About the Artist

Christa Rakich

Organist/Harpsichordist Christa Rakich holds degrees in organ and German Literature from Oberlin College (BA, BMus, Phi Beta Kappa, 1975) and in organ from New England Conservatory (MM, honors, 1979). As a Fulbright Scholar, she studied for two years with Anton Heiller at the Hochschule für Musik in Vienna, Austria.

A prize winner at international organ competitions (Bruges 1976, Nuremberg 1977), Rakich has received particular acclaim for her Bach interpretations. She has served on the faculty of New England Conservatory, the University of Connecticut, and as Assistant University Organist at Harvard. She is currently Director of Music at St. Justin’s Church in Hartford, CT. This season includes appearances in Florida, Tennessee, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and California.

Her performing career has taken her throughout the United States and Europe. Her programs frequently include pieces by women and minorities, as well as transcriptions and other uncommon works. She has recorded J. S. Bach’s Clavierübung III for Titanic Records, and a compact disk, Deferred Voices: Organ Music by Women Composers, for AFKA Records, released in 1994. CDs will be available after the concert.

PROGRAM

Batalha de 5 *Tono

Diego da Conceição

(fl. 1695)

Vater unser im Himmelreich

Georg Böhm

(1661-1733)

Trio Sonata #2 in C minor, BWV 526

Vivace

J. S. Bach

(1685-1750)

Largo

Allegro

Praeludium in E minor

Nicolaus Bruhns

(1665-1697)

"Intermission"

Prelude & Fugue in D minor, Op. 16 No. 3

Clara Schumann

(1819-1896)

Nocturne

Germaine Tailleferre

(1892-1983)

Sonata in C minor on the 94th Psalm

Grave, Larghetto

Julius Reubke

(1834-1858)

O Lord God, to whom vengeance belongeth, show
thyself. Lift thyself up, thou judge of the earth.
Render a reward to the proud.

Allegro con fuoco

Lord, how long shall the wicked triumph? They slay
the widow and the stranger, and murder the orphans.
Yet they say: The Lord shall not see, neither shall
the God of Jacob regard it.

Adagio

Unless the Lord had been my help, my soul had
almost dwelt in silence. In the multitude of my
thoughts within me they comforts delight my soul.

Allegro

But the Lord is my defense, and my God is the rock
of my refuge. And he shall bring upon them their
own iniquity, and shall cut them off in their own
wickedness.

Organ built by Gabriel Kney

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Class of 1943, in memory of his beloved grandson
Robert "Robby" S. Asmuth, III