

GREG BURNS © 1989



# The Centennial Organ

Music has always been central in First Baptist Church, with a deepening appreciation for its value in expressing praise and adoration within the worship experience. Along with the spoken Word, in preaching, the Word heard through music is given highest priority within First Baptist Church.

The new Centennial Organ now installed in the sanctuary is consistent in revealing this sense of priority. From the very beginning of plans for a Centennial Celebration, thoughts of a new organ have dominated the thinking of the church. And not just any organ! But the finest, both in quality and size, would be essential for the church.

The old instrument, known throughout the Southwest in 1907 as "The Great Organ" when it was originally installed in The White Temple (the previous site of First Baptist Church), was moved and installed in this sanctuary in 1912. Across the years, it ceased to be dependable, and every word of advice was not to rebuild, but to replace.

An organ committee was appointed to study and select a builder who could install the kind of instrument which would reflect the church's commitment to excellence in music. With Dr. Albert Travis, professor of organ at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, serving as consultant, many organs were heard by the committee, traveling both in state and around the country. Finally, Casavant Freres Limitee of St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, Canada was selected to build the Centennial Organ. Founded 109 years ago, Casavant has long been synonymous with the musical tradition of excellence.

The committee desired an instrument which contained the elements necessary for playing a wide range of music and, working with Casavant's Donald Corbett and Jean-Louis Coignet, an instrument was designed with the choice of stops and voicing to reflect this goal. While built in the classical French tradition, the organ sounds equally at home in Bach or in contemporary music.

Casavant and the committee agreed the original stenciled facade pipes should remain, and they were shipped to the factory for complete restoration, and returned to the sanctuary. They currently contain no speaking pipes.

The four-manual console is constructed of oak. The manual natural keys are ebony, with manual and pedal sharps of rosewood, manual sharps with ivory caps. Stops, intermanual couplers and combination thumb pistons are of rosewood. The instrument clearly has the richness of color, clarity and definition consistent with other Casavant organs heard by the committee.

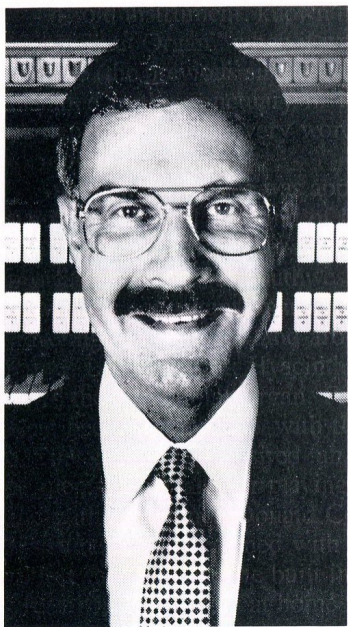
At the heart of the First Baptist Church tradition is the deep desire to glorify God through worship. To that end, this organ is dedicated.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Oklahoma City Casavant Organ, Opus 3658, 1989, IV, EP

GRAND ORGUE		POSITIF	
32	Contre Bourdon	16	Quintaton
16	Violonbasse	8	Montre
16	Bourdon	8	Voce Umana
8	Montre	8	Bourdon
8	Violon	4	Prestant
8	Flûte Harmonique	4	Flûte à Fuseau
8	Melodia	2 2/3	Nazard
8	Flûte à Cheminée	2	Quarte de Nazard
5 1/3	Gros Nazard	1 3/5	Tierce
4	Prestant	IV	Fourniture
4	Flûte Ouverte	III	Cymbale
3 1/5	Grosse Tierce	8	Trompette
2	Doublette	8	Cromorne
V	Cornet	4	Chalumeau
II-IV	Grande Fourniture		Zimbelstern
V	Fourniture		Tremblant
16	Bombarde	CHOEUR	
8	Trompette	16	Bourdon Doux
4	Clairon	8	Salicional
	Chimes	8	Unda Maris
		8	Cor de Nuit
		8	Flûtes Célestes II
		4	Salicet
		4	Flûte à Cheminée
		2	Violine
		1 1/3	Larigot
		II	Sesquialtera
		III	Fourniture
		8	Clarinete
			Tremblant
		SOLO	
		8	Flûte Double
		8	Viola Pomposa
		8	Viola Céleste
		8	Clarabella
		8	Flûte Céleste
		4	Flûte de Concert
			Tremblant
		16	Bombarde Royale
		8	Trompette Royale
		4	Clairon Royal
		PEDALE	
32	Soubasse (ICMI Electronic)	4	Flûte Ouverte
32	Contre Bourdon (ICMI Electronic)	4	Cor de Nuit (Ch)
16	Contrebasse	2	Flûte Ouverte
16	Soubasse	III	Théorbe
16	Violonbasse (GO)	V	Mixture
16	Bourdon à Cheminée (GO)	32	Contre Bombarde
16	Contre Gambe (Réc)	32	Contre Basson (Réc)
16	Bourdon Doux (Ch)	16	Bombarde
8	Octavebasse	16	Basson (Réc)
8	Violon (GO)	8	Trompette
8	Flûte à Cheminée (GO)	8	Baryton (Réc)
8	Cor de Nuit (Ch)	4	Clairon
4	Octave	4	Soprano (Réc)



