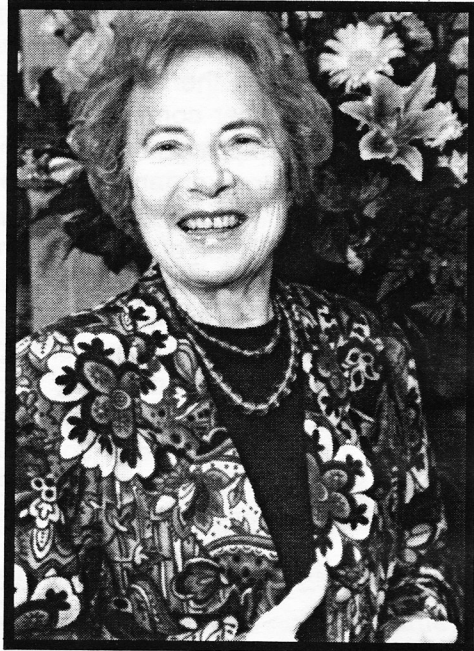


Marilyn Mason



St. Mark Lutheran Church

Anchorage, Alaska

Sunday, May 7, 2006

2:00 p.m.



Marilyn Mason is University Organist and Chairman of the Organ Department at the University of Michigan. She earned the Master of Music degree from the University of Michigan and Doctor of Sacred Music from Union Theological Seminary. Her extensive career as concert organist, lecturer, adjudicator, and teacher has carried her throughout the musical world. She was the first American 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. Professor. Mason has served as judge at nearly every major organ competition in the world. Her dedication to contemporary music is evidenced in the 65 works that 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, Marilyn Mason was awarded a Doctor of Music degree *honoris causa* by the University of Nebraska. 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. A recent recording on Albany Records included Concertos by Petr Eben, Emma Lou Diemer, Leo Sowerby, and Gospel Preludes, Vol IV, of William Bolcom. She is presently recording the organ music of Johannes Pachelbel for the Musical Heritage Society.

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St. Mark Lutheran Church is pleased to present this afternoon's concert free of charge to the greater Anchorage community. Naturally, concerts featuring visiting artists of Dr. Mason's caliber are offered at considerable expense. We welcome any free-will donations you may offer to help us defray the cost of this afternoon's concert. There is a basket in the rear of the Sanctuary in which you may place your donations. Feel free to use empty envelopes found in the pews. If you would like to write a check, please make it payable to "St. Mark Lutheran Church" with a memo of "organ concert." Thank you in advance for your generous offering.

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On behalf of Pastors Rick Cavens and Bimen Limbong, and the Congregation of St. Mark Lutheran Church, we bid you a hearty welcome to this afternoon's concert! We hope that you will find the performance uplifting.

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## The Choir Organ at St. Mark Lutheran Church

Through the generosity of many of St. Mark parishioners, a new "Choir Organ" was installed in the balcony of St. Mark Lutheran Church and dedicated on Reformation Sunday 2005.

This wonderful instrument is the brain-child of St. Mark Organist, Caroline Valentine, working in concert with Rene Marceau and Tom Skyler of Marceau & Associates, Organ Builders, Portland, Oregon. Of special note is that this instrument is built primarily of 'recycled' components 'salvaged' from other churches who had upgraded their instruments. Special thanks, too, goes to Mr. Cory Brause, cabinet maker, and son of Pastor Floyd and Lucille Brause, founders of the St. Mark Lutheran congregation, for the Choir Organ's African mahogany casework.

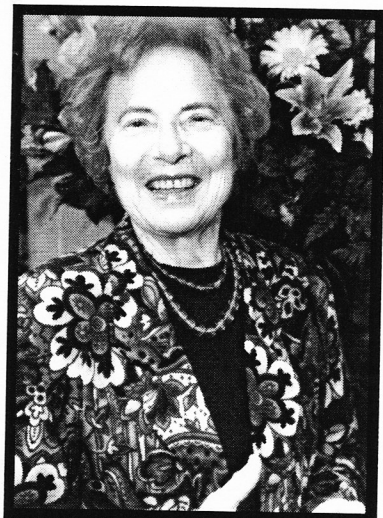
Here's the (mixed) 'pedigree' of this 3-rank 168 pipe instrument:

1. The windchest is from Bethany Lutheran, Seattle, WA
2. The wind reservoir is from First Lutheran, Ketchikan, AK
3. The blower is from Champagne, IL
4. The keyboard is from Centralia, WA
5. The 8' Gedeckt pipes are from the genesis of this project—the Roy Helms Portativ—from St. Mark Lutheran Anchorage, AK
6. The 8' Salicional is from First Presbyterian, Spokane, WA
7. The 4' Harmonic Flute is from First Methodist, Portland, OR
8. The electronic driver assembly that makes this such a versatile instrument is from Syndyne, in Vancouver, WA

Truly, this is an 'interdenominational' instrument! While this may be a 'potluck' organ, the sound is rich and blended, and beautifully compliments the sound of St. Mark's Kenneth Jones Tracker.

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Please feel free to inspect both organs more closely during the intermission or after the concert.



Marilyn Mason,
World Renown Organist
University Organist
The University of Michigan

in Concert
at

St. Mark Lutheran Church
Sunday, May 7
at
2:00 p.m.

3230 Lake Otis Parkway
Anchorage
Donation accepted

"This past century has seen an enormous growth in challenging new organ music, and one of the very, very most influential virtuosi and proponents of new organ music alive is Marilyn Mason. She has encouraged so much new music from so many composers, and I especially thank her for her extensive performances and insightful teaching of my own music. She has commissioned several of my most important organ works and has always championed them, and this is precious to a composer -- maybe the work will have a life! But no work has a life without the right performance, and her doing the right performance for me and so many others, long dead and still living, is what makes Marilyn Mason so extremely special."

Bill Bolcom