

organ recital mattias wager

7.30pm

jesus church, oundle



J S Bach

Making the most of limited musical material, the pieces in this evening's programme all have a certain minimalist character, each in their own distinctive way. They tell a story about limitation as an artistic, creative impulse.

Concerto in C major, after Vivaldi, BWV 594 J S Bach
(1685-1750)

By transcribing orchestral concertos by Vivaldi for keyboard, Bach acquired useful new insights into the then fashionable Italian style. The Concerto in C, an arrangement of Vivaldi's so called Grand Mogul Concerto in D, clearly shows typical formal ideas with dialogue between orchestral and solo passages. In this concerto Vivaldi, ever the minimalist, uses extremely simple musical material for the orchestra's ritornellos, leaving all the fun to the soloist. The organ's Great manual takes the orchestra's role, whilst the swell plays soloist.

Talk (2000) Stefan Pöntinen (b.1967)

The young Swedish composer Stefan Pöntinen is also a violinist and active as a performer. He composes music for all sorts of ensembles and solo instruments, as well as for the stage.

Talk was written for Mattias Wager to play at a recital on the famous historic organ in Malmö Museum. Limits were given: the compass of the 16th century organ and no stop changes. The word Talk in Swedish has no meaning. The composer shares with the interpreter a keen interest in the sound of words, and the title is a phonetic follow-up to the pieces Vang and Tolc.

Mein Weg hat Gipfel und Wellentäler (1989) Arvo Pärt (b.1935)

Arvo Pärt has created his own very personal musical language based on what he calls tintinnabuli (little bells) technique. The repetitive, quasi-modal harmony creates an atmosphere of beauty and purity. Mein Weg hat Gipfel und Wellentäler is based on a poem from the Livre des Questions by poet Edmond Jabès: 'My road has its hours of greatness, its blows, its pain. My road has its crest and its groundswell, its sand and its sky. My road. Yours.' (transl. Rosmarie Waldrop)

Variationen 'Elselein, liebste Elselein' Hugo Distler (1908-1942)

Striving to reintroduce a simpler, purer style of composition in his time, Hugo Distler managed to create a musical language that was all his own: transparent, playful, elegant and with a vital sense of rhythm. The Elselein Variations are part of a collection of small pieces for organ or other keyboard instruments. The variations formally connect to the typical Pachelbel partita, beginning and ending with a simple setting of the melody.

Music for Organ (1994)

Erland Hildén (b.1963)

Erland Hildén is a composer and organist in the Örgryte New Church in Göteborg, where he has two world-class instruments at his disposal: a beautifully restored Father Willis organ, and a copy of the Schnitger organ in Lübeck Cathedral. As a composer Erland Hildén is particularly interested in exploring a kind of minimalist, kaleidoscopic style, with rhythm as a driving force. A good example of this is Music for Organ, written in 1994 for Mattias Wager.



Arvo Pärt

Improvisation

Mattias Wager



Mattias Wager

Mattias Wager studied Church Music and Organ at the Royal College of Music in his native Stockholm, graduating in 1992 when his debut recital was awarded the Medal. His international breakthrough came in 1995, when he won First Prizes at St Albans, for Interpretation, and Paris, Grand Prix d'Improvisation Pierre Cochereau. Mattias tours frequently and has appeared all over Europe, and in Brazil. Since 1993 he has taught organ and improvisation at the University School of Music in Piteå, and currently at the Malmö Academy of Music. We are delighted to welcome him back to Oundle.

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bach at twilight simon standage, violin

9.30pm

st rumbald's church, stoke doyle



J S Bach

Sonata no 2 in A minor, BWV 1003
Grave; Fugue; Andante; Allegro

Partita no 3 in E major, BWV 1006
Preludio; Loure; Gavotte en Rondeau; Menuet I; Menuet II; Bourée; Gigue

Partita no 2 in D minor, BWV 1004
Allemande; Courante; Sarabande; Gigue; Chaconne

Please see page 15 for programme notes.

Drinks will be available in the church before the performance.

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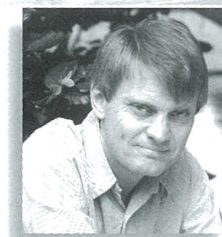


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