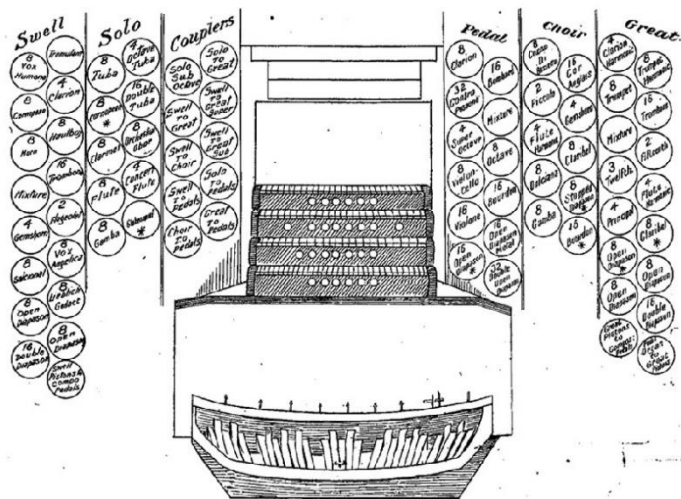


MUSIC in HERITAGE WEEK 2022

# The Wondrous Machine



15-19 August · 5.30pm · Admission Free  
Saint Patrick's Cathedral · Dublin

# RUSH HOUR RECITALS

*Monday 15 – Thursday 18 August • David Leigh*

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**Herbert Howells (1892-1993)**

Rhapsody No 4 “Bene psallite in vociferatione”

**Matthew Martin (b.1975)**

St Albans Triptych *i. Introduction with Dances ii. Lamento iii. Fugue*

**César Franck (1822-1890)**

Choral No 1 in E major

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**Dietrich Buxtehude (c1637- 1707)**

Praeludium in F sharp minor BuxWV 146

**Brian Brockless (1926-1995)**

Prelude, Toccata and Chaconne

**César Franck (1822-1890)**

Choral No 2 in B minor

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**César Franck (1822-1890)**

Fantasia in A major

**Jean Langlais (1908-91)**

Thème et Variations (Homage à Frescobaldi)

**Charles Tournemire (1870-1939)**

Cantilène Improvisée

**César Franck (1822-1890)**

Choral No 3 in A minor

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**César Franck (1822-1890)**

Pièce Heroïque

**Louis Vierne (1870-1937)**

Berceuse *from 24 Pièces en Style Libre*

**César Franck (1822-1890)**

Prière

**Joseph Jongen (1883-1968)**

Scherzetto

**Ch M Widor (1844-1937)**

Allegro vivace (1st mmt, Vième Symphonie)

# David Leigh

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David Leigh is the Organist and Assistant Master of the Music at Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, the National Cathedral of the Church of Ireland, where, in addition to presiding at the Willis organ, he directs the *Schola* (Senior Girls' Choir) and Lay Vicars Choral. He also pursues a busy freelance career as a conductor, keyboard player and concert organist. He directs chamber choir *The Gaudete Singers* and is Musical Director of the University of Dublin Choral Society and of the Culwick Choral Society, and is Artistic Director of the *Pipeworks* Festival. He plays regularly with both RTÉ Concert and National Symphony orchestras and with the Ulster Orchestra, and has appeared a number of times as conductor with the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, most recently in the opening concert of this year's Pipeworks Festival.

David was educated at Bolton School and Oxford, where he read music as organ scholar of Saint Peter's College and was Assisting Organist at Magdalen College. He was organ scholar successively at Blackburn and Lichfield Cathedrals before university, and moved to Dublin to take up his current position in January 1997. He won the Turpin and Durrant prizes in the Royal College of Organists' Fellowship examination at the age of

nineteen, and is a former student of David Sanger and of Nicolas Kynaston. As organist, his concert career has taken him to many prestigious venues in Ireland, England, Continental Europe and America, including Reykjavik, Iceland, Klagenfurt, Austria, Passau, Germany, Westminster Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, numerous other cathedrals and collegiate churches in the UK, and all of the major recital venues in Ireland, including the Ulster Hall, Galway Cathedral, Saint Michael's, Dun Laoghaire, the Pro Cathedral, and The National Concert Hall. He especially champions large-scale late nineteenth and twentieth century repertoire, having given the first performances in Ireland of a number of major works. He has also presented cycles of the complete symphonies of Louis Vierne, and of the complete Messiaen organ music, the latter jointly with Tristan Russcher. In June 2003 he became only the fifth person to perform in its entirety Francis Pott's monumental organ symphony *Christus*, which lasts for approximately two and a half hours, a performance which he repeated in 2004 at Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, and in the *Pipeworks* festival of 2011. In 2016 David was much involved in the marking of the centenary of the death of the German composer Max Reger, of whose music he has long been a noted interpreter: in addition to two landmark series in Saint Patrick's Cathedral presenting all of the composer's major organ works, he also performed the F sharp minor Variations in the National Concert Hall in May and the chorale fantasia *Alle menschen müssen sterben* in the Reger Centenary Series in Westminster Cathedral in July 2016. Concerto performances have included Escaich's First Organ Concerto with the National Symphony Orchestra in 2018. During the 2020-1 lockdowns David streamed more than 100 recitals from Saint Patrick's, at the rate of two per week.

David is broadcast regularly on RTE and BBC television and radio, has toured extensively in Ireland, the UK, most European countries and the USA, and features on numerous CD recordings as conductor, accompanist, continuo and orchestral keyboard player. He has also recorded five critically acclaimed solo organ CDs, and a disc of organ duets with friend and colleague Charles Harrison.

