

**ORGAN RECITAL**  
**BY**  
**MARILYN MASON**



***MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 1954***

***Central Baptist Church, Hartford***

***Presented by***  
***American Guild of Organists***  
***Hartford Branch***

## PROGRAM

### ALLEGRO MODERATO (Concerto IV) . . . *Handel (1685-1759)*

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.

### "I STAND AT THE THRESHOLD" (Sinfonia, Cantata 152) . . . *J. S. Bach (1685-1750)*

The word "sinfonia" was used by Bach to designate that music, in his choral works, which was completely instrumental. The "sinfonia" is a forerunner in its form of our "symphony" today.

Bach wrote over 295 church cantatas, of which 190 have survived. This composition, the "sinfonia" or opening movement of Cantata 152, is a work of quiet, restrained, introspective nature, one which is forward looking in its idea.

### TOCCATA AND FUGUE IN D MINOR *J. S. Bach*

Schweitzer says, "In the D Minor Toccata and Fugue the strong and ardent spirit has finally realized the laws of form. A single dramatic ground-thought unites the daring passage work of the toccata, that seems to pile up like wave on wave, and in the fugue the intercalated passages in broken chords only serve to make the climax all the more powerful."

### PASTORALE (1909) . . . . . *Roger-Ducasse*

It has been suggested that in this work, one is reminded of a June day and a walk in the forest, hearing an occasional bird or a little animal, and seeing and feeling the beauties of nature everywhere. Suddenly a storm appears in all its wildness and raging — but soon all is quiet again and calmness reigns. Dedicated to Nadia Boulanger, this work was given its first performance in 1910 in Paris by Guil-mant.

### \*THREE DANCES . . . . . *Rameau (1683-1750)*

Passepied  
Sarabande  
Gavotte

The Passepied ("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.

### FANTASY AND FUGUE ON BACH . . . . . *Liszt (1811-1886)*

In German nomenclature the letters B A C H represent the notes B-flat, A, C, B-natural. On this chromatic theme the composer has written a turbulent composition in free and exciting style — a work in homage to Bach.

## INTERMISSION

### †\*QUIET DESIGN (1953) . . . . . *Normand Lockwood*

### \*PRELUDE ON "GREENSLEEVES" . . . . . *Searle Wright*

The composer is Organist and Choirmaster at St. Paul's Chapel, Columbia University.

### \*PAVANE (Suite in Rhythm, 1951) . . . . . *Robert Elmore*

The composer, born in India the son of missionaries, is Minister of Music at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Philadelphia.

### †\*SUITE FOR ORGAN (1948) . . . . . *Edmund Haines*

Promenade  
Air  
Toccata

DR. HAINES is a member of the music faculty of Sarah Lawrence College, New York. Concerning this Suite he says: "The Promenade depicts a sophisticated young lady gaily tripping down Fifth Avenue on Easter Sunday, resplendent in her new dress, and carrying a red striped parasol. The Air is the song she sings when sad, and the Toccata is a bright and happy ending for the story." This Suite won the American Guild of Organist's composition award in 1948. It is dedicated to Marilyn Mason.

\* First performance in Hartford.

† Dedicated to Miss Mason.

MARILYN MASON, our guest artist, a member of the faculty of the University of Michigan, received her Master's Degree while studying at the University with the famed Palmer Christian, one of the outstanding organists of modern times. In addition to her studies with Christian, Miss Mason studied in Paris with Nadia Boulanger and Maurice Durufle; later she was a pupil of the great Arnold Schoenberg, whose works she performs.