright scholar, Dr. Peterson studied with Anton Heiller and Isolde Ahlgrimm at the Wiener Akademie fur Musik, Vienna, Austria. He returned to the United States to accept a position at Texas Tech University where he taught organ and harpsichord. Subsequently, he received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Illinois with a dissertation on "The Keyboard Works of Michaelangelo Rossi." At present, he is Assistant Professor of Music, College Organist, and Chairman of the Music Department at MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Illinois.

Dr. Peterson has appeared as a recitalist throughout the United States and has received prizes in several national competitions. He was one of five finalists in the organ playing competition at the 1977 International Congress of Organists in Philadelphia. Dr. Peterson has served as Dean of the East Central Illinois Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, is Vice-President of the Association of Illinois Music Schools, and is a member of the board of the Central Illinois Arts Consortium.

Program

Prelude and Fugue in E-Flat Major, S. 552 Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Three Pieces Max Reger
(1873-1916)

Melodia, Opus 59, No. 11
Capriccio, Opus 69, No. 5
Scherzo, Opus 65, No. 10

Sonata for Organ, Opus 86 (1960) Vincent Persichetti
(1915-)

Andante-Allegro
Larghetto
Vivace

— INTERMISSION —

Prelude and Fugue in f-sharp minor Dietrich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)

Sixth Symphony for Organ, Opus 42, No. 6 Charles-Marie Widor
(1845-1937)

III. Intermezzo
IV. Cantabile
V. Finale

PROGRAM NOTES

I.

The E-flat Prelude opens the Clavierübung Part III (Keyboard Practice) while the fugue concludes this amazing collection of organ chorales which correspond to the Lutheran mass. Published in 1739 during Bach's tenure as cantor of St. Thomas and St. Nicholas churches in Leipzig, the whole collection is frequently called the German Organ Mass. The Prelude displays a typical eighteenth century French overture style opening which leads to a rather bizarre, fantastic north German style section. These two thematic areas recur and contrast strongly with a bold, active and highly charged contrapuntal texture. The well-known fugue also contains three obvious and contrasting sections--a symbolic relationship with the Trinity has frequently been cited. The initial fugue subject bares an obvious resemblance to the hymn tune St. Anne. This first subject returns in the two successive fugues with brilliant results.

II.

Max Reger's post-Romantic chromatic melodies and harmonies occur in many varied guises. Although his large chorale fantasies have become well recognized, most of his many shorter organ works are not widely known. The Melodia presents a melancholy mood with sensuous chromaticism, a vague metric structure, and a quiet dynamic range. In comparison, the Capriccio sets a wild, frenetic pace with rapid dynamic changes and hyper-activity. Reger's Scherzo must represent one of his few musically humorous moments. The triple meter frequently interchanges with duple amid a bouncing bass line. The middle portion of the ternary form exhibits a lush harmonization of a long chromatic scale.

III.

Persichetti has contributed several important works to the organ's repertoire--a most welcome contribution from one of America's major composers. The Sonata was commissioned by the St. Louis chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The three movements are unified by pitch materials and melodic contours and follow basic concepts of classic forms. The lilting first movement, in sonata-allegro procedure, presents two contrasting themes after a slow introduction. The development is abbreviated but provides a striking climax. The somber Larghetto utilizes long, lyric melodies and a recurring motive. The lively Vivace maintains the thin texture, energetic rhythms, and clear formal procedures of the first movement. There is also surely a dash of humor.

IV.

It is possibly from Buxtehude that Bach inherited some of the north German "stilos fantasticos." There can be no doubt that Buxtehude gloried in the brilliance of the organ. The f-sharp minor Prelude and Fugue is typically partitioned into five contrasting sections. A nimble toccata opens the work and is interrupted by what must have been a daring harmonic-chordal progression. Two fugues follow in succession; the first, solemn and restrained; the second, capricious and rhythmically bizarre. An erratic but clearly proportioned recitative section recalls the Baroque fantasy. The concluding toccata gains momentum through repeated figurations and a very active bass line.

V.

Widor envisioned the full orchestra in his ten organ symphonies composed between 1876 and 1900. The Intermezzo, in ternary form, serves as a scherzo movement with a dramatic flair. A fast harmonic rhythm provides the melodic element in the outer portions of the movement. The Cantabile sings forth naturally with a lyric melody--Romantic in the best sense. Widor's finales were designed for huge resources and an impassioned temperament. The opening march theme dominates the movement and stimulates the anticipated rousing conclusion.

