

# CONCERTS AT CHRIST CHURCH

a community outreach of historic Christ Church in Pelham, New York

Christ Church | 1415 Pelhamdale Ave Pelham Manor, NY 10803 | 914-738-5515, ext. 102 | [concerts@christchurchpelham.org](mailto:concerts@christchurchpelham.org)

## SPECIAL SERIES

with the

## WESTCHESTER CHAPTER

of the *American Guild of Organists*

presents



the 2021 "Rising Stars" recital

~ Jacob Gruss, Cecily DeMarco, & Eddie Zheng ~  
from the Juilliard studio of Paul Jacobs

Sunday, September 26, 2021 at 4:00 pm

[www.concertsatchristchurch.org](http://www.concertsatchristchurch.org)



# PROGRAM

*Jacob Gruss*

- Recessional, Op. 96, No. 4 William Mathias (1934-1992)
- Prélude, Fugue et Variation, Op. 18 César Franck (1822-1890)
- Fugue in Eb Major, "St. Anne," BWV 552 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

## Interval

*Cecily DeMarco*

- Alleluyas Simon Preston (b. 1938)
- from* Sonata No. 1 in E flat major, BWV 525 Johann Sebastian Bach  
I. Allegro,
- from* Symphonie gothique pour orgue, Op. 70 Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)  
II. Andante Sostenuto
- Sonata in C minor, Op. 65, No. 2 Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809-1847)

## Interval

*Eddie Zheng*

- from* 6 Studien in kanonischer Form, Op. 56 Robert Schumann (1810-1856)  
I. Nicht zu schnell  
IV. Innig
- Chorale: "O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde groß," BWV 622 Johann Sebastian Bach
- from* Organ Sonata in G Major, Op. 18 Edward Elgar (1857-1934)  
I. Allegro Maestoso

*Please join us for a reception in the garden to meet the artists.*

# ABOUT THE ARTISTS



**Jacob Gruss**, a native of Greensburg, Pennsylvania, is an incoming freshman at The Juilliard School for fall of 2021. He will study organ in the studio of world-renowned organist Paul Jacobs. Jacob has already earned recognition for studio and solo recitals through both the Seton Hill University Organ Department and the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. He enjoys the distinction of being the first organist ever to win the Westmoreland Symphony's Young Artist Competition and has received financial support for further study from the Pittsburgh Organ Academy Scholarship Fund and the prestigious, nationally recognized Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee Memorial Scholarship Fund. He served as Director of Music at Otterbein United Methodist Church in Greensburg, PA, as well as Assistant Organist at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish, where he also studied with organist and composer J. Christopher Pardini.

He was the 2020-21 Sacred Music Intern at St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Mt. Lebanon, PA, assisting Director of Music Chaz Bowers with rehearsals, creating support materials for choir and congregation, and playing at Mass. Mr. Gruss studied piano and music theory with Dr. Josie Merlino, and pursued study beyond his formal training, auditing courses in Organ Improvisation and Organ Literature, as well as attending Masterclasses with Dr. John Salverson, Dr. Caroline Robinson, Dr. Gordon Turk, and Dr. Charles Callahan. He is particularly grateful to his organ teacher Chaz Bowers, who, over the past four years provided unwavering support and encouragement and he is very excited to be named the Organ Scholar at Hitchcock Presbyterian Church in Scarsdale, working under Dr. John T King.

**Cecily DeMarco** was born and raised in Boca Raton, Florida. Cecily is currently pursuing a degree in Organ Performance at The Juilliard School as a student of Dr. Paul Jacobs. She began studying the organ at age thirteen with Samuel Metzger. Within her first year of study, Cecily provided organ music for the demanding music program at New Presbyterian Church (Wilton Manors). Shortly after, she became Organist at The Chapel at Edgewater Pointe in her hometown. Cecily also studied with Mark Jones at First Presbyterian Church ("The Pink Church" in Pompano Beach) and later, with Dr. Terry Yount at Saint Andrew's Conservatory (Sanford).



Cecily is the First Prize winner in both the New York chapter round and the Northeast regional final round of the 2021 Regional Competition for

# ABOUT THE ARTISTS, CONTINUED

Young Organists (RCYO). Cecily has performed across central and south-east Florida at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church (Fort Lauderdale), First Presbyterian Church ("The Pink Church" in Pompano Beach), and Saint Andrew's Chapel (Sanford). She has also recently given concerts in New York at Hitchcock Presbyterian (Scarsdale), St. Patrick's Cathedral (NYC), Church of St. Agnes (NYC), and at The Juilliard School (NYC).



