

MARILYN MASON

organ recital

st. lucas e. & r. church

november 3, 1953

tuesday evening

8:15 p.m.

*presented by the church music guild
of evansville, ind.*

PROGRAM

It is requested there be no applause

Allegro Moderato (Concerto IV)

Handel

The Organ Concertos of Handel were written for organ and string orchestra. They were played and conducted by Handel himself at the Hay-Market Theatre in London. When played on the organ alone, contrasting registers are used—a loud sound to represent the orchestra, and a small bright sound to represent the little organ used by Handel.

The Fifers

Dandrieu

"I Stand At The Threshold"

(Sinfonia, Cantata 152)

Bach

The word "sinfonia" was used by Bach to designate that music, in his choral works, which was completely instrumental. The "sinfonia" is a fore-runner in its form of our "symphony" today. This "sinfonia", or opening movement of Cantata 152, is a work of quiet, restrained, introspective nature, one which is forward looking in its idea.

Fantasy and Fugue in G Minor, "The Great"

Bach

The Fantasy is written in a free, rhapsodical style which was typical of the North German composers; however, it reveals a dramatic intensity and freedom of chord progression which was quite unequalled in Bach's time. The Fugue is vigorous and brilliant, its theme is derived from a Dutch dance tune. Bach first played this work on the occasion of his first visit to Hamburg where he competed for the position of organist at the Jacob Kirche. When complimented on his playing, Bach gave this reply, "There is nothing remarkable about it. All one has to do is hit the right notes at the right time, and the instrument plays itself."

*Three Dances

Rameau

Passepiep
Sarabande
Gavotte

The Passepiep ("to pass the foot") was a dance in quick three-quarter time which was greatly in vogue at the French court of Louis XIV.

The Sarabande was a seventeenth century dance in slow triple meter, and of very dignified expression.

The Gavotte is fast, bright and gay, and comes from the provinces of France.

These Dances were written by Rameau for small string orchestra, but are heard here in organ arrangement by Marilyn Mason.

*First performance in Evansville.

Fantasy on "Ein Feste Burg"

Reger

Max Reger (1873-1916) is probably the greatest composer in Germany since Bach.

This work is a fantasy on the famous hymn, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," a tune generally attributed to Luther and which first appeared in a German hymnbook as early as 1529. The theme appears in a variety of ways, and Reger, with his bold harmonies, brilliant figurations, elaborate progressions, seems to pay dynamic tribute to Martin Luther—and the Reformation.

INTERMISSION

An offering will be received at this time to help defray the expenses of the recital.

*Quiet Design (1953)

Normand Lockwood

Normand Lockwood, distinguished American composer, has subtitled this work, Music for Meditation. Written in July, it was given its premiere performance at Columbia University by Marilyn Mason, and has been recently recorded, along with the composer's Concerto for Organ and Brasses by Remington Records. It is dedicated to Miss Mason.

Two Hymn Preludes

Searle Wright

Greensleeves
Brother James' Air

Mr. Wright is organist of St. Paul's Chapel and member of the faculty at Columbia University. These works are soon to be published.

Toccata, "Thou Art The Rock"

Henri Mulet

This work bears the full title of "Thou are the rock and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against Thee." The composer was formerly organist at Sacre-Coeur, Paris.

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