

MARILYN MASON, ORGANIST
MAUDE DRAKE BINGHAM, NARRATOR

8:15 p.m.
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KANSAS STATE
TEACHERS COLLEGE
TEACHERS SINCE 1863

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in cooperation with
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Around these two personages, other secondary figures are sketched: the Holy Women whose meeting furnishes a temporary halt to the ascent to Calvary; Simon the Cyrenian, his steps adjusted little by little to those of the Victim; Veronica, who cannot withhold a gesture of pity, crowned by the Miracle at the close of the Station.

Thus the personages: here now is the setting amid which they move - first, the praetorium where the crowd mills around, shouts, then little by little melts away - a strikingly novel effect in the history of organ music notation.

Then begins the climb toward Calvary, translated from the second Station by an expressive rhythm: a solemn cortege which will become, at the fourteenth Station, a funeral march for the placing of the body in the tomb. Christ falls heavily, having arrived at the place of torture; his body is hoisted to the Cross by the ropes which grate; the blows of the hammer resound; the earth trembles, and finally, while the funeral procession leads us to the entrance of the tomb, by a magnificent lightening effect, the dawn of the Resurrection, felt little by little throughout the work, rises and illumines by its radiant tonality.

- Abbé R. Delestre, L'Oeuvre de Marcel Dupré, transl. Dr. E. L. Ford

THE STATIONS

- I. Jesus is condemned to Death
- II. Jesus receives His Cross
- III. Jesus falls the first Time
- IV. Jesus meets his Mother
- V. Simon the Cyrenian helps Jesus to carry the Cross
- VI. Jesus and Veronica
- VII. Jesus falls a second Time
- VIII. Jesus comforts the women of Jerusalem who follow Him
- IX. Jesus falls the third Time
- X. Jesus is stripped of His Garments
- XI. Jesus is nailed to the Cross
- XII. Jesus dies upon the Cross
- XIII. Jesus is taken from the Cross and placed in the arms
of His Mother
- XIV. Jesus is placed in the Sepulchre

The fourteen poems of Paul Claudel will be read by Maude Drake Bingham in an English translation.

The Stations or Way of the Cross refer to a series of pictures or tableaux representing certain scenes in the Passion and Death of Christ, each corresponding to a particular incident connected with the Passion. They are usually arranged at intervals around the walls of a church. The object of the Stations is to help the faithful make in spirit a pilgrimage to the principal scenes of Christ's passion and death. The devotion is carried out by passing from Station to Station, meditating on each incident represented in the tableaux. When the devotion is performed publicly in Catholic churches on the Fridays of Lent, a stanza of the Stabat Mater is sung while moving from one Station to the next.

The origin of this devotion is traced to the Holy Land. The route Christ traveled from the place of sentencing to Calvary has been marked since the earliest years of Christianity, and has been the object of pilgrimage since the days of Constantine. There is, however, no direct evidence of a set form of devotion until the seventeenth century, at which time the number of Stations was fixed at fourteen. Previously, the number varied from twelve to thirty-nine.

- The Catholic Encyclopedia, XV, 569

MARILYN MASON double-record album "THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS" will be available following tonight's recital. Dr. Mason will be happy to autograph your album.