**Eddie Zheng**, a native of New York City, is a BM/MM student of Paul Jacobs at the Juilliard School. He was the winner of the 2018 Albert Schweitzer Organ Competition, the 2019 Brooklyn AGO Organ Scholarship Competition, and the 2019 AGO Quimby Northeast Regional Competition. Eddie attended the Juilliard Pre-College division for two years, studying with Matthew Lewis.

In addition to having performed in cities throughout North America, such as New York (St. Patrick's Cathedral), New Haven (Church of the Redeemer), Montreal (St. James United), and Eugene, Oregon (First United Methodist Church), Eddie has performed in China at the National Centre for Performing Arts in Beijing, Beijing Concert Hall, and the Beijing Golden Sail Concert Hall. Eddie is currently Artist in Residence at the Saint Ignatius of Antioch Episcopal Church. He has also held positions as Organ Scholar at Hitchcock Presbyterian Church, Calvary Baptist Church, and Rye Presbyterian Church. When not playing organ, Eddie loves music production, cycling, and gardening.

## ABOUT THE AGO

The mission of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ.

The AGO is the national professional association serving the organ and choral music fields. The Guild serves approximately 14,700 members in approximately 300 chapters throughout the United States and abroad.

Founded in 1896 as both an educational and service organization, the Guild seeks to set and maintain high musical standards and to promote understanding and appreciation of all aspects of organ and choral music.

# ABOUT THE AGO, CONTINUED

Under the leadership of the National Council, a network of volunteer committees and officials at the regional, district, and local levels directs the activities of the Guild. The AGO National Headquarters is in New York City where a full time staff supports and coordinates publication, administration, and development activities of the organization. For purposes of administration and representation, the Guild is divided into seven geographical regions, and each chapter is assigned to one of them.

The purposes of the American Guild of Organists are:

- To advance the cause of organ and choral music, to increase their contributions to aesthetic and religious experiences, and to promote their understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment.
- To improve the proficiency of organists and choral conductors.
- To evaluate, by examination, attainments in organ playing, choral techniques, conducting, and the theory and general knowledge of music, and to grant certificates to those who pass such examinations at specified levels of attainment.
- To provide members with opportunities to meet for discussion of professional topics, and to pursue such other activities as contribute to the fulfillment of the purposes of the Guild.

The American Guild of Organists and the Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America (APOBA) share a mutually beneficial association, a collaboration that has existed since 1975. For several decades this relationship has been strengthened by financial contributions from APOBA and its members in support of the AGO and its Pipe Organ Encounters (POE) program. The AGO has responded with generous provisions for bringing news from APOBA and its members to the organ public.

Guild sponsored activities include a series of examinations for professional certification as well as programs and an extensive list of publications, CDs, DVDs, and learning resources for all levels of interest. The Guild sponsors competitions in organ performance and improvisation and in organ and choral composition. National and regional conventions held in alternate years, present the finest performers. *The American Organist* magazine, published monthly by the AGO, is the most widely read journal devoted to organ and choral music in the world.

At the founding of the Westchester County Chapter, interested organists in the area met in Christ Church, Bronxville to conduct the organizational meeting on January 24, 1951 with Robert Owen as host. The first official meeting of the Chapter was held on June 24, 1951, with our first Dean, Dr. Henry F. Seibert presiding.

# ABOUT CONCERTS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Concerts at Christ Church is a community outreach of historic Christ Church in Pelham, New York. Since 2003, this series has brought affordable, quality musical performances to the warm and rich acoustical environment of our 1843 Gothic Revival church, drawing appreciative audiences from throughout the surrounding community and the greater New York City metropolitan area.

In the 2019-2020 season, Concerts at Christ Church welcomed the arrival of the new Jack Hennigan Memorial organ, the gift of Martin Nash, which was built by the organbuilders Juget-Sinclair Facteurs d'orgues of Montreal. The organ's installation was completed in 2019, and our 2019-2020 season was crowned by a marvelous dedicatory recital by the renowned titular organist of Paris's St. Sulpice Church, Daniel Roth, before the COVID-19 shutdowns in the State of New York abruptly canceled the remaining concerts of the season.

