

THE
HALIFAX CENTRE
ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS

PRESENTS IN RECITAL

D R . M A R I L Y N M A S O N

ST. MARY'S BASILICA, HALIFAX, N.S.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1968

8:15 P.M.

OUR SINCEREST THANKS ARE EXTENDED TO
THE RECTOR OF SAINT MARY'S BASILICA,
THE VERY REVEREND R. J. MURPHY. P. P.

T H U R S D A Y

P R O G R A M
M A R I L Y N M A S O N
O R G A N I S T

- VOLUNTARY V JOHN STANLEY
SLOW (1713-1786)
ALLEGRO
- PASSACAGLIA JOHANN KASPAR KERLL
(1627-1693)
- ECHO AD MANUALE DUPLEX SAMUEL SCHEIDT
FORTE ET LENE, A 4 Voc (1587-1654)
- TWO CAROLS JEAN FRANCOIS D'ANDRIEU
NOEL DE SAINTONGE (1682-1738)
UNE BERGERE JOLIE
- CHORALE PARTITA J. S. BACH
EINIGE CANONISCHE VERANDERUNGEN (1685-1750)
UBER DAS WEIHNACHTSLIED "VOM HIMMEL HOCH"
- TROIS DANSES JEAN ALAIN
JOIES (1911-1940)
DEUILS (DANSE FUNEBRE)
LUTTES
- VARIATIONS ON A RECITATIVE, OP. 40 ARNOLD SCHOENBERG
(1874-1951)
- VERSET, POUR LA FETE DE LA DEDICACE OLIVIER MASSIAEN
(1908-)
- CONCERT VARIATIONS ON THE AUSTRIAN HYMN . JOHN KNOWLES PAINE
OP. 3 (1839-1906)

JOHN STANLEY, ALTHOUGH BLIND FROM EARLY CHILDHOOD, STUDIED ORGAN AND WAS SOON ABLE TO FILL CHURCH POSITIONS. IN 1779 HE SUCCEEDED WILLIAM BOYCE AS MASTER OF THE KING'S BAND OF MUSICIANS. HE ENJOYED THE FRIENDSHIP OF G. F. HANDEL AFTER WHOSE DEATH HE CONDUCTED THE DRATORIO PERFORMANCES.

JOHN KASPAR KERLL STUDIED IN VIENNA UNDER VALENTINI AND IN ROME UNDER CARISSIMI. RETURNING TO GERMANY HE BECAME KAPELMEISTER AT MUNICH. HE WROTE LARGE QUANTITIES OF ORGAN MUSIC, SUITES FOR HARPSICORDS, A NUMBER OF MASSES, A REQUIEM FOR FIVE VOICES AND SOME SACRED CONCERTI.

SAMUEL SCHEIDT, A PUPIL OF SWEELINCK AND LATER KAPELMEISTER AT BRANDENBURG WAS AMONG THE FIRST TO TREAT THE WORKING-OUT OF THE CHORALE ARTISTICALLY AND IN TRUE ORGAN STYLE. HIS COLLECTED WORKS EMBRACED FIVE VOLUMES, PUBLISHED IN THE 1930'S.

JEAN FRANCOIS D'ANDRIEU, ORGANIST AT SAINT-MERRY IN PARIS, PUBLISHED A BOOK OF TRIO SONATAS FOR ORGAN AND OTHER WORKS FOR SOLO VIOLIN, ALSO A TEXT ON THE PRINCIPLES OF KEYBOARD ACCOMPANIMENT AND MANY ORGAN PIECES AND SONGS. HIS IMPORTANCE LIES IN HIS WORKS FOR THE KEYBOARD WHICH HE WROTE IN A STYLE CLOSELY RESEMBLING COUPERIN'S.

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH SCARCELY NEEDS A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH, EXCEPT TO SAY THAT HE COMPOSED A PRODIGIOUS NUMBER OF ORGAN, HARPSICORD, CHORAL AND ORCHESTRAL WORKS. THE CHORALE PARTITA, WHICH ARE SETS OF VARIATIONS ON CHORALES, WERE COMPOSED WHILE HE WAS BETWEEN 15 AND 18 YEARS OF AGE. THIS SELECTION, TRANSLATED, IS "SOME CANONIC VARIATIONS ON THE CHRISTMAS TUNE "FROM HEAVEN ABOVE".

JEHAN ALAIN STUDIED FIRST WITH HIS FATHER AND LATER WITH MARCEL DUPRE, PAUL DUKAS AND ROGER-DUCASSE. DESPITE HIS YOUTH, HIS WORKS RUN TO 127 OPUS NUMBERS - MOSTLY FOR ORGAN AND PIANO. HE WROTE "TROIS DANSES" AT THE DEATH OF HIS YOUNGER SISTER WHO PERISHED DURING A MOUNTAIN-CLIMBING EXPEDITION. ALAIN HIMSELF WAS KILLED IN WORLD WAR TWO.

