

MAXINE THÉVENOT

Musically sensitive...Brilliant... Virtuoso playing

Royal Canadian College of Organists

Canadian-born organist and choral conductor, Maxine Thévenot enjoys a distinguished international career performing throughout Europe, Great Britain, and North America, with a wide-ranging repertoire that includes contemporary works written especially for her. She is known as a consummate musician with an engaging performance style coupled with a flair for exciting programming.

Ms. Thévenot has received the Bachelor of Music in Music Education with distinction from the University of Saskatchewan, and the degrees, Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts in organ performance from the Manhattan School of Music, New York where she was twice-awarded the Bronson Ragan Award for 'most outstanding organist'. She also holds the Associate diplomas from the Royal Canadian College of Organists and the Royal Conservatory of Music. In December 2006, Dr. Thévenot was awarded an Honorary Fellowship by the National College of Music, London, UK for her services to music.

Maxine Thévenot has performed throughout North America and Europe at many prestigious churches, concert halls and festivals, including Westminster Abbey, UK; Salisbury Cathedral, UK; Canterbury Cathedral, UK; St. George's Chapel, Windsor, UK; St. Paul's Cathedral, London, UK; la Cathédrale de Notre Dame, Paris; Washington National Cathedral, Washington, D.C.; Saint Thomas Fifth Avenue, New York City; Princeton University Chapel, Princeton, New Jersey; Jack Singer Concert Hall, Calgary; la Basilique de Notre Dame du Cap, Montréal, and the music festivals of Bratislava, Budapest, Prague, and Vienna. She was the first woman to perform in the prestigious Stratford Summer Music Festival in Canada last summer.

In 2008, Ms. Thévenot will perform at St. John's Episcopal Cathedral, Denver; Emmanuel Episcopal, Chestertown, MD; give a lecture on Canadian Choral Music as part of the Santa Fe Desert Chorale Guest Speaker Series; give a lecture-recital on Canadian Organ Music at the Arnold Schoenberg Hall, UCLA, and perform in recital at Royce Hall, UCLA. She will perform on the International World Organ Day in Tucson, AZ as their featured artist and entertain their local AGO chapter with a presentation on her photography of pipe organs from around the world. Ms. Thevenot will return to her native country of Canada to perform on the acclaimed Toronto Organ Series in co-presentation with the Royal Canadian College of Organists in November.

In 2009, she will perform at England's Westminster Abbey, Westminster Cathedral, Oxford Town Hall; Notre Dame, Paris; Stanford University, Methuen Memorial Music Hall, Santa Fe and Albuquerque, New Mexico; and in Canada's Victoria, Montreal, and Ottawa.

She has been a featured performer at the opening night of the American Guild of Organists National Convention in Chicago (2006) and the Royal Canadian College of Organists National Conventions in Winnipeg (2004) and Calgary (1995). The recipient of several competition prizes and scholarships, Ms. Thévenot was unanimously awarded First Prize in the Canada Bach 2000 National Organ Competition. She has broadcast for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, National Public Radio,

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Pipedreams and has recorded three commercial compact discs: *The Seven Joys of Christmas*, Calgary Girls Choir; *Hearts Ascending*, Calgary Boys Choir; *Without Boundaries*, her début solo recording. In June 2008, Maxine will record her second CD on the Cathedral organ.

As a concerto soloist, Ms. Thévenot has played with numerous orchestras including performances with members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, New Mexico Symphony Orchestra, and the Adelphi University Orchestra. As a chamber musician she has performed with the UBS Verbier Orchestra together with Grammy award-winning soprano Renée Fleming and conductor/violinist Dimitri Sitkovetsky, Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Manhattan School of Music Symphony Orchestra. She has toured internationally with several renowned ensembles including the CBC award-winning Calgary Girls Choir.

