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SCOTT DETTRA

Biography

Hailed as a “brilliant organist” (*Dallas Morning News*) and an “outstanding musician” (*The Diapason*), Scott Dettra is acclaimed as one of America’s leading concert organists. Mr. Dettra’s playing is praised for its clarity, rhythmic intensity, and musical elegance, and has been described by *The American Organist* as “music making of absolute authority and sophisticated expression.” He combines an active performance schedule with his post as Director of Music and Organist at the Church of the Incarnation in Dallas, where he leads a vibrant music ministry in one the country’s largest Episcopal parishes. He is also organist for The Crossing, a professional chamber choir based in Philadelphia. Prior to his appointment in Dallas, he was for five years Organist of Washington National Cathedral.

Recent and upcoming performances include appearances in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston, Washington, Atlanta, Houston, San Diego, Phoenix, Kansas City, Barbados, Canada, and Germany. Festival appearances include the Lincoln Center Festival, the Carmel Bach Festival, the Arizona Bach Festival, the Bermuda Festival of the Performing Arts, and the Piccolo Spoleto Festival. He has been a featured performer at national conventions of the American Guild of Organists, the Association of Anglican Musicians, and the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians, and is in demand as a clinician and adjudicator for master classes, workshops, and competitions.

Mr. Dettra is featured on many compact disc recordings, including *Majestus* (Loft), recorded at Washington National Cathedral, and *Tongues of Fire* (Pro Organo), recorded on the 325-rank instrument at West Point’s Cadet Chapel. In addition to commercial recordings,

his performances have been broadcast numerous times on such radio programs as American Public Media's *Pipedreams* and *Performance Today*, the BBC's *Choral Evensong*, and *The New York Philharmonic This Week*.

An accomplished choral conductor, Mr. Dettra's choirs have been featured on national radio broadcasts in the United States and the United Kingdom, and at conventions of the American Guild of Organists. He has prepared choirs for performances with such ensembles as the National Symphony Orchestra, the Juilliard Orchestra, and the Dave Brubeck Quartet, and has also led and taught at several courses for the Royal School of Church Music.

A native of Wilmington, Delaware, Mr. Dettra began piano study at age three and organ study at age eight as a student of his father, Lee Dettra, holding his first church organist position at the age of nine. Mr. Dettra holds two degrees from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, where he was a student of Joan Lippincott, and has also studied organ and jazz piano at Manhattan School of Music.

In addition to Washington National Cathedral, he has previously held positions as Associate Music Director of the Washington Bach Consort, Associate Conductor of Washington's Cathedral Choral Society, Accompanist of the American Boychoir, and church positions at St. Paul's, K Street in Washington; St. Mark's, Locust Street in Philadelphia; and Trinity Church, Princeton. He and his wife, Haley, reside in Dallas with their daughter.

www.scottdettra.com

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