

Great Sacred Music  
Sunday, July 11, 2021

Guillaume Dufay: Tibi, Christe, splendor patris  
Currende, Erick van Nevel

Gabriel Fauré: Cantique de Jean Racine, Op. 11  
Winchester Cathedral Choir, David Hill  
Stephen Farr, organ

Francis Poulenc: Salve Regina  
Cambridge Singers, John Rutter

Currende is a Belgian early music ensemble which was founded in 1974. Gabriel Fauré composed in 1864-65 when he was 19 years old. Poulenc's setting of the "Salve Regina" dates from 1941, a time when Poulenc's faith had been renewed.

Charles Gounod: Repentance  
Orchestra of the Toulouse Capitole, Michel Plasson  
Roberto Alagna, tenor

César Franck: Panis angelicus  
The Cathedral Singers, Richard Proulx

Charles-Marie Widor: Andante sostenuto from Symphonie Gothique (No. 9) in C minor, Op. 70  
Thomas Brown, organ  
1992 Quimby/1962 Moller organ in St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Litchfield, Connecticut

Written in 1893 after his grandson had died, "Repentir" expresses Charles Gounod's feelings of sadness at the youngster's passing. We know the song as "O Divine Redeemer." Belgian composer César Franck composed his setting of Panis Angelicus for harp, cello and organ as part of his Messe à trois voix in 1872. Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937) wrote ten symphonies for organ as well as three symphonies for organ and orchestra.

Commentary: Daniel Gawthrop

Daniel Gawthrop: Come, Thou long expected Jesus  
Ad Hoc Festival Camerata, Dr. Jane Fjeldsted

Ned Rorem: Surge, Illuminaire  
Concora, Richard Coffey  
Larry Allen, organ

aniel Gawthrop (1949-) is an American composer of choral and organ music. Over the years he has been commissioned to write more than one hundred original works. Ned Rorem's setting of the Epiphany text "Surge illuminare (Arise, Shine)" dates from 1977.

Jean-Baptiste Fauré, arr. Helmuth Froschauer: Le Crucifix (Vous qui pleurez)  
Vienna Symphony Orchestra; Vienna Boys' Choir, Helmuth Froschauer

Placido Domingo, tenor

Pierre Villette: Salve, Regina  
The Rodolfus Choir, Ralph Allwood

François Couperin: Dialogue sur la Voix humaine from Messe  
pour les Couvents, Michel Chapuis, organ  
The 1772 Isnard organ at St. Maximin La Sainte Beaume, France

French composer and baritone Jean-Baptiste Fauré (1830-1914) collected impressionist art. At his death he owned 67 paintings by Manet and 62 paintings by Monet. French composer Pierre Villette (1926–1998) studied with Maurice Duruflé. Couperin wrote two masses for organ. Each section of the mass has its own distinctive musical style and selection of stops.

J.S. Bach: Cantata 9, "Es ist das Heil uns kommen her"  
Holland Boys' Choir; Netherlands Bach Collegium, Pieter Jan Leusink  
Marjon Strijk, soprano; Sytse Buwalde, alto  
Nico van der Meel, tenor; Bas Ramselaar, bass

This cantata dates from 1732-35. It uses a text written by Paul Speratus, a Catholic priest who left that church and collaborated with Martin Luther in the writing of the Lutheran Hymnal (1724).

Louis Vierne: Messe solennelle, Op 16  
Choirs of Notre-Dame Cathedral, Paris, Jehan Revert  
Pierre Cochereau and Jacques Marichal, organ

Louis Vierne (1870-1937) is well-regarded for his instrumental music including six symphonies for organ. But he did not write very much choral music. This grand Solemn Mass for two organs and two choirs was first performed in St. Sulpice in 1901.

Charles-Marie Widor: Andante sostenuto from Symphonie Gothique (No. 9) in C minor, Op. 70, Grant Edwards, organ  
1994 Bond Organ of St. Stephens Episcopal Church, Seattle, Washington

We offer another interpretation of the Widor "Andante sostenuto" we heard earlier.

Amy Beach: Grand Mass in E flat  
Michael May Festival Chorus, Michael May  
Elaine Bunse, soprano; Barbara Schramm, mezzo-soprano  
Paul Rogers, tenor; Leonard Jay Gould, bass; Daniel Beckwith, organ

Mrs. Beach began composing her Grand Mass in E flat in 1886. The Handel and Haydn Society of Boston gave the work its premiere on February 7, 1892.

Louis-Nicolas Clerambault: Miserere  
Les Demoiselles De Saint-Cyr, Emmanuel Mandrin  
Emmanuel Mandrin, organ

Les Demoiselles De Saint-Cyr is a choral ensemble named after the young ladies from impoverished noble families who attended La Maison Royale de Saint Louis.

Antoine Busnois: Magnificat sexti toni  
Pomerium, Alexander Blachly

French composer Antoine Busnois (c.1430-1492) and Johannes Ockeghem were prolific composers of music in the last half of the 15th century.