In keeping with our mission to provide quality, affordable performances in this beautiful historic space, Concerts at Christ Church relies on the income from ticket sales and the generous contributions of music lovers in the community for funding. We look forward to the day when we can safely resume bringing these outstanding concerts to capacity audiences in our Pelham Community. In the meantime, your contributions to this effort are appreciated.

Contributors are listed in each of our concert programs throughout the next season at the following levels: Cherubim (\$1000+), Archangels (\$500-\$999), Angels (\$250-499), Friends (\$100-\$249). Thank you for your generosity!

If you would like to volunteer to assist with the concert series in any capacity (our ushers, box office staff, reception coordinators, etc. are all volunteers) or if you would like to sing in the chorus for our Choral Masterworks concerts, please speak to Jeffrey Hoffman at the concert reception, phone him on 914-738-5515, ext. 102, or email [jeffrey@christchurchpelham.org](mailto:jeffrey@christchurchpelham.org).

## SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to Margaret Young for production assistance and for coordinating our reception, to our volunteers Linda and Ralph Gerra, Margo and John Hastings, Didi Hayduk, Carol and Erik Ipsen, and Sara Weeks for their assistance in welcoming our audience to Christ Church, and most especially to Dr. John T. King of Hitchcock Presbyterian Church in Scarsdale for coordinating the young artists who perform today.

# JUGET-SINCLAIR, OPUS 51 (2019)

## STOP LIST

2 Manuals | Pedal – 33 Stops

### Grand-Orgue

Bourdon 16'  
Montre 8'  
Bourdon 8'  
Flûte Harmonique 8'  
Salicional 8'  
Prestant 4'  
Flûte Douce 4'  
Doublette 2'  
Fourniture V (V with 16' plenum)  
Cornet V (Tenor f)  
Trompette 8'  
Cromorne 8'

### Récit expressif

Principal Amabile 8'  
Bourdon 8'  
Viole de Gambe 8'  
Voix Céleste 8'  
Principal 4'  
Flûte Octaviant 4'  
Nazard 2 2/3'  
Piccolo 2'  
Tierce 1 3/5'  
Plein-jeu IV  
Basson 16'  
Basson-Hautbois 8'  
Trompette 8'  
Clairon 4'

### Pédale

Principal 16'  
Soubasse 16'  
Bourdon 8' (ext. S16')  
Principal 8' (ext. P16')  
Violoncelle 8'  
Prestant 4' (ext. P16)  
Flûte 4'  
Trombone 16'  
Trompette 8'

II/I - I/P - II/P - II/P4'  
Tremblant Récit  
Tremblant Grand-Orgue

### General Specifications

Detached Console  
61 note keyboards  
32 note AGO pedalboard  
Multi-level electronic combination action  
400 memory levels  
10 general pistons  
6 divisional pistons per division  
Sequencer

# ABOUT JUGET-SINCLAIR, OP. 51

The **Jack Hennigan Memorial pipe organ** was given in memory of one of this parish's long-serving organist & choirmasters by his partner, Martin Nash. Dr. Hennigan was a Juilliard and Yale School of Music alumnus and was a pedagogue, lecturer, and columnist for *The American Organist* in addition to his work at Christ Church. He died in 2007.

Built by the Montreal firm Juget-Sinclair Facteurs d'orgues, the organ centers on a French aesthetic, adapted to the North American context.

**The visual design** of the instrument was conceived to emphasize verticality. This is why the five main pipes of the 16' pedal Principal (7-11) form the backbone of the concept. On each side of the case, the subdivision of the pipe flats arouses visual excitement, as much by the use of small pipes as by the density of decorations and molding. The lateral pipe flats, whose starting point is lower, reinforce the central element, thus creating verticality within the whole. The zimbelstern star, gilded with 22K gold leaf, illuminates the façade by referring to the stained-glass window by William Jay Bolton, *The Adoration of the Magi*, (1843).

**The casework and console** are in quarter-sawn white oak, stained and oiled. The music rack is made with myrtle veneer enhanced with ebony inlays. The keyboards are covered with bone and sharps are in solid ebony. The stop knobs are turned in black walnut and the stop labels are in porcelain. According to our practice, the large wooden pipes, frames, bellows, and windchests are mostly made of poplar and white oak. Most of the mechanical parts are in beech and the trackers are in carbon fiber. The metal pipes are made using three different alloys: stopped pipes and flute mutations are 98% lead, reeds and Récit principals are 52% tin, while the façade pipes, the Grand -Orgue plenum, the gambas and salicionals are 82% tin.