Ms. Thévenot has recently premiered several works including, David Arcus (The Head that once was crowned with thorns, Cathedral Church of St. John, May, 2007); Judith Bingham (*The Morning Watch*, Cathedral Church of St. John, January 2007); Stephen Paulus (*New Every Morning is the Love*, Cathedral Church of St. John, May 2006); Mary Lynn Place Badarak (*Petite Suite*, Cathedral Church of St. John, March 2006); Malcolm Archer (*Missa Omnes Sancti*, Cathedral Church of St. John, February 2006); Iain Quinn (*Continuum*, Notre Dame, Paris, July 2005); Hayes Biggs (*Sicut Rosa*, Corpus Christi Church, New York, March 2005); Jenny Olivia Johnson (*Deux Images*, Washington National Cathedral, July 2003). She is also the dedicatée of works written by Hayes Biggs, Noel Goëmanne, Robert Lind, Iain Quinn, and Martin Stacey. In 2009, Maxine will present the world premiere a new choral work by Tarik O'Regan; a new solo organ work by Martin Stacey-*Les Yeux d'Intrigue*-at the Albuquerque-Santa Fe AGO Regional Convention; and a new solo organ work by Iain Quinn at the Seattle AGO Regional Convention in Victoria, B.C. In the early part of 2008, she gave the premiere of a newly commissioned choral work by New York composer Anthony Piccolo. She also gave the world premiere of Martin Stacey's *Totentanz* — a piece commissioned by Choir & Organ magazine, dedicated to her — at UCLA's Royce Hall and the UK premiere at St. Dominic's Priory, London. In November, 2008 she will give the Canadian premiere of *Totentanz* on Canada's largest pipe organ housed at Metropolitan United Church, Toronto.

An accomplished and respected conductor, Maxine Thévenot has directed ensembles across North America. She is the Founding Director of *Polyphony: Voices of New Mexico*, a chamber vocal ensemble based in Albuquerque, NM. Ms. Thévenot has served on the faculty at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City, where she was Founding Director of the 30-voice women's ensemble, *Concentus*. She has directed orchestral performances with members of the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra, in addition to performances of masses by Haydn, Mozart and Schubert, cantatas of J.S. Bach, and orchestral works of Copland and Telemann with musicians of The Juilliard School and the Manhattan School of Music. From 2003-2005 whilst at the Cathedral of the Incarnation, Garden City, NY, she was the Director of the Cathedral Girls Choir and the Schola Cantorum during which time the choir toured the UK with residencies at the Cathedrals in Edinburgh, Bristol and St. Albans.

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Since September 2005, Ms. Thévenot has served as the Associate Organist-Choir Director at the Cathedral Church of St. John in Albuquerque, New Mexico. In 2007 she toured with the Cathedral Choir of St. John, Albuquerque to sing residencies at St. George's Chapel, Windsor and Canterbury Cathedral. She has also held positions at the Cathedral of the Incarnation, Garden City, NY (Associate Organist & Choirmaster), Christ Church Episcopal, Manhasset, NY (Organist & Director of Music), Parkdale United Church, Calgary (Director of Music & Organist), the Anglican Cathedral Church of the Redeemer, Calgary (Associate Organist & Choirmaster), St. James Anglican Church, Saskatoon, (Director of Music & Organist), and St. John's Anglican Cathedral, Saskatoon, Canada (Organ Scholar).

In September 2006, Dr. Thévenot joined the faculty at the University of New Mexico where she is the newly-appointed Director of the 20-voice women's choral ensemble, *Las Cantantes*. Dr. Thevenot also lectures in music theory and music appreciation, and is a newly-appointed university chapel organist.

Dr. Thévenot has recently published two articles for *The American Organist* magazine and is a published photographer in issues of *The Organ* and *Choir and Organ* magazines. Dr. Thévenot has given lectures, workshops, and masterclasses, including presentations on Canadian Organ Music and Organ works of Mozart. She has adjudicated for regional choral festivals and competitions, presently serves as a member of the National Board of Examiners for the American Guild of Organists, and is a newly-appointed member to the Board of Professional Concerns for the Association of Anglican Musicians.

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