

3-26-2010

Guest Artist Recital: Cameron Carpenter, organ

Cameron Carpenter

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ITHACA COLLEGE

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

ITHACA COLLEGE CONCERTS 2009-10

Cameron Carpenter, organ

Ford Hall
Friday, March 26, 2010
8:15 p.m.

ITHACA

Cameron Carpenter will draw his concert repertoire from the following sources.

Jazz etudes for the piano of the Ukrainian classical-jazz genius
Nikolai Kapustin

Organ premieres of great piano encores by:

Vladimir Horowitz
Cyprien Katsaris
Arcadi Volodos

Compositions by:

Johann Sebastian Bach
Cameron Carpenter
Frédéric Chopin
Marcel Dupré
Percy Grainger
Howard Hanson
Arthur Honegger
Franz Liszt
Maurice Ravel

Film scores by:

Gerald Finzi
George Gershwin
Joe Hisaishi
John Williams

All organ arrangements are by Cameron Carpenter. Finalized programs will be based on specific instrument facilities and limitations. Cameron reserves the right to choose the final program, and to announce it.

Photographic, video, and sound recording and/or transmitting devices are not permitted in the Whalen Center concert halls. Please turn off all cell phone ringtones, watches, and pagers.

The Artist

From Franz Liszt and Vladimir Horowitz to Michael Jackson and David Bowie, the most enduring musicians emerge as revolutionaries in their field, but never stop evolving as their careers develop. With his 2010 Telarc 2-disc album (DVD and CD), *Cameron Live!*, Cameron Carpenter is following that pattern. Encompassing the organ in all its iterations--virtual, pipe, classical, and popular--Cameron's is a unique voice. He is renowned not only for his playing of the great organ works, but also for his compositions on Editions Peters which--in their emphasis on color, secularity, and performative freedom--follow in the footsteps of Percy Grainger, Sigfrid Karg-Elert, and Leopold Godowsky.

He performs with pop singers like Vinicio Capossela and Bishi, and he enjoys a solo career that has taken him in the last three years to venues from London's Royal Albert Hall to Moscow's Tchaikovsky Hall; from San Francisco's Davies Hall to Town Hall, Melbourne (AU). For playing Chopin's Études, Op. 10 on the organ; for his design of organs, organ benches, Swarovski-encrusted performance wear and organ shoes; for his original works and improvisations; and for his expansion of the organ repertoire into music from film, animé, and popular culture, he is widely acclaimed. To say he is "acclaimed" begs the question: by whom? In Cameron's case, it is not just by reviewers, but by audiences worldwide. At his Russian debut at Moscow's Tchaikovsky Hall, he was called back to the stage for eight encores; amidst pounding rhythmic applause at Saint Petersburg's Capella, for twelve encores. The U.S. Consul General stated that the six standing ovations were the first she had ever witnessed in her four-and-a-half years of attending cultural events in St. Petersburg.

At Cameron's New York all-Bach recital, recorded live for release by Telarc, ovations came not only from the capacity audience, but also from the press. *The New York Times* noticed that "everything (he) did... was meant to show his audience exactly what he was up to, without compromising the serious music he played." Of the same concert, *Feast Of Music's* Pete Matthews raved: "Are there any miracles left in the modern world? Is the concept of musical genius—represented by flawless technique and effortless execution—nothing but a myth? To all those who question the full capacity of human ability, I have but two words: Cameron Carpenter. His facility and flamboyance on the organ defies description. All you could do was sit and shake your head at the majesty of it all."

Amid the acclaim, though, it's worth noting that one of Cameron's most vocal advocates comes from within the "old guard" of the organ community: Dr. John Weaver, for many years concurrently head of the organ departments at both The Juilliard School and The Curtis Institute of Music. In his spoken introduction to Cameron's first appearance at a national convention of the notoriously conservative American Guild of Organists, Dr. Weaver said: "This is truly one of the most amazing musical minds that I have ever encountered, a talent of Mozartian proportions, and a technique the likes of which I don't think has existed on this planet... because if it had, we would all know about it."

Concert Calendar

March

- 27 8:15 Choir; Lawrence Doebler, conductor
28 4:00 Faculty Ensemble: Faculty Chamber Music Recital
8:15 Guest Lecture: Ron Riddle, film composer
31 8:15 Concert Band; Mark Fonder, conductor
and Horseheads High School Wind Ensemble

April

- 7 7:00 Tuba Ensemble; David Unland, director
8 8:15 Ithaca Wind Quintet and The Pennsylvania Quintet
9 8:15 The Louis K. Thaler Concert Violinist Series
Jennifer Koh, violin and Shai Wosner, piano
10 9:00 Master Classes: Jennifer Koh, violin and Shai Wosner, piano
4:00 Faculty Recital: Harold Reynolds, trombone
11 4:00 Faculty Recital: Kelly Covert, flute
12 7:00 Flute Ensemble; Sarah Plunkett, graduate conductor
13 7:00 Sinfonietta; Jesse Livingston and Chung-Min Chen,
graduate conductors
8:15 Faculty Recital: Deborah Lifton, soprano
15 7:00 Faculty Recital: Dawn Pierce, mezzo-soprano and
Anna Steenerson, soprano
17 7:00 High School Gospel Invitational Festival Concert;
Baruch Whitehead, coordinator
18 4:00 Faculty Recital: Nicholas DiEugenio, violin
4:00 Klezmer Ensemble; Peter Rothbart, director
8:15 Jazz Ensemble; Michael Titlebaum, musical director
22 7:00 Campus Choral Ensemble; Jennifer Haywood, conductor
and Jennifer Sengin and Lee Wright, graduate conductors
23 8:15 Opera Workshop; Brian DeMaris, music director
24 Noon All-Campus Band; Dan Isbell, conductor
25 3:00 Chorus; Janet Galván, conductor
8:15 Jazz Lab Ensembles; Michael Titlebaum and
Tom Killian, musical directors
27 8:15 Percussion Ensemble; Conrad Alexander, director
28 8:15 Concert Band; Mark Fonder, conductor
29 8:15 Symphonic Band; Elizabeth Peterson, conductor
30 8:15 Chamber Orchestra; Jeffery Meyer, conductor

May

- 1 8:15 Madrigal Singers; Lawrence Doebler, conductor and
Choir, Jennifer Sengin, graduate conductor
2 8:15 Symphony Orchestra; Jeffery Meyer, conductor
3 8:15 Vocal Jazz Ensemble; Lauri Keegan, musical director
4 8:15 Percussion Ensemble; Gordon Stout, director
5 8:15 Brass Choir; Keith Kaiser, conductor and
Women's Chorale, Janet Galván, conductor
6 7:00 Early Music Period Instrument Performance Ensemble;
Nicholas Walker, director
8:15 Wind Ensemble; Stephen Peterson, conductor

Ithaca College Concerts 2009-10 (admission charge)

- September 11 Zuill Bailey, violoncello and Awadagin Pratt, piano
February 13 Theodora Hanslowe, mezzo-soprano
March 26 Cameron Carpenter, organ