



THE WORCESTER ORGAN CONCERT SERIES

WILL SHERWOOD, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



MECHANICS HALL
AN ACOUSTICAL MASTERPIECE

Celebrating 150 Years of the Hook Organ

MECHANICS HALL and the
WORCESTER CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
present

ABRAHAM ROSS, organist

AUGUST 12, 2015 - noon

Sonate II für Orgel (1937) Paul Hindemith (1895-1963)
I. Lebhaft
II. Ruhig bewegt

Eleven Chorale Preludes Op. 122 (posth.) Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
8. Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen
10. Herzlich tut mich verlangen
11. O Welt, ich muss dich lassen

Symphonie III, op. 28 Louis Vierne (1870-1937)
IV. Adagio

Hommage à Frescobaldi (1951) Jean Langlais (1907-1991)
VII: Thème et variations

Les Corps glorieux (1939) Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)
VI: Joie et clarté des Corps Glorieux

Grand Choeur en sol majeur (1875) Théodore Salomé (1834-1896)

MECHANICS HALL • 321 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608
508-752-5608 • www.mechanicshall.org

WORCESTER CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
PO Box 20208, Worcester, MA 01602 • www.WorcesterAGO.org

a b o u t t h e a r t i s t

ABRAHAM ROSS, of Holden, Maine, commenced his study of organ with Kevin Birch at age thirteen after playing piano and cello for eight years. He received scholarships from the Bangor chapter of the American Guild of Organists in 2007 and 2008 and the E. Power Biggs Fellowship from the Organ Historical Society to attend its national convention in 2011. At the age of fourteen, he was appointed organist at Grace United Methodist Church in Bangor and held that position until 2012. During this time, Abe appeared in master classes with organist Dana Robinson, cellist Alisa Weilerstein, and French organist and pedagogue Pierre Bardon.



Abe is the Class of 2016 Organ Scholar at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, where he studies under James David Christie. As Organ Scholar, he attends Holy Cross on a full tuition scholarship. He plays at weekly mass with the school's Schola Cantorum on the four-manual North German baroque organ by Taylor and Boody Organbuilders. Abe also studies cello as a secondary instrument, playing in various chamber ensembles at school. He has recently appeared in performances at NEC's Jordan Hall (Boston, MA), Mechanics Hall (Worcester), the Paris CRR Conservatory (France), and with the Boston Philharmonic Youth Orchestra in Mahler's Symphony No. 2 "Resurrection" in Symphony Hall (Boston). This spring, Abe traveled with the Holy Cross College Choir to Argentina as a section leader, assistant conductor, and accompanist. He performed with the choir of twenty fellow students in four concerts and several community outreach events in Buenos Aires and Córdoba, a tour which lasted ten days. He looks forward to further study at Holy Cross during his senior year, after which time he plans to pursue a graduate degree and a career in organ performance and liturgical music.

a b o u t t h e i n s t r u m e n t

American organ builders Elias and George Hook, brothers from Boston, constructed the 52-stop, 3,504-pipe instrument in 1864. It is the oldest unaltered four-keyboard pipe organ in the Western Hemisphere located at its installation site. Restored in 1982 and again in 2013, the Hook Organ is one of the most popular and respected organs in the United States. It has been featured numerous times on National Public Radio, performed in several recordings, and has been featured on television and in a major motion picture, as well as in a music video starring Michael Crawford, the original "Phantom of the Opera."

Next in the 2015 WORCESTER ORGAN CONCERT SERIES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, Noon, Worcester Organ Concert, Choirs of All Saints Worcester. Free

The Worcester Organ Concerts are presented by Mechanics Hall and the Worcester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists to showcase the magnificent 1864 Hook Organ - also known as *The Worcester Organ* - and talented organists and musical artists from New England and beyond. Programming includes organ performance, silent films and multimedia performances.