

JENS KORNDÖRFER

Biography

In August 2023, Dr. Jens Korndörfer was appointed Associate Professor of Organ at Baylor University in Texas. Previously, he served as Director of Worship and the Arts and Organist at First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta and directed the organ program at Georgia State University.

Praised as “a virtuoso in the grand Romantic tradition” who creates “performances that are deeply musically satisfying as well as exciting” (The American Organist), Korndörfer is regularly invited at the most prestigious venues and festivals around the world. Highlights of Korndörfer’s performance career include concerts at Davies Symphony Hall in San Francisco, Merrill Auditorium in Portland (ME), Duke University Chapel, the Cathedral-Basilica in St. Louis, the Montreal Bach Festival, the Cathedrals in Washington, Berlin, Paris, Salzburg, Oslo, and Moscow, Westminster Abbey in London, the Royal Chapel in Versailles, the Frauenkirche in Dresden, the Minster in Ulm, Suntory Hall and Metropolitan Art Space in Tokyo, Kyoto Concert Hall, and the Cultural Centre in Hong Kong.

Korndörfer’s repertoire reaches from the Renaissance to the 21st century, including transcriptions, and world premieres. Widely recognized as a “prodigious technician” (La Presse, Montreal), his “effortless and poetic playing” (Susan Landale) delight both organ aficionados and first-time visitors alike. In addition to frequently collaborating with other musicians, he has also performed with ensembles such as the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Sapporo Symphony Orchestra, and the Filarmonica Arturo Toscanini.

At First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta (2012-23), Korndörfer directed the renovation and revoicing of the Klais/Schlueter sanctuary organ (IV/112). He successfully rebranded and expanded FPC’s *Concerts @ First* series from 4 to 18 concerts per season, collaborated with major arts organizations in Atlanta, and raised awareness for minorities in the classical arts scene.

Passionate about forming the next generation of organists, Korndörfer taught first at Agnes Scott College (2014-19) and directed the organ program at Georgia State University (2017-23). He is frequently invited as guest speaker and clinician at universities, concert halls, and chapters of the American Guild of Organists. Korndörfer has released five CDs on major instruments in France, Japan, Canada, and the USA.

A top-honor graduate from the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique in Paris, the Oberlin Conservatory, the Musikhochschule in Bayreuth, and McGill University in Montreal, Korndörfer's teachers include Olivier Latry, Michel Bouvard, James David Christie, and Ludger Lohmann. In the 2005/06 season, he served as organist in residence at the Concert Hall *Kitara* in Sapporo, giving concerts all over Japan, teaching, and recording his first CD.

Korndörfer has won numerous prizes and awards, including from the *Canadian International Organ Competition*, the *German Academic Exchange Service*, the Oberlin Conservatory, and the Government of Quebec.

He is represented in North America by Karen McFarlane Artists. More information on Jens Korndörfer can be found at www.jenskorndoerfer.com.

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