About the Artist

Olivier Latry, titular organist of the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris, is considered one of the most notable organists of his generation, not only in France, but on the international scene as well. He was born in Boulogne-sur-Mer, France in 1962, and began his study of piano at the age of 7, and his study of the organ at age 12; he later attended the Academy of Music at St. Maur-des-Fossés, studying organ with Gaston Litaize. Mr. Latry was a finalist in the 1980 and 1982 International Competitions at Chartres (Interpretation).

From 1981-1985 Olivier Latry was titular organist of Meaux Cathedral and at age 23 he won a competition to become one of the three titular organists of the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris. For twelve years he taught organ at the Academy of Music at St. Maur-des-Fossés, where he succeeded his teacher, Gaston Litaize. Since 1995 he has taught at the Paris Conservatory, where he has succeeded Michel Chapuis. Today he is counted among the most noted "improvisateurs" in the exceptional French tradition from Charles Tournemire to Pierre Cochereau.

In addition to concerts and teaching, Mr. Latry has made his mark through recordings on the BNL label in France and with SDV (distributed by BMG/RCA). Thus far he has several CDs to his credit, including music of Bach, the complete organ works of Durufle, Vierne's Symphonies 2 & 3, Widor's Symphonies 5 and 6, Boellmann's Suite Gothique, and a CD of pieces by Litaize.

Olivier Latry has performed in more than forty countries on five continents, appearing most often in the United States. He made his first American tour during the fall of 1986. He has subsequently made annual tours to the U.S., playing recitals in major cities coast to coast, as well as in cities throughout Canada.

Mr. Latry has a particular interest in contemporary music and has premiered works of Xavier Darasse, Claude Baliff, Thierry Pecout, Vincent Paulet, Thierry Escaich, and Jean-Louis Florentz. In early 2000 he performed three complete cycles (six recitals each) of the organ music of Olivier Messiaen, at the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris, at The Church of St. Ignatius Loyola in New York City and at St. Paul's Cathedral, London. These performances were followed by a recording for Deutsche Grammophon of the complete organ works of Messiaen at the Cathedral of Notre-Dame.

Exclusive Management by: Karen McFarlane Artists, Inc.

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If you've enjoyed tonight's program, you might enjoy Pipedreams, a radio program for the King of Instruments. Tune into KSJN 99.5 FM, Sunday evenings at 9:00 PM for The Organ Calendar and Pipedreams, hosted by Michael Barone of Minnesota Public Radio.

Organ built by Gabriel Kney (1987)
A Gift to the University and the Community from Robert S. Asmuth, Sr.
Class of 1943, in memory of his beloved grandson
Robert "Robby" S. Asmuth, III

Program

Final from the 1st Sonata  
Alexandre Guilmant  
(1837-1911)

Two movements from the 4th Symphony  
Andante Cantabile  
Scherzo  
Charles-Marie Widor  
(1844-1937)

Fantômes from Pièces de Fantaisie  
The Evoker: Who then prepares the future?...  
The Young Esthete: It is I...I am free!  
The Old Pedant: It is I...I maintain the tradition!  
The Negro: Future belongs to the dancer.  
The Monkey: Future is in the hands of fancy...  
The Beggarr (who plays the street-organ) It belongs to misery..."Solo Mio"  
Fate: It is nowhere and everywhere.  
Louis Vierne  
(1870-1937)

Cortège et Litanie  
Marcel Dupré  
(1886-1971)

---Intermission---

Deuxième Fantaisie  
Jehan Alain  
(1911-1940)

La Croix du Sud  
(United States premiere)  
Jean Loise Florentz  
(b. 1947)

Improvisation  
Olivier Latry  
(b. 1962)

A reception will follow the performance  
in the Fireside Room