

LA JOLLA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

7715 Draper Avenue

La Jolla, California

Sacred Music Series

1973 - 1974

ORGAN VIRTUOSO RECITAL

by

Marilyn Mason

Sunday, January 20, 1974

4:00 p.m.

This Concert is Co-Sponsored by the
San Diego Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Department of Music

L. ROBERT SLUSSER, M.Mus., A.A.G.O., *Organist, Minister of Music*

ESTHER ELLICKSON, *Cherub and Carol Choirs*

CHRISTINE KLUGG, *Cecilian Choir*

SHEILA HITTLE, *Celebration Co.*

ROSE MARY TAYLOR, *Music Secretary*

MARILYN RUE, *soprano*

HOWARD FRIED, *tenor*

BEVERLY GREEN, *contralto*

CHRISTOPHER LINDBLOOM, *baritone*

MRS. FREDERICK QUINN, *Sacred Music Series Chairman*

THE REVEREND DR. HARRY G. BRAHAMS, *Pastor*

THE REVEREND GORDON C. HESS, *Associate Pastor*

You are invited to the Reception in the Kirk House
near the Kline Street entrance following the concert.

PROGRAM

INVOCATION

Sonata de primo tono para organo con trompeta real Jose Lidon

Jose Lidon (1752-1827) was a Spanish organist and composer. In 1787 he became organist of the royal chapel in Madrid. He composed much church music.

Sonata per Organo Giovanni Battista Pergolesi

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi (1710-1736) was an Italian composer. During his brief lifetime he wrote fifteen operas, twelve cantatas, much sacred music, and this organ sonata.

Sonata IV from *Biblical Histories* Johann Kuhnau

Johann Kuhnau (1660-1722) was one of the notable German clavier composers before Bach. He became organist of St. Thomas in Leipzig in 1684, founded a series of concerts in 1688, and became musical director of the university in 1700. He composed sacred and clavier works, including a set of six sonatas based on subjects from the Bible. In writing about this Sonata, "Ezechias sick unto death and recovered," Kuhnau says it shows the saddened heart of the king at the message of his impending death, the longing prayer for his recovery, his confidence that God has heard his lament, and his joy at the final recovery.

Sonata de Clarines Antonio Soler

Padre Antonio Soler (1729-1783) was a Spanish organist and composer who received his basic musical training in the choir of Montserrat Abbey. He termed himself a disciple of Domenico Scarlatti and his sonatas for harpsichord (of which 65 are extant) show the royal palace, abbey and mausoleum of St. Laurence of the Escorial. In the transepts of its cathedral-sized church are two fine organs for which Soler wrote his Six Concerti.

Toccatà, Adagio and Fugue in C (BWV 564) JoHann Sebastian Bach

This composition is distinctive among the Preludes and Fugues of Bach because of its three independent movements. The first movement is a brilliant and ornate toccata; the second, an adagio which contains a melody of unusual beauty; and the third, a fugue, which in its melodic direction and commanding rhythm, carries the work to a sweeping finish.

Orga-Nastro, for Organ and Electronic Tape, Opus 212 Ernst Krenek

Ernst Krenek (b. 1900) was commissioned by Miss Mason in 1971 to compose this piece for her and it is dedicated to her. Concerning it, the composer has written: "The structure of the piece is loosely knit, more in the manner of a toccata, or fantasy, than of a sonata or fugue." This is in keeping with the character of the electronic medium that lends itself to improvisational procedures of composition rather than to rigid construction. The following sequence of sections may be distinguished more or less clearly: a prevailing slow opening, with many sustained electronic sounds; a more agitated section of dramatic contrasts of dynamics, ending with three wave-like electronic sounds of high register; a cadenza-like interlude for organ alone; a gently animated section, in which arpeggio-like features of the tape blend with similar figurations of the organ; a brilliant coda of fast runs, introduced by echoing signal-like and gong-type electronic sounds. The title of the piece refers to the Italian term **nastro** for recording tape.

INTERMISSION (10 minutes)

Pastorale Jean Jules Roger Ducasse

The Pastorale for organ, written in 1909, is dedicated to Mlle. Nadia Boulanger and was given its first performance April 20, 1910, by Alexander Guilmant. It is a work of charming and graceful construction and the reflective mood which pervades throughout captivates irresistably. The sonority attained through the registration, the various canons, (in two, three and four parts, distributed among the manuals in different rhythms), and the organistic writing, are all exquisite. The end, with its attenuated feeling, is of exceeding beauty. One regrets this charming pastorale is almost inaccessible because of the difficulty of its execution. Many instruments cannot do justice to the intricate writing and the registrational demands.

*Sailing To Byzantium Alden Ashforth

Miss Mason commissioned this work by Alden Ashforth (b. 1933) in 1973 and it is dedicated to her. Mr. Ashforth writes: "Yeats' Poem 'Sailing to Byzantium' expresses a desire to leave behind the transient temporal sensual world and retreat to the eternal world of the spirit, of art and of intellect: the artifice of eternity. His image of this unaging realm, 'the holy city of Byzantium,' was inspired by reading that in the Byzantine Emperor's palace there was a tree of singing birds entirely wrought of silver and gold. The notion of a voyage from nature to art, from the world of reality to an artificial world existing outside of real time, struck me as a provocative musical scenario.

"The piece is in four sections. The opening section, suggesting the temporal world of the senses, includes such real sounds as brooks and birds and a melody hummed by a lyric tenor (Dennis Heath). In the second section, where both organ and tape are in transition to a different sort of world, the electronic sounds are constituted of materials created by encephalo-electronic (bio-feedback) means, whereby such dimensions as pitch, attack, and vibrato were produced by controlling synthesizers directly by my own brain waves (amplified up to a million times). In the third section the organ and tape achieve a condition of melodic and harmonic balance and stasis. The organ solo of the final section, transforming the opening melody through variation techniques, is ultimately joined by 'birds' that are entirely artificially wrought.

