

## **ALCEE CHRISS, III**

### **Biography**

Winner of the 2017 Canadian International Organ Competition and Firmin Swinnen Silver Medalist at the 2016 Longwood Gardens International Organ Competition, Alcee Chriss III has been celebrated for his “grace, skill and abundant proficiency” by the Journal Assist News, Albuquerque. And of his prize-winning performance at the Longwood Gardens Competition, Choir and Organ Magazine declared, “Chriss stole the show.” Mr. Chriss also won First Prize and Audience Prize in the Miami International Organ Competition (2014), the Fort Wayne National Organ Competition (2016), the Albert Schweitzer National Organ Competition in Wethersfield, CT (2013), and the Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists in Austin, TX (2013).

Mr. Chriss has performed throughout the United States and France, and in 2014 was a featured “Rising Star” at the national convention of the American Guild of Organists in Boston. Recent and upcoming performances include the Meyerson Symphony Center (Dallas, TX), John F. Kennedy Center, Washington National Cathedral, Caruth Auditorium, and St. Olaf’s Catholic Church (Minneapolis MN), among others.

Alcee is currently pursuing a doctoral degree at McGill University where he studies with Hans-Ola Ericsson. He previously studied at Oberlin Conservatory of Music where he received the Master’s degree in historical keyboard and a Bachelor’s degree in Organ Performance. At Oberlin, he studied organ with James David Christie and Olivier Latry, improvisation with Marie-Louise Langlais, and harpsichord and continuo playing with Webb Wiggins and Hank Knox. He also received a grant from Oberlin’s 1835 fund to spend a month in France studying historic organs and repertoire.

Mr. Chriss is regularly featured at various organ festivals, including the Atlanta International Organ Festival, and he returned to France in April 2016 and November 2017 to perform solo recitals as a part of the Festival Myrelingues in Lyon. He also continues international volunteer work as the parrain of a music immersion course in Lyon’s Duchère district.

In addition to his organ and harpsichord performances, Alcee is also active as a conductor and jazz pianist.