

ALAN MORRISON
Press Notices

CONCERT REVIEWS

BIRMINGHAM, AL “ALAN MORRISON: A RIVETING ORGAN RECITAL, A FOND FAREWELL”

“Independent Presbyterian Church could not have chosen a better organist than Alan Morrison to pay a final tribute to its Aeolian-Skinner organ. Closing out the year’s November Organ Recital Series, Morrison explored the nooks and crannies of the aging instrument in ways that likely have never been discovered. As well as an exciting technical player, the professor from Curtis Institute in Philadelphia was visionary in his choice of colors and ability to shape music into lucid forms, and provided plenty of bravura when called for.”

“Morrison closed with two contrasting movements from Louis Vierne’s *Symphony No. 4*. The dark themes of ‘Romance’ unfolded with searching reverence, only to explode into a dizzying display of virtuosity in ‘Final.’ It made you want to hold onto the pews to keep your balance.”

Michael Huebner, The Birmingham News, 2010

CLEVELAND “ORGANIST PRODUCES A JOYFUL PERFORMANCE” – “... a rising young virtuoso of flawless technique and refined taste ... Playing most of his repertoire from memory, he communicated a sense of pleasure that lifted the music beyond the notes.”

The Plain Dealer

SALT LAKE CITY “Concert organist Alan Morrison knew the 4,000-plus pipes of the Eccles Memorial Organ in the Cathedral of the Madeleine like old friends. His way of combining colors and timbres made Sunday’s recital the highlight of the cathedral’s summer organ festival thus far.”

The Salt Lake Tribune

CHARLOTTE, NC “If more music lovers heard the king of instruments played the way [Morrison] did, more might believe it really deserves the nickname. Nimble and fearless, [Morrison] easily made Leo Sowerby’s *Pageant* and other virtuoso vehicles take flight.”

The Charlotte Observer

2002 AGO CONVENTION “Morrison’s performance was riveting, as was his entire recital ...”

“Masterful command of registration and a deep understanding of the work characterized Morrison’s playing of Duruflé’s *Suite, Opus 5*.”

The Diapason

“... a program of grand masterworks played with the surety of, well, a grand master ...”

The American Organist

RECORDING REVIEWS

The Aeolian-Skinner Organ of Saint Philip's Cathedral

"... Alan Morrison knows something about igniting audience passions. Without hesitation and throughout, Morrison's playing is consummate and dazzling ..."

Fanfare

"... Morrison's manual dexterity is more than admirable, it is spectacular. He has taken a remarkable piano technique and applied it to appropriate organ literature, coupled with a fine sense of organ sound. We look forward to further exemplary recordings."

The Diapason

Organ Power!

"... Alan Morrison possesses a technique that could chew holes through solid concrete – and sensitive musicianship to boot. There is a personal involvement with the music ..."

The Diapason

"... the performer, Alan Morrison, is very gifted. There is a sizzle in his allegros that is very inspiring."

Asbury Park Press

Live from Spivey Hall

"The playing is alert and intelligent ..."

Fanfare

The Schantz Organ of St. Luke's Presbyterian Church

"... Mr. Morrison plays with a maturity that belies his years and an unforced virtuosity that many a more experienced organist might envy ... his strengths are clarity, poetry, precision and coloristic sensitivity."

The Atlanta Journal

Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart

"Alan Morrison certainly has the measure of it in a program which does not waste time with trivia. Good solid core repertoire this, and played with a refreshing depth of interpretative insight. ... In the Reubke *Sonata* we have a magnificent performance – virtuoso in technique, musical in approach, glorious in sound. A most enjoyable disc."

Organists' Review