Peoria Chapter American Guild of Organists 1978 Patrons 1979

BENEFACTORS

Caterpillar Tractor Company
WABCO Construction and Mining Equipment Group

SPONSORS

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Hartmann
Jim Maloof/Realtor
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas N. Neal

ASSOCIATES

John L. Becker Organ Service
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis J. Burger
Illinois Wesleyan University
(Student Guild Chapter)
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Nieschlag
Peoria Savings and Loan Association
Adelaide Ihrig White

PATRONS

Mrs. Helen Alexander
Valerie B. Andrae
Carl Andres
Dr. Wayland L. Barnes
Katherine Lorenz Becker
Gary L. Beckman
Mr. and Mrs. Glenn M. Belcke
Ruth Dixon Black
Mrs. J. H. Blumenshine
Miss Joyce Blumenshine
Rev. and Mrs. Carl J. Bollinger
Miss Pamela Bourscheidt
Larry Bowie
James W. Boxwell
Dr. and Mrs. George A. Churukian
Agnes Christopher
Mr. and Mrs. James E. Cluskey
Dempsey W. Cochran
Woodrow Cochran
Mrs. Evelyn Crowell
Michael Coleman
Cumerford-Endsley Memorial Home
Mrs. Velma Danforth
Gerald Dankert
Paul E. Detterman
Mary Deyo
Mrs. Charles F. Dirst
Matthew Dirst
Mrs. Emma Ehlen
First Federal Savings & Loan Assn.
Miriam M. Fouts
Calvin Jay Gaby
Dr. David Gehrenback
Mrs. Arthur Gilkerson
Mrs. Joyce Goldhammer
Mr. Carroll E. Green

Mrs. Mary Hartmann
Marianne Hartwig
Steve Hedstrom
Mrs. Pamela A. Heffern
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur G. Heidrich, Jr.
Mrs. Carol Hight
Mrs. W. G. Himmel
Mr. and Mrs. James Hopkins
Mrs. Clarence Humphrey
Miss Ella Iben
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Ising
Mrs. Leona A. Johnson
Mrs. Edward Kaizer
Mrs. Carl M. Kamp
Mrs. George Keller
Mrs. Charles R. Kibler
Mrs. Glen King
Mrs. Alice Klingman
Julia Koch
Mr. and Mrs. Griff Lathrop
Lois M. Lowe
Rev. Canon Michael R. Link
Mrs. Rachel Mahue
James V. Mayernich
Mrs. Helen Louise McAdams
Mrs. Genevieve McMeen
Mr. and Mrs. I. Louis McMurray
Mr. and Mrs. J. Douglas McQueen
Mrs. Patricia Melvin
Mrs. Dolores Meyer
Edward N. Miller
Donald L. Miner
David A. Nash
Angela K. Naffziger
George E. N. Nelson

Wesley Nothdurft
Mrs. Mary Page
Glenn E. Patton, Jr.
Peoria Schola Cantorum
John M. Pescitelli
Mrs. Cheryl Peterson
John D. Phillips
Ramona S. Phillips
Mrs. Mary A. Rippel
Dorothy Rogina
Mrs. J. R. Rotchford
Mrs. Margaret M. Sayre
Mr. and Mrs. Earl W. Short
Ron Siebenthal
Mr. and Mrs. Harvey G. Six
Mr. Jack Smith
Doris E. Spencer
Kevin Stark
Carolyn Stiers
A. C. Stringfellow
Marlo Tackman
Mr. and Mrs. James Teel
Judy Thurman
Mrs. Harold D. Triplett
Mr. and Mrs. Peter VanderHook
Mr. and Mrs. C. E. VanNorman
Mrs. Ardith M. Wessler
Westminster Presbyterian Choir
Mrs. Mary Weyhrich
Patricia M. Whitehart
Dr. and Mrs. Lorin Whittaker
Shirlee R. Williams
Mary Beth Wittry
Jerry D. Wyeth
Mr. and Mrs. Harold G. Young
Helen J. Young

We are grateful to our many Patrons who make the organ recital series available to the public of the community.