**The Grand-Orgue division** is built on a 16' Plein-jeu. If an 8' Plenum is registered, the low rank of the Fourniture V (2 2/3'-5 1/3') will be automatically removed. The breaks in the Fourniture are on the C's to favour clarity in polyphonic music. The G-O has the four typical 8' foundation stops of the French symphonic organ. These four stops are complementary in strength and timbre and can blend with each other. The Montre is rich and generous and the trebles do not lose their intensity. The Flûte harmonique is the most ascending stop of the organ; it's a self-accompanying stop. The delicate Salicional brings richness when mixed with other 8' stops while the Bourdon brings depth. The Bourdons 16' and 8' and the 4' Flûte douce have chimneys. The Cornet V has two main roles: it can be considered a solo stop, and in the tutti, it compensates for the natural loss of power of the reed stops in the trebles. The G-O 8' Trompette is uninhibited without being vulgar, and brings power to the whole organ. The Cromorne is in the French tradition, but in the fashion of the 19th

# ABOUT JUGET-SINCLAIR, OP. 51, CONTINUED

century; it is rounder and warmer than its 18th century predecessor. This therefore makes a fairly versatile stop that can be used successfully in Baroque, Romantic, or Contemporary music. The Trompette is constructed with Bertounèche type shallots and the Cromorne with slightly conical shallots in the bass and cylindrical shallots in the trebles.

**The Récit Expressif division** is a great 16' symphonic swell and has some of the most colorful stops of the organ. A secondary 8' Plenum is present to be able to dialogue with the Grand-Orgue. The breaks of the swell Plein-jeu are on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th F so as not to coincide with those of the G-O. The gambas have the narrowest scales of the organ. They bring clarity to the foundations of the whole organ and allow the Voix-céleste to be sparkling. The mutations are cylindrical and fluty accord-



ing to French tradition. The Trompette and Clairon have harmonic trebles which favors their presence in the church. Bertounèche reeds were used for Trompette and tear-drop shallots for Bassons. The swell shades system enables the box to be opened completely, giving the most presence to the sound. This opening system also provides greater control and a better dynamic range between open and closed box. The full swell can literally disappear completely behind the G-O foundations when the box is closed.

**The Pédale division** is based on a 16' Principal. It has a variety of foundations covering the principal, flute, and gamba families. The Violoncelle 8' is a chameleon stop that blends with the Principal as well as with the Bourdon. The 4' Flûte is strong enough to allow it to be played solo. German-style plated shallots have been used for the 16' Trombone and 8' Trompette to allow these stops to be more versatile than typical French reeds. Although the Trombone is powerful enough to support the whole organ, it is much rounder than a Bombarde and it is balanced with the large Plenum and Full Swell to support the accompaniment of large hymns. The 8' Trompette can be easily included in a Germanic Plenum to reinforce the contrapuntal lines.

- adapted from *The Making of Opus 51* by Robin Côté, President, Juget-Sinclair Facteurs d'orgues



# AGO WESTCHESTER CHAPTER

## Dean

Tyrell Lundmann

## Sub-Dean

Christopher Fasulo

## Secretary

Karen Longwell

## Registrar/Treasurer

Kevin Walsh

## Directors

### Class of 2022

Richard Coffey  
Christine Johanssen

### Class of 2023

Alla Borzova  
John Lettieri

### Class of 2024

Garrett Artman  
Jeffrey Hoffman

**AGO Certification and Education:** Dr. Robert A. Chase

**Newsletter Editor:** Terence J. Flanagan

**Chaplain:** TBD

## Chapter Coordinators

**Historian:** Dr. Robert A. Chase

**Membership:** Joyce Gardner

**Acting Placement / Substitutes:** Kevin Walsh, temporary

**Publicity:** TBD

**Webmaster:** Lisa Flanagan

# ABOUT CHRIST CHURCH

The Parish of Christ the Redeemer (known as Christ Church) is the Episcopal Church in Pelham, New York. The Episcopal Church is part of the Anglican Communion which is made up of 85 million people in over 165 countries and is the third largest Christian denomination in the world. Christ Church was founded in 1843 and is the first house of worship in Pelham. This building was consecrated on September 15, 1843, the original church building was expanded in 1910, and the sanctuary was reconstructed in 1968 to allow for the current, more intimate worship space. When you visit Christ Church please stop by the Garden of the Resurrection, which is located behind the church and is one of the most beautiful hidden outdoor spaces in Pelham.