

CHRIST CHURCH CONCERTS

1989 - 1990

An Organ Recital with Two Organs

MARILYN MASON; MICHELE JOHNS

Sunday, February 4, 1990

4:30 P.M.

**Christ Church
Grosse Pointe Farms
Michigan**

Program Notes

ABOUT SOLER:

The exact date of Antonio Soler's birth is unknown, but he was baptized on December 3, 1729 in the village of Olot in Spain and died at the Escorial Monastery on December 20, 1783.

In his fifty-four years of life this Catalan priest, composer and organist produced massive quantities of vocal and keyboard music. He spent thirty-one years of his life as a monk in the Escorial Monastery. Soler was also maestro de Capilla there. For many years he taught music to members of the Spanish royal family.

The Six Concertos for Two Organs were written for Soler's royal patron and student, Prince Gabriel. The music is composed with a requirement of two players; however, Organo I is more difficult in its demands. Organo II is always interesting but has a less difficult part.

One the most striking features of the historic Spanish organ is the horizontal "Trumpets en chamade." In almost every cathedral these horizontal pipes may be seen as well as heard.

Only in Concerto VI does Soler ask for the reeds and that only in the Organo I part. Organo II provides a constant back-up for the brilliant primary part.

Notes by Marilyn Mason

ABOUT BACH:

Johann S. Bach was born in 1685 in Eisenach, East Germany and died in Leipzig in 1750. He held posts in Arnstadt, Weimar, and Mulhausen before going to Leipzig. In Weimar, about 1709 he wrote the Toccata Adagio and Fugue, and the Toccata and Fugue in D minor. These massive works reflect the character of the buildings in Weimar, and are great examples of the grandeur of the Baroque era.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS:

Michele Johns is Adjunct Associate Professor of Music at the University of Michigan. Marilyn Mason is Professor of Music and chair of the Organ Department, School of Music, University of Michigan.

DUO SONIDO

MARILYN MASON

MICHELE JOHNS

MUSIC OF SOLER and BACH

Concierto I en C
Andante
Minue

Antonio Soler
(1729-1783)

Toccata, Adagio and Fugue, BWV 564

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

MARILYN MASON

Concierto III en G
Andantino
Minue

Soler

Toccata and Fugue in D Minor, BWV 565

Bach

Concierto VI en D
Allegro, Andante, Allegro, Andante
Minue

The positiv organ is crafted by the Canadian builder, Gerhard Brunzema, after a German Baroque prototype.

Gedeckt 8'
Prestant 4'

Block flute 2'
Larigot 1 1/3'

A reception will follow this recital in the Undercroft and you are all cordially invited to meet the artists.

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The Brahms **German Requiem** will be performed by the Christ Church Chorale, orchestra and soloists on Good Friday, April 13, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for the Good Friday Concert will be sold for \$10.00 and can be obtained by calling the church office at 885-4841.