

THOMAS MURRAY **Biography**

Thomas Murray, concert organist and recording artist, is University Organist and Professor of Music at Yale University, where he has served on the faculty for 34 years and has taught many of the leading performers of a younger generation. Widely known for his interpretations of Romantic repertoire and orchestral transcriptions, his recordings are highly acclaimed. *High Fidelity* has credited him with "... consummate skill and artistry in treating the organ as a great orchestra" and *American Record Guide* said of his Elgar CD: "Murray's performance and his handling of the immense resources of the Woolsey Hall organ are beyond superlatives ... the shape of every phrase, the use of every color ... could not be more perfect."

Born in California in 1943, Murray studied with Clarence Mader at Occidental College. He has appeared in recitals and lectures at six national conventions of the A.G.O., which named him International Artist of the Year for 1986. As the recipient of this award he followed such luminaries as Marie-Claire Alain, Jean Guillou and Dame Gillian Weir. In 2003 he was named an honorary fellow of the Royal College of Organists in England, and in 2005 he was awarded the Gustave Stoeckel Award for excellence in teaching from the Yale University School of Music.

He has appeared in England, Japan, South America and Australia, as well as in most countries of continental Europe; his performances have included recitals for the International Congress of Organists in Cambridge (1987) and the Lahti Organ Festival in Finland, where he was soloist with the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Constantin Orbelian. As a soloist in North America he has performed with the Pittsburgh, Milwaukee, Houston and New Haven Symphony Orchestras, as well as the National Chamber Orchestra in Washington DC, the Yale Philharmonia and Yale Symphony Orchestra. He is Principal Organist and Artist in Residence at Christ Church, Episcopal, in New Haven, one of the notable Anglo-Catholic churches of North America.

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