

SAINT PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

CASAVANT FRÈRES, LTE. OPUS 968

1923 - 1989

GREAT Open Diapason 8 Hohl Flöte 8 Gemshorn 8 Octave 4	CHOIR Violin Diapason 8 Dulciana 8 Unda Maris (TC) (new) 8 Melodia 8 Octave (new) 4
Harmonic Flute 4 Fifteenth 2 Mixture III Tuba 8 Harp Chimes (console preparation)	Octave (new) 4 Flute d'amour 4 Doublette (new) 2 Clarinet 8 Tremelo
SWELL	SOLO (former ECHO manual)
Bourdon 16 Open Diapason 8 Gedackt 8 Viole de Gambe 8 Voix Celeste 8 Octave (ext. 0. D.) 8 Flauto traverso 4 Piccolo 2	Tuba (from Great) 8 Tuba (from Great) 4 Harp 8 Celesta (ext. Harp) 4 Chimes (prep.) PEDAL
Cornet (new pipes) III Trompette 8 (replaced Cornopean: 1961) Vox Humana 8 Oboe 8 Tremelo	Open Diapason 16 Bourdon 16 Gedackt (from Swell) 16 Octave (new pipes) 8 Flute (ext. Bourdon) 8 Super Octave (ext.) 4 Trombone 16

Couplers
Reversible Pistons
Adjustable Combination Action: solid-state, 8 mode memory

DAVID RAMSEY, ORGANIST

SUNDAY

JUNE 4, 1989

7:00 P.M.

Toccata

Rapsodie I

Eugene Gigout (1844-1925)

(Trois rapsodies sur des cantiques bretons, Opus 7)

(1835-1921)

Prelude, Fugue and Variation, Opus 18

César Franck (1822-1890)

Prelude and Fugue, A Minor (BWV 543)

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Played by Pietro Yon on the first Dedicatory Recital on May 7, 1923

HYMN: "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones"

Tune: Lasst uns erfreuen

Charles-Camille Saint-Saëns

Introduction and 4 Verses - Congregation standing

- Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
 Bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones,
 Raise the glad strain, Alleluia!
 Cry out, dominions, princedoms, powers,
 Virtues, archangels, angels' choirs,
 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
- O higher than the cherubim,
 More glorious than the seraphim,
 Lead their praises, Alleluia!
 Thou bearer of th'eternal Word,
 Most gracious, magnify the Lord,
 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
- 3. Respond, ye souls in endless rest, Ye patriarchs and prophets blest, Alleluia, Alleluia! Ye holy twelve, ye martyrs strong, All saints triumphant, raise the song: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
- 4. O friends, in gladness let us sing, Supernal anthems echoing, Alleluia, Alleluia! To God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit, Three in One, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Improvisation on Three Gregorian Themes



Salve Regina (Dominican version)

Adoro te Devote
• (text by Thomas Aguinas, OP)



Tu es Petrus (from the Feast of Peter and Paul)



Prelude on the Welsh Tune "Rhosymedre"

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Intermezzo, Organ Symphony 6

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

Tuba Tune

Norman Cocker (1889-1953)



David Ramsey is Associate Professor of Music and Organist-in-Residence at Rhodes College in Memphis. He is also Associate Conductor and the Accompanist for the Rhodes College Singers. Mr. Ramsey serves as the Director of Music and Organist at St. John's United Methodist Church. He has been the Stadium Organist for the Memphis professional baseball team since 1971.

Mr. Ramsey is currently Dean of the Memphis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and will be a featured recitalist for the Guild's regional convention here in Memphis this June. He received his masters in Sacred Music from Union Theological Seminary in New York City.

A reception in honor of Mr. Ramsey will follow the recital.

Saint Peter's was established in 1840 as the first Roman Catholic parish in West Tennessee. The original church building of brick was begun in 1842 and completed the next year at a cost of \$5,000. The present Norman Gothic edifice, designed by Patrick Charles Keely, was dedicated on January 17, 1858. Extensive restoration and renovation took place between 1981 and 1985.

The Dominican Order has served the parish since 1846, and much of the design in the church reflects this long association. Images of Dominican saints are found in the German-made stained glass windows above the high altar, the side altars, and in the choirloft. Portraits of more saints fill the clerestory spaces near the ceiling. The seal of the Order is reproduced in mosiac on the sanctuary floor with the Latin mottos:

Veritas (Truth) and Laudare, Benedicere et Praedicare (Praise, Bless and Preach).

The first pipe organ in St. Peter's dated from the 1860's. The New York builder, Henry Erben, had contracted to install an instrument in 1861. However, economic circumstances were affected by the Civil War, and the organ went to the Catholic cathedral in Dubuque, Iowa, instead. An article from the Memphis Bulletin dated December 11, 1864, describes the organ which Erben finally did construct for St. Peter's. Over 2,000 pipes were controlled by the three manuals and pedals. Powered by two hand-pumped bellows, the single wooden case was located in the center of the loft. Its cost: \$8,500.

This organ served the parish until its replacement by the present one. Built by the French Canadian firm of Casavant Frères, their Opus 968 was installed in 1923 at a cost of \$30,000. (Present replacement value is approximately \$375,000.) This second organ was dedicated with three days of concerts and religious ceremonies in May of 1923 with the famous organist-composer Pietro Yon as recitalist. The organ consisted of 34 ranks divided among four manuals and pedal, including an echo division attached on the wall of the east transept.

In 1983, after professional consultation, the defunct echo was judged unrestorable. It was removed to allow repair work to proceed on the church walls. Following three years of research, the church chose Casavant again – this time for restoration. When dismantled in July, 1988, less than one-third of the organ was functioning. The French-style console, chests, reservoirs, and the majority of pipes were returned to the Canadian factory. The original pipework was restored as nearly as practical. New ranks were added to enhance accompaniment of congregational singing. Of special interest is the restoration of the Great Tuba and the Pedal Trombone, ranks which had not been playable for over 20 years.

On April 4, 1989, re-installation began. Following weeks of reassembly and voicing, Opus 968 continues its tradition of service to St. Peter's as the parish enters its sesquicentennial year.

Through the years, many musicians have served as organists and choirmasters. They included, among others: Boniface Handwerker (d. 1855); Professor B. A. Whaples (d. 1866); Professor C. P. Winkler (1866-1909?); Walter W. Boutelle (1909-1912); Patrick O'Sullivan (1920's); Lillian Cunny Shannon (1930's); Mary O'Callaghan (1930's); Arthur F. Hays (served many years from the 1930's until the 50's); Malcolm Griffin; Peggy Laughter Pera; Bill Oberg (who also maintained and preserved the instrument as much as possible, enabling its eventual restoration); Walton W. Griffin (1977-1978) Dr. Carl Gilmer (1978-1980); Jane Scharding (1980 to present).

- compiled by Jane Scharding

Sources: church history written by Charles E. Pool in 1984. Musical research by Lamar King, Bruce R. Smedley, and Jane Scharding.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ORGAN RESTORATION COMMITTEE -

Reverend Donald Dvorak, OP - Pastor Jane Scharding - Organist/Choirmaster

Leo Arnoult Walton Griffin Charles Hardy Evelyn Meditz James Metz Linda Oberg Ross Richard Rossie Jim Roubion Penny Roubion Beanie Self

Ronald A. Belz - temporary storage space for dismantled organ

Ben and Yvonne D'Angelo - loan of Hammond organ during year of restoration

James Metz - electrical and lighting systems in organ chambers

Jane Scharding - recital program design and layout

The Hospitality Committee, Gordon Brown, chairman - reception after recital

Casavant Frères installation team:

David Marshall, area representative
Paul Jernigan Sean Sanders
Eric Marshall Michael Snoddy

Casavant Frères voicers: Michael Jacques and Roger Chicoigne

Madelon Evans, Parish Secretary - recording of Organ Fund donations and invaluable assistance in many areas

