

Szabolcs Szamosi, organist  
October 18, 2011, 8:00 pm  
St. James Cathedral, Seattle

A. Vivaldi-J.S.Bach (1678-1741)	Concerto in D-minor BWV.596
Johann Sebastian Bach: (1685-1750)	Liebster Jesu wir sind hier BWV.730-731 (Dearest Jesus we are here)
Dezső d'Antalfy: (1885-1945)	Spielende Faunen (Dance of the Fauns)
Béla Bartók: (1881-1945)	Evening at the Szeklers
Ferenc Liszt (1811-1886)	B-A-C-H prelude and fugue
Intermission	
Zsolt Gárdonyi: (born 1946)	Mozart Changes
Zoltán Kodály: (1882-1967)	Epigrams
Sz. Szamosi (born 1970)	Improvisation
Charles Marie Widor: (1844-1937)	Allegro cantabile Toccata

Antonio Vivaldi was undoubtedly the most important baroque composer. He left several hundred concertos to posterity besides his cantatas and oratorios. Even his most outstanding peer Johann Sebastian Bach noticed his work. He transcribed several of his concertos for the organ, among them the Double Concerto in D-minor. In the first movement Bach explored the organ's unique polyphonic possibilities, leading to the next movement, an airy fugue, through a dramatic series of chords, followed by one of Vivaldi's most beautiful slow movements, finally finishing the piece with a virtuosic Allegro.

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Johann Sebastian Bach left more than 1200 works to posterity; most are built on chorals in some form. Besides his cantatas and oratorios we can find several choral transcriptions in his close to 500 compositions for the organ. We will hear now two choral transcriptions for the „Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier“ choral. We can observe Bach's excellent ability for variation as he transforms the simple choral melody from the first transcription to the soaring aria in the second.

Johann Sebastian Bach: (1685-1750)	Liebster Jesu wir sind hier BWV.730,731.
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Gárdonyi Zsolt:  
(born 1946)

Mozart Changes

Without a doubt, besides Béla Bartók, it was Zoltán Kodály whose work determined the life of 20<sup>th</sup> century Hungarian music. He was a music educator, folk music researcher, composer, whose musical conception was known and recognized world-wide, from the USA to Japan. He composed numerous chamber music pieces too besides his outstanding great oratorios and orchestral pieces. The title of the short works performed today means "inscriptions on graves." All nine epigrams show various moods. The original series was composed for voice without words accompanied by a piano, which is now performed in Gábor Trajtler's transcription.

Zoltán Kodály:  
(1882-1967)

Epigrams

Improvisation means to improvise. The performer gives back the mood of the given moment.

Sz. Szamosi  
(born 1970)

Improvisation

Besides César Franck, the most defining figure of the French romantic organ school is Charles-Marie Widor, Professor of Organ at the Paris Conservatory, and Organist at Sulpice church. Among his students we find Vierne Louis, Edgar Varése and Albert Schweitzer. His 10 organ symphonies demonstrate all of the sound colors, and playing technique possibilities of the romantic organ. Now we will hear two movements of the Fifth Symphony in F-Minor. We will hear first the second movement of the five-movement-symphony, composed in 1879, a singing organ aria. Then we will listen to the last movement of the symphony, the Toccata that became deservedly one of the best-known organ pieces of all times.

Charles Marie Widor:  
(1844-1937)1.

Allegro cantabile  
Toccata