About the Artist

Peter Sykes is one of the most distinguished and versatile keyboard artists performing today. He has appeared at major conventions of the American Guild of Organists, the Organ Historical Society, American Institute of Organ builders, International Society of Organ builders, the Southeastern Historical Keyboard Society, at the Boston Early Music Festival, Library of Congress, Aston Magna Festival, New England Bach Festival, with Ensemble Project Ars Nova, The King's Noyse, and Musica Antiqua Köln, and in concert throughout the United States. He is frequently heard on the nationally-syndicated radio program "Pipedreams.

His solo recordings include J.S. Bach's complete Leipzig Chorales recorded on the Noack organ of the Langholtskirkja in Reykjavik, From The Heartland - Two Nordlie Organs in South Dakota, Harpsichord Music of Couperin and Rameau, A Nantucket Organ Tour, and MAXimum Reger: Favorite Organ Works. His bestselling recording of his organ transcription of Holst's orchestral suite The Planets was named Best of 1996 by Audio Review, a "Super CD" by Absolute Sound in 1999, and garners accolades in every review. Three new solo recordings will be released in 2002: Bach before 40 and From Byrd to Buxtehude, both performed on a Greg Harrold organ in a residence in Los Angeles, and Modern Organ Music, a disc of music by Hindemith, Heifler, Pinkham, Woodman, and Icelandic composers on the Noack organ in the Neskirka in Reykjavik.

He holds degrees from the New England Conservatory, where he studied with Gabriel Chodos, Blanche Winogron, Mireille Lagacé, Robert Schuneman, and Yuko Hayashi, and Concordia University in Montreal, where he studied with Bernard Lagacé. In 1983 he was the winner of the Boston Chapter American Guild of Organists Young Artists Competition; in 1986, winner of the Second International Harpsichord Competition sponsored by the Southeastern Historical Keyboard Society. He was the 1993 laureate of the Erwin Bodky Award for excellence in early music performance.

He is Director of Music at First Church in Cambridge, Congregational and a member of the faculties of the Longy School of Music, Boston University, and the New England Conservatory. He has served as adjudicator for competitions sponsored by the American Guild of Organists, the Royal Canadian College of Organists, and the Bach International Harpsichord Festival, serves a director of the Cambridge Society for Early Music, and is a founding board member of the Boston Clavichord Society.

PROGRAM

Concerto II in a minor
after Vivaldi, BWV 593
(Allegro)
Adagio senza Pedale a due Clav.
Allegro

Ein Stück für einer Orgelwerk in eine Uhr, K. 594
Adagio - Allegro - Adagio

Sonata, op. 65, no. 4, in B Flat Major (1844)
Allegro con brio
Andante religioso
Allegretto
Allegro maestoso e vivace

--Intermission--

Scherzo-Fantasia (1960)

Clair de lune, op. 53, no. 5
(Pièces de fantaisie, 1926-7)

Prelude and Fugue in e minor, BWV 548
("Wedge")

A reception will follow the performance in the Fireside Room

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 9:25 PM for The Organ Calendar and Pipedreams, hosted by Michael Barone of Minnesota Public Radio.