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DOUGLAS CLEVELAND

Biography

Internationally acclaimed organist Douglas Cleveland launched his career after winning first prize in the American Guild of Organists National Young Artists Competition in Dallas. Since winning this prize, Douglas Cleveland has performed organ recitals in all fifty of the United States and has been invited to perform in such venues as Westminster Abbey, The Berlin Cathedral, Moscow Conservatory, Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris, St. Patrick's Cathedral in Melbourne and the Cathedral of Lausanne, Switzerland. He has performed in many of the worlds concert halls including the National Center for the Performing Arts in Beijing, Victoria Concert Hall in Singapore, and Minato Mirai Concert Hall in Yokohama, Japan.

Dr. Cleveland has performed with various reputable early music ensembles, including Paul Hillier's "Theatre of Voices." His performances with American symphony orchestras have included the Chicago Symphony, the Saint Louis Symphony, the Milwaukee Symphony and the National Symphony in Washington, DC., performing in the Washington National Cathedral. He has also appeared several times on the Seattle Symphony Organ Series at Benaroya Hall. He has appeared at several international festivals, including the Oregon Bach Festival, the Spoleto Festival, Festival Vancouver, the Moscow International Organ Festival, the International Organ Festival in Reykjavik, Iceland, and the Bergen International Music Festival in Bergen, Norway.

Many of Dr. Cleveland's performances have been broadcast on National Public Radio, the BBC and the Scandinavian Radio Network. He has recorded six CD's on the

Gothic and Loft labels, which have received critical acclaim — his most recent being “Douglas Cleveland Plays Rockefeller Chapel at the University of Chicago.”

He has performed at the American Guild of Organists National Conventions in Houston, Dallas, Denver, Kansas City and San Francisco. He has been a member of the jury of several organ competitions, including the AGO National Young Artists Competition, the Miami International Organ Competition and the Longwood Gardens International Organ Competition.

Dr. Cleveland has served on the faculties of St. Olaf College, Northwestern University and the University of Washington. For twelve years he served as Director of Music at Plymouth Church in Seattle, and most recently Director of Music at St. Thomas Medina Episcopal Church in Seattle and Musician in Residence at Temple De Hirsch Sinai in Seattle. In October of 2024 he was appointed Interim Organist and Director of Music at Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago.

Doug received his bachelor’s degree from the Eastman School of Music where he studied with Russell Saunders, a master’s degree from Indiana University studying with Larry Smith and Marilyn Keiser and a doctorate from the Graduate Theological Foundation where he completed his course work and final doctoral project at the University of Oxford School of Theology.

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