ARNOLD SCHOENBERG WROTE THIS OPUS WITHIN THE LAST TEN YEARS OF HIS LIFE. HE SEEMS HERE TO REAFFIRM THE CREDO THAT GOOD AND BEAUTIFUL MUSIC CAN STILL BE WRITTEN WITHIN TONAL LIMITS. MARILYN MASON, WHO STUDIED WITH SCHOENBERG, HAS MADE HER OWN REGISTRATION, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE COMPOSER. WHEN SHE PLAYED THE WORK IN LOS ANGELES, SCHOENBERG HEARD IT FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THE INSTRUMENT FOR WHICH IT WAS WRITTEN. BECAUSE OF THE CHROMATIC NATURE OF THE MUSIC, NO KEY SIGNATURE IS USED, BUT THE MUSIC IS DEFINITELY COMPOSED WITH STRONG AND REPEATED REFERENCE TO THE KEY OF D MINOR. THE VARIATIONS CONSIST OF THE RECITATIVE THEME, TEN VARIATIONS, A CADENZA, AND A FUGUE-FINALE.

DELIVER MESSIAEN BEGAN TO PLAY WITHOUT A TEACHER, AND AT THE AGE OF ELEVEN WAS ENROLLED IN THE PARIS CONSERVATORY WHERE HE STUDIED WITH MARCEL DUPRE AND PAUL DUKAS, WINNING PRIZES FOR HARMONY, ORGAN, IMPROVISATION AND COMPOSITION. HE SERVED IN THE FRENCH ARMY IN WORLD WAR TWO AND WAS TAKEN PRISONER IN 1940, BUT REPATRIATED IN 1942. HE IS ONE OF THE MOST ORIGINAL MODERN COMPOSERS AND THEORISTS, AND EMPLOYS A WIDE RANGE OF SOURCES FROM GREGORIAN CHANTS TO ORIENTAL RHYTHMS. A MYSTIC BY NATURE, HE STRIVES TO FIND A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PROGRESSIONS OF SOUNDS AND RELIGIOUS ENTITIES.

JOHN KNOWLES PAINE, BORN IN PORTLAND, MAINE, WHERE HIS FATHER KEPT A MUSIC STORE AND CONDUCTED THE TOWN BAND, STUDIED IN BERLIN AND GAVE A NUMBER OF ORGAN RECITALS IN EUROPE AND AMERICA BEFORE SETTLING DOWN TO BE AN ORGANIST IN BOSTON AND PROFESSOR OF MUSIC AT HARVARD,-- THE FIRST PROFESSORIAL CHAIR IN MUSIC IN ANY AMERICAN UNIVERSITY. HE HAS WRITTEN A LARGE VARIETY OF MUSIC OF ALL TYPES INCLUDING A "CENTENNIAL HYMN IN D" (FOR PHILADELPHIA, IN 1876).

DR. MARILYN MASON IS PROFESSOR OF MUSIC AND CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGAN DEPARTMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR. SHE HAS BEEN GUEST PROFESSOR AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, AND ALSO AT UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, WHERE SHE RECEIVED THE DOCTOR OF SACRED MUSIC DEGREE IN 1958. DR. MASON HAS BEEN HEARD IN RECITALS THROUGHOUT NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA AND EUROPE. SHE 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 EUROPE HAVE INCLUDED TWO RETURN ENGAGEMENTS AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY (IN 1963 AND 1966), THE LATTER ON THE OCCASION OF THE 800TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ABBEY, AS WELL AS APPEARANCES IN LONDON (ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL), EDINBURGH, HAMBURG, BERLIN AND VIENNA. IN 1960 SHE PLAYED FOUR CONCERTS AT THE AUDITORIO NACIONAL IN MEXICO CITY,--THE FIRST WOMAN ORGANIST TO PLAY IN LATIN AMERICAN, AND IN 1963 SHE PLAYED IN SPAIN AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ORGANISTS. IN JANUARY 1966 AND 1967 SHE TAUGHT AND PLAYED AT THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC IN BRAZIL. BECAUSE OF HER INTEREST IN CONTEMPORARY MUSIC, DR. MASON HAS COMMISSIONED NUMEROUS COMPOSERS TO WRITE FOR THE ORGAN AND HAS GIVEN MANY PREMIERE PERFORMANCES.

THE PIPE ORGAN HERE AT ST. MARY'S BASILICA WAS BUILT BY THE CASAVANT FRERES LTEE. OF STE. HYACINTHE, P.Q., AND WAS INSTALLED IN 1959. IT DEPLOYS FORTY-SIX RANKS OF PIPES OVER THREE MANUALS AND PEDALS, AND FEATURES THE TONAL TREATMENT OF THE PIPES WHICH IS KNOWN AS "CLASSIC VOICING".