

About the Artist

James David Christie has been internationally acclaimed as one of the finest organists of his generation. He has performed throughout the world in solo concerts and with major symphony and period orchestras under such conductors as Kurt Masur, Klaus Tennstedt, Gunthur Schuller, Edo de Waart, Arthur Fielder, Colin Davis, Andrew Davis, Roger Norrington, Sir Simon Rattle, Philippe Herreweghe, Trevor Pinnock and many others. He has performed and recorded under Seiji Ozawa, Robert Craft, Andrew Parrott, Christopher Hogwood and Joshua Rifkin. He has premiered major contemporary works by Anton Heiller, Daniel Pinkham, Ned Rorem, Thea Musgrave, George Crumb, Ellen Taaffe Zwilich, Jean Langlais and P.D.Q. Bach (for the 100th anniversary of the Boston Symphony Pops with John Williams, conducting). He serves as Vice President and Chair of the Projects Committee of the New England Composers Recording Project. James David Christie is the Distinguished Artist-in-Residence at the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA, and serves on the faculties of Wellesley College and The Boston Conservatory. He served as organist for the Boston Symphony for twenty years and was Artistic Consultant and principal keyboardist of the Handel & Haydn Society, Boston, for ten years. In August of 2000, he was appointed Adjunct Professor of Organ at Boston University and stopped all free-lance orchestral activities to devote himself to solo concerts, orchestral solo appearances, chamber music collaborations, conducting and teaching. Recently, he was a Visiting Professor at the Paris Conservatory, the Vienna Conservatory, the Geneva Summer Organ Academy and the Krakow Academy of Music. In July of 2002, James David Christie was named Professor of Organ at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music

In August of 1979, James David Christie became the first American to win *First Prize* in the International Organ Competition in Bruges, Belgium; he was also the first person in the eighteen-year history of the competition to win both the *First Prize* and the *Prize of the Audience*. Since then, his students have been prizewinners in major international competitions in the United States, Canada, Europe, South Africa and Japan. He has served on juries for the American Guild of Organists, the Cambridge Society for Early Music Competition, International Organ Competitions in Bruges, Lausanne, Worcester, Speyer, Erfurt, Leipzig, Paris, St. Omer-Wasquehal, Dublin, Calgary, Dallas and numerous conservatory juries in France, Belgium and Canada. He is a regular member of the faculty of the McGill Summer Organ Academy in Montréal, Canada and appears annually as organist for the Northwest Bach Festival in Spokane, WA, Gunthur Schuller, Artistic Director and as harpsichordist/organist with the Mainly Mozart Festival in San Diego, CA, David Atherton, Music Director.

James David Christie received his degrees from the Oberlin Conservatory and the New England Conservatory with highest honors including election to Pi Kappa Lambda. At New England, he was awarded the prestigious Artist's Diploma and he was twice a winner of the Concerto Competition. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degree from the New England School of Law in 1980 for his outstanding contributions to the musical life of Boston. The New England Conservatory awarded him their Distinguished Alumni Award in 1996. He has traveled extensively throughout Europe studying historic instruments and doing research in musicology. His teachers include Byron Blackmore, David Boe, Yuko Hayashi, Bernard Lagacé, Marie-Claire Alain and Harald Vogel.