
*Concerts at
First Presbyterian
Saginaw*

1992–1993 Series

Friday Evening, February 5 at 8

First Presbyterian Church
Corner of Court and Harrison Streets
Old Saginaw City

Marilyn Mason is University Organist and Chairman of the Organ Department of the University of Michigan. Her extensive career as concert organist, lecturer, adjudicator and teacher has carried her throughout the Western world. She was the first woman to play in Westminster Abbey, the first woman organist to play in Latin America, and the first American to play in Egypt. During one single year invitations took her to five different continents. Dr. Mason has served as adjudicator at nearly every major organ competition in the world. Marilyn's dedication to contemporary music is evidenced in the forty-five works which she has commissioned and premiered. She recently pursued her commitment to stylistic integrity through scholarly research into the construction and tonal design of historic European instruments. Sixteen research tours have focused on historic organs in France, North Germany, Saxony and Spain. Presently, Dr. Mason has completed extensive research on the music of Johann Pachelbel and is in the process of recording the complete organ works on the Musical Heritage label.

In 1987 she was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Music degree by the University of Nebraska, where Dr. Mason had served as consultant for the new Casavant Freres Limitee mechanical action organ. She was chosen "1988 Performer of the Year" by the New York Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

Her discography includes music of Bach, Pachelbel, Handel, and various contemporary composers on Columbia and Musical Heritage Society labels.

March 5, 1993 • Garik Pedersen, piano

Dynamic **Garik Pedersen**, professor of piano at Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, will perform music of Debussy (*Children's Corner*) and Schumann (*Kreisleriana*) as well as *Keyboard Essays* by EMU composer/professor, Anthony Iannacone.

Marilyn Mason

Toccat, Adagio, and Fugue, BWV 564

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Magnificat on the Eighth Tone

Johann Pachelbel
(1653-1706)

Chorale in A Minor

César Franck
(1822-1890)

Epilogue, for pedal solo

Jean Langlais
(1907-1991)

Intermission

Gospel Preludes, Book IV (1984)

William Bolcom
(b. 1938)

*Commissioned by and dedicated to Marilyn Mason.
First performance in Saginaw.*

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Fantasy on O Zion Haste and The Church's One Foundation



Reception immediately following in Westminster Hall.

*Dr. Mason's recent recordings of Pachelbel's organ music
are available in Westminster Hall after tonight's concert.*

*This concert is being taped by WFBE (95.1 FM)
for re-broadcast on Sunday March 7 at 2:06 p.m.*

Program Notes
CFPS: Marilyn Mason
February 5, 1993

The **Toccat**, **Adagio**, and **Fugue** is unique among Bach's 28 larger preludes and fugues for organ. Bach gave it a special place in his canon with its multi-movement shape. Each of the three movements stands alone. Yet the *Toccat*, with its quasi-Italian influence of question-answer dialogue, and the rousing *Fugue* form pillars framing the quiet, meditative *Adagio*. This music comes from Bach's Weimar years (1708-1717). On hearing Bach's organ music, great writer Goethe is reported to have said, "It is as though the eternal harmony was conversing with itself, as it may have happened in God's bosom shortly before He created the world."

The text of the **Magnificat** (The Hymn of the Virgin Mary) comes from Gospel of Luke (1:46-55). The Magnificat was usually sung. During the 17th century the practice of alternating the twelve verses between voice and organ was begun. Tonight's performance is an example of this practice.

César Franck, through his teaching and personal influence as well as by his composition, established a national school of French organ music inspired by the highest ideals. There is a particular appeal to the life of this Flemish genius who carried out his teaching at the Paris Conservatoire and his church duties at Ste. Clotilde, Paris (from 1885 until his death), in a quiet, unostentatious manner, always finding time for original composition.

William Bolcom is Professor of Music (composition) at the University of Michigan. Dr. Bolcom is a prolific composer whose works embrace many composition styles. He has received numerous awards and recognitions, most recently in the 1988 Pulitzer Prize in Music. Dr. Bolcom says about these pieces, "This is a collection of three Gospel preludes, bringing the total [output of Gospel preludes] to twelve. *Sweet Hour of Prayer* always has had a febrile intensity for me, and I set it with that mood in mind. The finale is a combined fantasy on *O Zion, Haste* and a gospel-influenced 5/4 setting of *How Firm a Foundation*."

Friends of Concerts at First Presbyterian Saginaw

Patron (\$500+)

Anonymous (1)
Dr. & Mrs. Richard P. Heuschele
Michigan Bell

Sponsor (\$250 to \$499)

Tom & Mary Ellen Whitney
Glenn McCray

Donor (\$100 to \$249)

Fred Brufloft
Paul M. & Lois Schmidt
Tri-City Chapter of The Links, Inc.

Contributor (\$25 to \$99)

Mary & David Andrews
Anonymous (2)
Nancy Baxter
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Blue
Betty & Randy Braun
Michel A. Cameron
Ray & Ruth Dice
Eleanor Dodge
Dr. & Mrs. Robert L. Emrich
Karen & Ben Howells
David & Karen Jones

Contributor (continued)

Debra Juhasz Krawczyk & Roger Krawczyk
Langham & Bidwell, Assoc.
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory H. Largent
Robert & Patricia Leas
John & Dorothy Lingenfelter
Janet I. Martineau
Betty L. Marx
Old Saginaw City, Inc.
Joe & Helene Raleigh
Mary B. Rockwell
Saginaw Travel Club
Hans & Edda Schmidt
Russell & Nancy Stay
Mr. & Mrs. David Stine
George Strassburg
Doris & Allen Streeter
Barbara F. Wenger
Brett A. Wilson

In Memoriam

Esther Shelley

Steering Committee

Fred Brufloft
Richard P. Heuschele
Hans Schmidt
Anna M. Leppert-Largent, *Administrator*

Lois Schmidt
Charles Shelley
Barbara Wenger
Mary Ellen Whitney

Staff

The Rev. Dr. Robert L. Emrich, *Pastor*
The Rev. Robert D. Leas, *Parish Associate*
The Rev. Robert E. Osborne, *Parish Visitor*
Gregory H. Largent, *Director of Music Ministries*
Vonnice G. Johnson, *Director of Educational Ministries*
Anna M. Leppert-Largent, *Asst. Director of Music Ministries*
Jo Ann Dembinski, *Financial Manager*
Marjory Shelley, *Office/Building Manager*