"The subjective process of psychological and spiritual transformation is the intended essence of this aural migration."

Variations on the Austrian Hymn John Knowles Paine

John Knowles Paine was born in 1839 and died in 1906. He received much of his training in this country; in 1875 he was appointed Professor of Music at Harvard University, being the first incumbent of a chair of Music in an American University. These Variations were written in 1860. The theme is stated, followed by four variations and concluding with a fugue.

BENEDICTION

*First performance in La Jolla



Dr. Marilyn Mason, a master in her profession and one of the outstanding organists in the world, is chairman of the Organ Department at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. University officials permit her to take periodic leaves from her teaching to make concert tours which have taken her throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, South America, Europe and Australia. In 1957 Dr. Mason was the first American woman to be invited to play at Westminster Abbey. During her sixth tour of Europe from which she recently returned, she gave a concert in the famous Abbey for the third time. Marilyn Mason, born in Oklahoma, was first taught to play the organ by her mother. Later she was awarded a scholarship to the University of Michigan where she studied with Palmer Christian. She was awarded her Master's Degree at the University, and her Doctorate of Sacred Music Degree at the Union Theological Seminary, New York. Because of her interest in contemporary music, Dr. Mason has commissioned numerous composers to write for the organ and has given many premiere performances.



MUSIC MAILING LIST

If you did not receive an announcement about this program in the mail, and you are not a member of this church, we invite you to fill out one of the special cards marked "Music Mailing List." The cards are available on the table in the Narthex and may be left there when completed.

PATRONS

Mr. & Mrs. John Allan
Mardelle Allen
Mr. & Mrs. Percy T. Allen
Mrs. C. B. Anfinson
Mr. & Mrs. Edwin P. Balmer
Ralph C. Barnes
Lynn G. Basquez
Mr. & Mrs. George K. Batt
Monica M. Bauer
Chaplain Earl L. Brewster USN ret.
Dr. & Mrs. Raymond W. Brink
James Hamilton Brower
James O. Brockman
Dr. & Mrs. Albert Burkhardt
Allan Burnett
Ruth D. Capps
Mr. & Mrs. Duane J. Carnes
Dr. & Mrs. Clifford W. Colwell, Jr.
Mrs. Ellsworth Cooper
Leland A. Coon
Helen D. Dailey
Mrs. Charles Desgrey
Eugene F. Dramm
Elsie C. Eddy
Erik B. Farley
Dr. & Mrs. Denis L. Fox
Dr. & Mrs. Lester I. Furnas
Joann S. Furse
Ruth De Witt Gewalt
Mr. & Mrs. David Greeno
Mr. & Mrs. Waldo K. Greiner
Alice Ruth Hall
Elizabeth Anne Hamilton
Kathleen F. Harris
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Heise
Clarence Heise III
Steven Heise
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Herder
Mr. & Mrs. Edward L. Hill
Mrs. McPherson Holt
Dr. & Mrs. Paul W. Horne
Marjorie Housman
Mr. & Mrs. Clair M. Houghtelin
Suzanne Hosmer
Mrs. T. W. Howard
Mrs. Noble M. Irish
Mr. & Mrs. Hoyt Jeter
Jane Truesdall Jones
Ann Kantor

Nany L. Kay
Mr. & Mrs. Irwin Kelly
Herbert C. Koehler
Col. Clarence Koeppel
Margaret Langsdorf
Dr. Virginia Caspe Livingston
Mrs. Sanders Love
Mrs. George R. Lunn
E. Louise Lyons
Margaret McArthur
Alta K. McDonald
Mr. & Mrs. James L. McFadden
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Madden
Donald E. Makosky
Mr. & Mrs. Paul G. Miller
Dr. & Mrs. Byron O. Mork
Leo N. Morris
Mr. & Mrs. Grant H. Naus
Dr. & Mrs. Maurice Nelles
Juanita K. Palash
Isabella B. Pattison
Mr. & Mrs. Paul A. Peterson
Clara Puffer
Dr. & Mrs. A. Rex Puterbaugh
Mrs. Frederick Quinn
Mr. & Mrs. Robert H. Remmey III
Mrs. Kingsley L. Rice
Carroll A. Robinson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Row
Mr. & Mrs. Don R. Sanson
Mrs. Austin Selz
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Sheppard
Jessie G. Shearer
Jean MacRae Simcox
Ruby D. Sinclair
Mr. & Mrs. L. Robert Slusser
E. Laurence Springer
Dr. & Mrs. Donald Stevenson
Col. & Mrs. Raymond Stone, Jr.
Annie S. Stuart
Mr. & Mrs. P. Gilbert Strayer
Rose Mary Taylor
Helen C. Thomas
Dr. & Mrs. Harold C. Urey
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Warnock
Dr. Thomas W. Whitaker
Humphrey J. Wilkinson
Dorothy Winn
Adm. & Mrs. Robert D. Workman

COMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 24 — 4:00 p.m.

Jester Hairston, noted composer, conductor, arranger and lecturer, will conduct the Chancel Choir in a program of his own spirituals. He will lead a workshop for choristers and conductors on Saturday, February 23 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 17 — 4:00 p.m.

The Peace Ringers, handbell Choir from First Methodist Church of Orange, California, directed by Mrs. Wesley Marquart.

Sunday, April 7 — 3:00 p.m.

The Occidental College Glee Club conducted by Henry Gibbons.

Sunday, May 12 — 4:00 p.m.

"King David" sacred oratorio by Arthur Honegger will be presented by the Chancel Choir, soloists and members of the San Diego Symphony Orchestra conducted by L. Robert Slusser, Minister of Music.