

About the Artist

One of America's leading concert organists, **David Higgs** is a member of the faculty at the Eastman School of Music. He performs extensively throughout the United States and abroad, and has inaugurated many important new instruments including St. Stephan's Cathedral, Vienna; Meyerson Symphony Center, Dallas; Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts, Florida; and the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola in New York City.

Mr. Higgs is a frequent performer, teacher and adjudicator at festivals and conventions. Recent engagements have included the International Organ Festivals of Calgary, Redlands, Naples, San Anselmo; the Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, and the Summer Organ Academies of Interlochen School for the Arts and Mr. Royal College-Conservatory in Calgary. In England he has appeared several times at the Oundle International Festival, the Cambridge Summer Festival, the Annual Congress of the Incorporated Association of Organists, and the International Congress of Organists, both in London. In 1999 he will appear at the St. Albans International Organ Competition and Festival, followed by a return to the Oundle Festival. Mr. Higgs has given master classes and lectures for many important sacred music conferences of various denominational organizations, including Montreat, Evergreen, St. Olaf, and Pacific School of Religion. He has also given master classes for many colleges and universities, and for chapters of the American Guild of Organists nationwide. His performances for professional colleagues include two national and seven regional conventions of the AGO, as well as national conventions of the American Pipe Organ Builders Association and the Organ Historical Society.

David Higgs has performed with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the vocal ensemble Chanticleer, the Empire Brass, and many others. He made his orchestra debut with the San Francisco Symphony in 1987, and has since appeared with them regularly as soloist, ensemble player, lecturer and organist with the Symphony Chorus. Since 1988 he has played annual Christmas recitals to capacity audiences at San Francisco's Davies Symphony Hall.

A native of New York City, Mr. Higgs held his first position as a church organist at age ten. As a teenager he toured with several rock/gospel/soul-music groups as keyboardist and singer. He earned the Bachelor and Master of Music degrees at the Manhattan School of Music, where he was appointed to the faculty upon graduation, and the Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music. His teachers have included Claire Coci, Peter Hurford, Russell Saunders and Frederick Swann. In New York City he was Director of Music and Organist at Park Avenue Christian Church, and later, Associate Organist of The Riverside Church where he also conducted the Riverside Choral Society. Until his appointment to Eastman in 1992 he was Director of Music and Organist at St. Mark's Episcopal Church and Director of Church Music Studies at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific Episcopal Seminary, both in Berkeley, California, and Organist/Choir Director at Temple Emanuel in San Francisco.

Mr. Higgs records for Delos International.

represented by
Karen McFarlane Artists, Inc.

PROGRAM

Fantasy and Fugue in G minor, BWV 542 Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

*Variations on "Mein Junges Leben
Hat Ein End"* Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck
(1562-1621)

Pièce Heroïque César Franck
(1822-1890)

Soliloquy David Conte
(b.1955)

*Free Fantasia on "O Zion, Haste"
and "How Firm a Foundation"* William Bolcom
(b.1938)

--intermission--

Sonate #1 in F Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy
Allegro moderato e serio
Adagio
Andante recitativo
Allegro assai vivace
(1809-1847)

Sweet Sixteenths: A Concert Rag for Organ William Albright
(1944-1998)

Prelude and Fugue on B-A-C-H Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)

A reception will be held in the Fireside Room
following the performance