

Westminster College Artist Series

and the

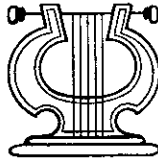
American Guild of Organists

Youngstown, Ohio

Present

MARILYN MASON

ORGANIST



ARTS AND SCIENCE AUDITORIUM

New Wilmington, Pennsylvania

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1964

8:15 P.M.

PROGRAM

Concerto in F major, Op. 4, No. 5 *George Frederic Handel*

Larghetto

Allegro

Alla siciliana

Presto

(1685-1759)

Miniature (1958) *Jean Langlais*

The composer is organist at Ste. Clotilde in Paris. This work was commissioned by Marilyn Mason and is dedicated to her. It was one of the pieces required for the American Guild of Organists Examination for 1960.

Epilogue, for pedal solo *Jean Langlais*

Prelude and Fugue in D major *Johann Sebastian Bach*

(1685-1750)

INTERMISSION

Trois danses *Jehan Alain*

Joies

Deuils (Danse funebre)

Luttes

(1911-1940)

“Joys”, “Mourning”, “Struggles” — a cycle written at the death of the composer's younger sister.

Alain's organ music had considerable acclaim, and were it not for his untimely death in 1940, he would probably be one of the leaders of French composition today. These three dances, I have been told by Jean Langlais, were written after the death of Alain's sister, who was killed during a mountain climbing expedition.

The first dance, Joys, presents two themes — a sustained, melodic theme sounded, as the composer suggests, in solo reed colors. The second theme, one of strong rhythmic drive, is presented immediately and developed somewhat. The middle section of the work revolves around the use of the first theme in the right hand, while the left hand takes the second theme, with newly added rhythms. The work closes in a brilliant finale turbulent and impetuous, followed by a sombre oboe melody repeated in the clarinet.

The second dance, Mourning, or Funeral Dance, has as its basis a foreboding diatonic theme. It is treated in various ways and colors, and eventually in an intense dynamic motion, harmonized in modes peculiar to Alain, with the tri-tone invariably dominating. It ends with a Syrian chant, almost like a wail — sorrowful, crying, futile.

The third dance, Struggles, contains no new material, but is more of a summation of the two previous dances. It uses material from both works, and combines the themes in various ways, each in their “struggle” for domination, restless, unceasing. Its rhythmic drive brings the work to an intense, abrupt close; the composer has marked this final section, simply “Brutalement.”

Scherzo, Op. 2 *Maurice Duruflé*

Grand choeur dialogue *Eugene Gigout*
(1844-1925)

It was customary to furnish the French cathedrals with two instruments, a small choir organ located in the east end to support the singing, and a "Grand orgue", over the entrance at the west end for solo parts, preludes and postludes. In this Dialogue, Gigout uses these two musical entities by stating one phrase on the small organ, and answering it with the full organ.

THE RECITALIST

MARILYN MASON is Chairman of the Department of Organ at the University of Michigan. She has been guest Professor at Columbia University, and also at Union Theological Seminary where she received the Doctorate of Sacred Music degree in 1954. She has been heard in recitals throughout North America and Europe. Dr. Mason was the first American woman to play in Westminster Abbey, when she represented the United States at the International Congress of Organists in 1957. Subsequent tours of England and the Continent have included a return engagement at Westminster Abbey and appearances in Vienna and Berlin. The summer of 1960 she played four concerts at the Auditorio Nacional in Mexico City, being the first woman organist to play in Latin America, and last fall she played in Spain at the International Congress of Organists. She has a special interest in contemporary music, and has commissioned many composers to write for the organ.

LILIAN MURTAGH CONCERT MANAGEMENT

Box 272 CANAAN, CONN.

COMING EVENTS

Feb. 17—Hyman Bress, Violinist

Feb. 25—Natalia Bodanya, ~~Lycic Soprano~~ *Cancelled*

Feb. 29—Mid-western P.M.E.A. — Westminster College Honors
Band Col. George Howard, Conductor

Mar. 5—Lecture — Roland Myers — “Romance of Words”

Mar. 11—Ars Nova Trio

Mar. 12, 13, 14—Mikado — presented by Westminster’s Departments
of Speech and Music

Mar. 19—Westminster College Band Concert