

Worlds of Pipes, King of Instruments
An Organ Recital By Jonathan D. Rudy

“The Organ—grandest instrument the hand
Of man has placed in Music’s galaxy;
In which all Nature’s wondrous sounds are linked
In golden chains of countless harmonies.
Responsive to the touch of man’s weak hands
As if a giant’s fingers swept its keys
And called concordant voices from the depths,
The diapason of the storm-struck sea,
The thunder’s peal, the wind’s wild whistling wail,
The songs of swift-winged warblers in the air,
And the soft sighing of the ambient breeze
Temple of Tone art thou! The shrine supreme
Of Sound’s mysterious powers and richest gifts,
God-given thought alone could have inspired
The human mind to frame so grand a work;
Great Organ—Monarch of all Instruments!”

---George Ashdown Audsle

The Program

Words such as “strength” and “magnitude” often accompany descriptions of the pipe organ. Yet the true beauty of this glorious instrument is its flexibility and variety; for as Audsle’s poem suggests, it can articulate every tone and picture that human thought could possibly imagine. Today’s program will capture just a few of these “worlds” – distinct realms of sound and color - and will demonstrate just how diverse, and divine, organ music can be.

-Jonathan D. Rudy

A World of War and Strife

Grand Dialogue in C Major

Louis Marchand (1669-1732)

Faneuil Hall

Pamela Decker (b. 1955)

Elegy: Cradle of Liberty

Fugue: Liberty and Union Now and Forever

Commissioned for the 2014 AGO National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance.

A World of Dancing

Prelude and Fugue in A minor, BWV 543

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele, BWV 654

J. S. Bach

(continued on next page)

From *Four Biblical Dances*

Petr Eben (1929-2007)

The Dance of David before the Ark of the Covenant

“And David rejoiced before the Lord with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the Ark of the Lord with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet.” –2 Samuel 6:14-15

A World of Romance

Fantasie No. 2, Op. 101 in D-Flat Major

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)

A World of the Infinite

Toccatà No. 5 in G Major

Girolamo Frescobaldi (1583-1643)

Saga VI: “Icarus”

Jean Guillou (b. 1930)