# RUSH HOUR RECITALS

*Friday 19 August • David Adams*

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## **Charles Tournemire (1870-1939)**

Choral Improvisation sur le Victimae Paschali laudes (1931)  
transcribed by Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

## **Gabriel Pierné (1863-1937)**

Prélude from Trois pièces Op. 29

## **Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47)**

Sonata no.5 Op. 65

- i. Andante
- ii. Andante con moto
- iii. Allegro maestoso

## **César Franck (1822-90)**

Final, Op. 21 from Six pièces pour grand orgue

## **David Adams**

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A former organ scholar of Saint Patrick's Cathedral and Trinity College Dublin, David Adams studied in Freiburg (with Ludwig Doerr) and Amsterdam (with Piet Kee and Ewald Kooiman), winning prizes at international competitions in Speyer, Lüneburg, Dublin and Bruges.

Since his début recital at Saint Paul's Cathedral, London, at the age of 16, he has performed throughout Ireland, the UK and Europe, and is a regular guest at major international festivals. He regularly appears with all the Irish orchestras

and is much in demand as an ensemble player in the fields of early and contemporary music. As a conductor he has worked with the Ulster

Orchestra, English Touring Opera, Opera Theatre Company, the Orchestra of St Cecilia and the Irish Baroque Orchestra. He has premiered many new works including numerous compositions written specially for him. In addition to solo organ CDs recorded on the organs of Trinity College and the National Concert Hall Dublin, he has recorded for Naxos, Black Box and Wergo.

David Adams has taught at conservatories in Freiburg, Berlin and The Hague, and at the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama and Trinity College Dublin, and now lectures at the Royal Irish Academy of Music. He gives masterclasses and lectures at home and abroad, and has been a juror for many national and international competitions. In 2007 he was awarded a PhD from the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam for his work on Max Reger and Karl Straube. David is organist of Christ Church Taney and St. Nahi's in Dublin.

## The Wondrous Machine

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In 1902 a new organ was built for the Cathedral incorporating some of the existing pipework, by Henry Willis and Sons, in a specially constructed chamber in the triforium above the north choir aisle. This was a major undertaking; flying buttresses similar to those on the south side of the choir were partly removed and the chamber was built on to the north side in keeping with the original architecture. Access was provided by a spiral staircase of marble, designed by Sir Thomas Drew. 'Father' Willis planned the new organ in consultation with Sir George Martin, organist of Saint Paul's Cathedral, London, where there is an earlier 'Father' Willis instrument. Willis's son Henry completed the job, distinguishing himself in his treatment of the powerful reed stops.

When the instrument was rebuilt in 1963, by J. Walker & Sons, little modification was made to the original design, but a good deal of upperwork was grafted on to the specifications. In line with the prevailing taste of the day, much of the original orchestral palette of the choir organ was displaced by mutation and mixture stops. The original tubular pneumatic action was replaced by electro-pneumatic action and a new console provided in the Walker house style of the time, which featured adjustable pistons via setterboard. This was upgraded in the 1980s to a solid state system. The original Willis console of the organ is preserved in the Cathedral as a memorial to George Hewson. Harrison & Harrison Ltd of Durham carried out some work in 1995, including cleaning of the instrument and revision of the mixture-work to bring it closer to Willis models, most especially the installation of a new tierce mixture on the Great, which replaced a somewhat shrill Walker Scharf dating from 1963.

Since the 1990s the organ has been in the care of Trevor Crowe, who is executing a phased programme of work to address both mechanical and tonal issues outstanding from the 1963 rebuild. This work has included the installation of new blowing plant (replacing blowers which dated from 1910!), work on the winding system, replacement of key and stop actions, upgrading of the electrical system and restoration of a number of ranks lost in previous rebuilds including the Swell Vox Humana & the Choir orchestral reeds as well as the addition of a new Nave division.

## **More from the Wondrous Machine.....**

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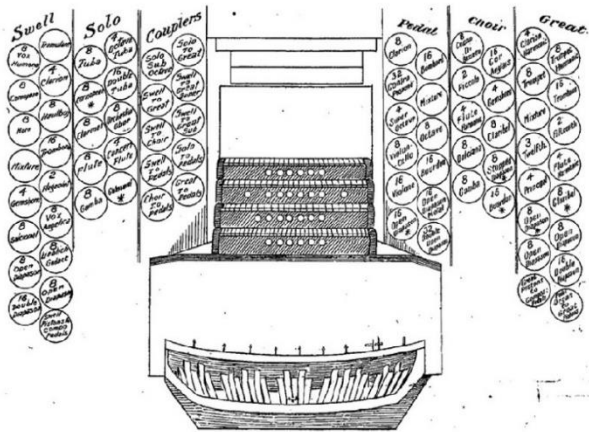
### **THE WONDROUS MACHINE** *After Dark*

Monday 31 October at 7.30pm (tickets from €5.00)

Join us this Halloween for another candlelit recital of suitably chilling music in aid of **BUMBLEANCE**, the children's ambulance service. Programme includes Bach's *Tocatta and Fugue in D minor* and Saint-Saens' *Danse Macabre*, alongside music from *Harry Potter*, *Ghostbusters*, *Pirates of the Caribbean* and a ghostly medley of classic 80's horror themes.

*Suitable for all ages, but not for the faint hearted!*

[www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/afterdark22](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/afterdark22)



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