

About the Artist

William Porter A native of the Midwest, William Porter began his musical studies first in piano and later in violin. His principal teachers have been Fenner Douglass, E. Alan Wood, and the historic instruments of the United States and Europe. He is currently professor of organ at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, where he also teaches Music Theory and Music History. He holds degrees from Oberlin College, where he taught from 1974 to 1986, and from Yale University, where he was director of music at Yale Divinity School. Known as a performer and teacher in the United States and in Europe, he is an acknowledged leader among organists working towards a recovery of a historical approach to musical performance, incorporating historical technical practice and improvisation. He has been a guest artist at the North German Organ Academy, the Italian Academy of Music for the Organ, the Göteborg International Organ Academy, and the National Convention of the American Guild of Organists. He is a co-founder of Affetti Musicali and of Musica Poetica. An active church musician, since 1985 he has been director of music at the Church of Saint John the Evangelist in Boston. He is a member of the Liturgy and Music Committee of the Diocese of Massachusetts and has led numerous conferences on church music, both in the United States and in Europe. He has recorded for the Gasparo, Proprius, and BMG Classics labels.

PROGRAM

Fantasia in C Minor (BWV deest) Johanbn SebastianBach
(1685-1750)

Fugue in C Minor (BWV 574) J. S. Bach

Chorales from the Neumeister Collection: J. S. Bach
Wir Christenleut (BWV 1090)
O Lamm Gottes unschuldig (BWV 1095)
Herzlich lieb hab ich dich, o Herr (BWV 1115)

Passacaglia (BWV 582) J. S. Bach

Variations on *Ontwaak, gij die slaapt* Klaas Bolt
(Hymn with six variations) (1927-1990)

Improvisation on a given theme