

CHRISTIAN LANE

Biography

Winner of the prestigious 2011 Canadian International Organ Competition, Christian Lane is one of America's most accomplished and versatile young organists.

Consistently acclaimed for his "driving energy and mature interpretation (*The American Organist*)," Mr. Lane also earned first prize in four major American organ competitions before reaching his twenty-first birthday: the 2000 Albert Schweitzer Organ Competition/USA, the 2001 American Guild of Organists (AGO) Region III Competition for Young Organists, the 2002 Augustana Arts/Reuter National Undergraduate Organ Competition, and the 2002 Arthur Poister National Organ Competition. In 2004, he earned both second prize and the audience prize in the AGO National Young Artist Competition (NYACOP), widely considered to be the preeminent organ-playing competition in the United States.

A 2004 graduate of the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, New York, Mr. Lane earned his Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance with highest distinction and served as undergraduate Marshall at the school's commencement exercises. He simultaneously completed the school's Diploma program in Sacred Music, gaining valuable insight about and experience within a wide spectrum of Christian worship traditions. At Eastman, his primary teacher and mentor was Professor David Higgs.

Subsequently, as a Robert Baker Scholar at the Yale Institute of Sacred Music and School of Music, Mr. Lane earned a Master of Music in Organ Performance in 2008. During his time at Yale, he was awarded two noteworthy prizes: the Charles Ives Prize for an outstanding organ major and the Mary Baker Prize for excellence in organ accompaniment. His primary lessons were with a foremost specialist in romantic organ performance, Professor Thomas Murray. In addition to intensive study

on the famed Newberry Organ in Woolsey Hall, his studies spanned the broad spectrum of organ repertoire – including performances on the university’s new Taylor & Boody organ in meantone temperament. At Yale, he was also a teaching fellow in music history and a secondary organ instructor, teaching undergraduate students for credit-earning lessons. He regularly performed as accompanist and continuo player with the university’s premier choral ensemble, the Yale *Schola Cantorum* under the direction of Simon Carrington; these collaborations included a tour of southern France and a recording of the Bach and Mendelssohn *Magnificats* released by NAXOS.

Passionate about commissioning new music and using the organ in collaborative settings, Mr. Lane regularly performs with internationally acclaimed soprano Jolle Greenleaf. Focusing on repertoire of the Renaissance and Baroque periods coupled with works from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, these collaborations have been well received in concerts across the United States. In the fall of 2007, the pair premiered a cycle by composer Nicholas White, *From Earth to Heaven*, featuring six songs based on medieval English texts. Notably, Mr. Lane also commissioned and premiered a work for organ and tenor voice and an organ prelude by composer Nico Muhly, one of America’s most noteworthy young composers, having recently completed a commission from the Metropolitan Opera.

As a soloist, Mr. Lane performs regularly throughout the United States and in Europe. Notable venues include St. Patrick’s Cathedral (New York), both St. Paul’s Cathedral and Westminster Abbey in London, and Washington National Cathedral. He was a featured performer at the 2005 AGO Region VI Convention in Colorado Springs and a “Rising Star” performer at the 2002 National AGO Convention in Philadelphia. The 2010-11 season featured the final gala concert on the monumental Fisk organ at Harvard before its removal, a tour of the United Kingdom, a week of teaching at the venerable *Oundle for Organists* program in England, and the recording of

three separate discs with Harvard choirs. In the coming year, he will release his first two solo recordings and will perform extensively in the United States and Canada, including a highlighted performance in conjunction with the 2012 National Convention of the American Guild of Organists.

Christian Lane is currently Associate University Organist and Choirmaster at Harvard University. There, he works with the University Choir and the Choral Fellows in Sunday services broadcast on public radio and at the university's daily services of Morning Prayers, a Harvard term-time tradition since 1636. In addition, Mr. Lane serves as primary teacher to Harvard organ students and is resident tutor in music at Harvard's Lowell House. He is a member of the Executive Committee for the Boston Chapter, American Guild of Organists, and directed a summer organ festival, including two concurrent *Pipe Organ Encounters*, on its behalf in 2011.

October 2011

JOLLE GREENLEAF **Biography**

Hailed as a "golden soprano" by the New York Times, Jolle Greenleaf has established herself as a leading specialist in 17th- and 18th-century vocal music. She completed her Master's degree at the Mannes College of Music, and soon after received the coveted Beebe Fellowship to study at The Royal Conservatory in The Hague, Netherlands.

Known for her expressiveness on stage, she is often engaged as a recitalist, and has performed a several roles including both Dido and Belinda in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, Amour and Céphise in Rameau's *Pygmalion*, Licori in Vivaldi's *La Fida Ninfa*, and the title role in Cavalli's *La Calisto*.

Ms. Greenleaf has appeared in over 90 Bach cantata and motet performances in New York and beyond, and she performed as soloist in Bach's *Trauer Ode* with Ton Koopman at Carnegie's

Zankel Hall. She is frequently heard in baroque masterworks including all of J.S. Bach's oratorios, John Blow's *Venus and Adonis*, Handel's *Alexander's Feast*, *Jephtha* and *Messiah*, Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610*, Purcell's *King Arthur* and *Fairy Queen* with many ensembles and orchestras such as Apollo's Fire, Clarion Music Society, Concert Royale, Folger Consort, Harvard Collegium, New York Collegium, NYS Baroque, Parthenia, Trinity Consort, and Vox Vocal Ensemble.

As the newly appointed artistic director of TENET (the new successor ensemble to the Tiffany Consort), she can be heard on a variety of virtuoso programs sung one voice to a part this season (www.tenetnyc.com). On CD, she can be heard on the Grammy nominated *O Magnum Mysterium* and on *In Sure and Certain Hope*. She also released a CD of songs by Charpentier with her own ensemble AsproDolce entitled *Songs of Love and Loss*.

This season she is spearheading a major performance called the Green Mountain Project in celebration of the 400th anniversary of Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610*. In addition, she will participate in a number of performances of the masterwork. Other highlights include *Tenebrae Lessons of Charpentier* at St. Thomas Church during Holy Week and performances of early Italian and Chinese music with the Folger Consort. She is voice teacher to choristers of Grace Church in New York City.

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