# Dedicatory Concert Series — 1989



## FREDERICK SWANN

**Tuesday, April 18 — 8 p.m.**

Director of Music and Organist of The Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, California, Frederick Swann is the most visible organist in the world today. The Crystal Cathedral's morning services are taped for television and seen as "The Hour of Power" by more than 5 million viewers each week.

Prior to his present position, Mr. Swann was organist at the prestigious Riverside Church in New York City for 25 years, as well as Chairman of the Organ Department for the Manhattan School of Music. He is active in the American Guild of Organists, serving on the Editorial Supervisory Board of its official magazine, *The American Organist*.

He has played recitals in the major churches and cathedrals of Europe and North America, and is widely known for dedications of new instruments. Mr. Swann's compositions and recordings have assisted in making his name known throughout the music world.



## ALBERT L. TRAVIS

**Sunday, July 9 — 7 p.m.**

Professor of Organ at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas since 1977, Al Travis' professional activities range from organ recitals, workshops and hymn festivals to acting as organ consultant — in which capacity he served with First Baptist Church's Centennial Projects Committee when it began considering the replacement of the pipe organ in 1986.

Dr. Travis holds degrees from Oklahoma Baptist University, Syracuse University and the University of Michigan, and has studied with such eminent teachers of organ as Helmut Walcha, Gerre Hancock, Paul Manz and Russell Saunders.

A composer and arranger of organ music, he is a member of the American Guild of Organists, Southern Baptist Convention Church Music Conference and the Hymn Society of America, and serves as organist for the Broadway Baptist Church of Fort Worth.



## MONA PREUSS

**Sunday, May 21 — 7 p.m.**

Organist for First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City since 1977, Mona Preuss uses her considerable and varied musical gifts beyond those responsibilities to include direction of the adult handbell choir and working in the children's choir program of the church.

Mrs. Preuss extends her ministry into the community through civic and national music organizations such as the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Symphony Orchestra, Women's Committee of the Oklahoma Symphony Orchestra (past president), the American Guild of Organists, Sigma Alpha Iota and Pi Kappa Lambda.

She has earned degrees from the noted schools of music of both Oklahoma Baptist University (Bachelor of Music) and Indiana University (Master of Music), and has studied with such outstanding teachers as Virginia Reese, George Wilson, Wilma Jensen and Antone Godding.



## JOHN C. CAMPBELL

**Sunday, August 13 — 7 p.m.**

John Campbell is Head of the Department of Applied Music, Professor of Organ and Church Music and University Organist at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas.

Dr. Campbell began playing the organ in church at age 13, though he received his first formal organ lessons as a student of Dr. T.W. Dean at Hardin-Simmons. While a student of Mildred Andrews Boggess at the University of Oklahoma, he served as organist of First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City (1963-65). He received the D.M.A. degree from the Eastman School of Music, where he was a student of Russell Saunders, and has studied with some of West Germany's finest organist under a grant from that country's government.

He was awarded the Performer's Certificate in Organ from the Eastman School, and has been heard in solo recitals throughout the United States and West Germany.

Receptions for the organists will be held in the Church Parlor immediately following each concert.



# **First Baptist Church**

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Dr. Gene Garrison, Pastor

# **Casavant Freres, Limitee**

C.P. 38

St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, Canada J2S 7B2

## **Centennial Steering Committee**

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Gerald Archambault

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Dr. Richard Clay

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Phil Dean

Dr. Wilbur and Gladys Lewis

Don and Midge Donalson

Kathleen Nash

Dr. Hartwell Dunn

Dr. Don and Mona Preuss

Dr. Royice and Dian Everett

## **Organ Sub-Committee**

Mona Preuss, Chairperson

Jack Graves

Alan Hicks

Stan Pylant

## **Organ Consultant**

Dr. Albert L. Travis, Professor of Organ  
Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary