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STEARNS COLLECTION-
VIRGINIA MARTIN HOWARD LECTURE SERIES

"IN THE STEPS OF BACH"

MARILYN MASON

University Organist

Sunday

Saturday, February 13, 2000

School of Music, Blanche Anderson Moore Hall

2:00 p.m.

Michigan's "Klingendes Wunder"

Commemorating the 250th anniversary of the death of Bach
Honoring the 15th anniversary of the Marilyn Mason Organ

Music associated with places Bach lived, and where I have played.

Marilyn Mason

Music of Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Pedal Exercitium, BWV 598

CHORALE-PRELUDES:

Jesu, Meine Freude, BWV 1105

Allein Gott in der Hoh' sei Ehr', BWV 711

Nun freut euch, lieben Christen g'mein, BWV 734

Ein' Feste Burg ist Unser Gott, BWV 720

Erbarm dich mein, O Herre Gott, BWV 721

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

Arnstadt

Neumeister

Kirnbacher

misc.

Muhlhausen

Schwabach

St Thomas

Leipzig 1723

Duetto (Clavieruebung III), BWV 804

Tocatta in D Minor, BWV 565

Weimar

One hundred Seventy-fifth Concert, 1999-2000

The Marilyn Mason Organ

For many years University of Michigan organ faculty and students expressed a strong desire for a baroque recital and teaching instrument that could most authentically serve the monumental compositions for organ by J. S. Bach and other early composers. Realization of this ideal instrument at last became possible through a generous gift from Judith Barnett Metz in honor of Marilyn Mason, with further substantial support from the officers of the University.

As a result of extensive research and consultation among members of the School of Music organ faculty and C. B. Fisk, Inc., of Gloucester, Massachusetts, it was decided that the instruments of Gottfried Silbermann (1683-1753) should be the models upon which the Marilyn Mason Organ would be based. Silbermann was a contemporary of Bach; in fact, Bach played upon many Silbermann organs and praised them.

The Marilyn Mason Organ does not replicate any single Silbermann instrument, of which there are twenty-eight extant, all but one in eastern Germany. Rather, it takes the best of what he offered in his medium-sized instruments and conforms perfectly to the aesthetic spirit and the mechanical capabilities of Silbermann's craftsmanship. The Marilyn Mason Organ most closely resembles the instrument built by Silbermann for the Georgenkirche in Rotha, Germany. It is number 87 in the Fisk series, which includes installations at Harvard, Stanford, and Yale.

The organ specifications are as follows:

HAUPTWERK

1. Bordun	16'	lowest 1 1/2 octave of wood; remainder of lead	Tremulant
2. Principal	8'	tin	Klingel:
3. Rohrflöte	8'	lead	Rings a small bell for the calcant
4. Octava	4'	tin	
5. Spitzflöte	4'	tin	Couplers:
6. Quinta	3'	tin	Oberwerk to Hauptwerk
7. Octava	2'	tin	Hauptwerk to Pedal
8. Mixtur	V	tin	Oberwerk to Pedal
9. Cornet	III	tin	
10. Trommete	8'	tin	Key Action: Direct mechanical, suspended

OBERWERK

11. Gedackt	8'	lowest octave of wood; remainder of lead	Stop Action: Direct mechanical
12. Quintadena	8'	tin	Thirty-five ranks
13. Principal	4'	tin	
14. Rohrflöte	4'	lead	Twenty-seven voices
15. Nasat	3'	lead	
16. Octava	2'	tin	Number of pipes: 1,816
17. Gemshorn	2'	tin	
18. Tertia	1-3/5'	tin	Manual compass: 56 notes
19. Quinta	1-1/2'	tin	
20. Sifflet	1'	tin	Pedal compass: 30 notes
21. Mixtur	III	tin	
22. Chalumeau	8'	tin	Temperament: One-fifth-comma modified meantone at A=440

PEDAL

23. Principalbass	16'	wood	Winding systems:
24. Octavenbass	8'	wood	a) hand-pumped
25. Octavenbass	4'	lead	b) .7 hp electric blower
26. Posaunenbass	16'	wood	
27. Trommetenbass	8'	tin	Wind pressure: 75mm