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JENS KORNDÖRFER **Biography**

German-born concert organist Dr. Jens Korndörfer has spent the last fourteen years in France, Japan, the United States and Canada. His multinational experience has enabled him to become intimately familiar with a wide range of different cultures, instruments and musical styles, allowing him to be equally at home in the interpretation of music by composers as different as Bach and Messiaen, Couperin and Reger, Franck and Ives. Additionally, he enjoys including transcriptions of orchestral, instrumental, and even film music in his programs, in order to bring new listeners to the pipe organ.

Dr. Korndörfer has performed to critical acclaim at many prestigious venues, including Westminster Abbey in London, Notre Dame Cathedral and St. Sulpice in Paris, Chapel Royal in Versailles, Moscow Cathedral, Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gedächtniskirche in Berlin, the Münster in Ulm, St. Thomas Church Fifth Avenue in New York, Cathedral-Basilica in St. Louis, St. James Cathedral in Toronto, Suntory Hall and Metropolitan Art Space in Tokyo, Kyoto Concert Hall, and Cultural Centre in Hong Kong.

He graduated with top honors from the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique in Paris (Diploma in Organ-Interpretation, class of Olivier Latry and Michel Bouvard), the Oberlin Conservatory (Artist Diploma, James David Christie), the Musikhochschule in Bayreuth (Church Music Diploma, Organ with Hartmut Leuschner, Piano with Michael Wessel) and McGill University in Montreal (Doctor of Music, Hans-Ola Ericsson, John Grew and William Porter).

In September 2005, he became the first German appointed organist in residence at the Concert Hall Kitara in Sapporo, Japan. During one year, he gave approximately fifty recitals in Sapporo and major venues throughout Japan and was in frequent demand as a teacher (organ studio, master classes, etc.). During his tenure there, he also recorded a solo-CD with works by Bach,

Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Reger, Liszt, Brahms and Wagner as well as a DVD presenting Kitara's organ, and concertized with orchestras (Sapporo Symphony Orchestra and the Filarmonica Arturo Toscanini under Lorin Maazel).

Dr. Korndörfer is a triple prize winner of the Canadian International Organ Competition, held in Montréal in 2008 and 2011. His talent has also been recognized with numerous scholarship awards from organizations such as the German Academic Exchange Service, the BACH-woche Ansbach, the Festival du Comminges, the Oberlin Conservatory (Dean's Scholarship), McGill-University (Max Stern Fellowship) and the Government of Quebec (Quebec Merit Scholarship).

Aside from his busy concert schedule on three continents, Dr. Korndörfer has taught in various settings (organ studio at the School of Fine Arts of FPC Atlanta, master classes in Japan, France and Germany, teaching assistant of Prof. Christie at the Oberlin Conservatory) and shared his knowledge and experience in presentations at conferences in Germany, the USA (AGO National Convention 2012), and Asia (Hong Kong Cultural Centre). He has also published several articles in English, French, German and Russian music journals, and served on the jury of the Quimby Competition held at the AGO Southeast Regional Convention in Charlotte, SC, in 2015.

In 2009, he recorded "Trumpet Ave Maria" together with Kazuhiro Maekawa (trumpet soloist with the Sapporo Symphony Orchestra) at the Harmony Hall in Fukui, Japan. Two years later, his second CD "Variations on America" was released by the ORGAN-label.

Since September 2012, Dr. Korndörfer has served as Director of Worship and Arts and Organist at First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, GA, which houses two magnificent instruments by Möller/Zimmer (IV/105) and Klop (II/15). He is also an instructor in organ and harpsichord at Agnes Scott College.

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