

1995-1996

MAINSTAGE SEASON



WEIDNER CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - GREEN BAY

MARILYN MASON

Sunday, March 3

welcomed by
Wisconsin Public Radio



PROGRAM

Music of Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Youthful Works

Pedal exercitium in G minor, B.W.V. 598
Chorale Prelude, In dulci jubilo, B.W.V. 751

The Arnstadt Years (1704-1707)

Chorale Prelude, "Nun freut euch, liebe Christen g'mein," B.W.V. 734
Chorale Partita, "O Gott du Frommer Gott," B.W.V. 767

The Weimar Period (1708-1717)

Toccatto in d moll, B.W.V. 565

INTERMISSION

Chorale in A minor
Variations, "Heil Dir Im Siegeskranz"
Toccatto (Symphony V)

Cesar Franck (1822-1890)
J.C. Rinck (1770-1846)
Charles Marie Widor (1844-1937)

The Italian "toccare" and the Spanish "tocar," meaning "to touch" are the root of the word "toccata." Early toccatas of Frescobaldi were quiet and improvisational. By the 19th century, the toccata had evolved into a brilliant and virtuosic work of grand proportions.

BIOGRAPHY

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 musical 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 a single year invitations took her to five continents. Dr. Mason has served as judge at nearly every major organ competition in the world. Marilyn's dedication to contemporary music is evidenced in the sixty works which she has commissioned and premiered. Currently she is pursuing her commitment to stylistic integrity through

research into the construction and tonal design of historic European instruments. Twenty research tours have focused on historic organs in Europe.

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

Her discography includes music of Bach, Pachelbel, Handel, Mondonville, and contemporary composers on Columbia and Musical Heritage Society labels. She is now recording the complete organ music of Pachelbel for The Musical Heritage Society.