



THE WORCESTER ORGAN CONCERT SERIES

WILL SHERWOOD, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



MECHANICS HALL and the
WORCESTER CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
present

LEONARDO CIAMPA, organist

APRIL 12, 2017 - noon

Worcester Processional (world premiere) Leonardo Ciampa

Andantino (*Romance Victorienne*) Leonardo Ciampa
(American premiere)

Prelude & Fugue in F minor (BWV 534) J S Bach(1650-1785)

Three Chorale Preludes Johannes Brahms(1833-1897)
O Welt, ich muss dich lassen (Op. 122, No. 3)
Schmücke dich, O liebe Seele (Op. 122, No. 5)
O wie selig (Op. 122, No. 6)

Oh Shenandoah (trad. 1800 American Folk Song) arr. Ciampa

Sonata IV in B-flat (Op. 65, No. 4) Felix Mendelssohn(1809-1847)
Allegro con brio • Andante religioso • Allegretto • Allegro maestoso e vivace

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

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.

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



Born in 1971, composer/pianist/organist **LEONARDO CIAMPA** is acknowledged as a musician of supreme gifts and extraordinary versatility.

Ciampa is the founding director of the MetroWest Choral Artists (metrowestchoralartists.org) (since 2012) and Honorary Music Director (Maestro di Cappella Onorario) of the Basilica di Sant'Ubaldo in Gubbio, Italy (since 2015). He was artistic director of organ concerts at MIT (2009-2016).

As an organ recitalist, Ciampa has made a dozen European tours encompassing Italy, Austria, Germany, and Switzerland. He is particularly admired in Italy, where he has played in numerous international festivals (Festival Perosiano, Festival Biellese, Organi Storici della Valsesia, Le Voci della Città, Festival Organistico Lauretano, etc.).

Ciampa's compositions (which are considered "Neoromantic") include Suite Siciliana, Op. 145 (for two violins, piano and orchestra), commissioned by the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Boston to open their 25th anniversary season; The Annunciation, Op. 203 (cantata for chorus, soloists, and strings); the Kresge Organ Symphony, commissioned by MIT and premiered in Kresge Auditorium; a piano quintet (premiered by the Lavazza Chamber Ensemble); and Missa Pamphyliana, premiered at the Basilica di Sant'Ubaldo in Gubbio by the Cantores Beati Ubaldi (Renzo Menichetti, conductor).

As a pianist, Ciampa is particularly admired for his interpretations of Chopin, whose 200th birthday he commemorated in 2010 with six recitals at First Church in Boston.

An avid writer, Ciampa has written several books, including *The Twilight of Belcanto*, *Don Lorenzo Perosi* (the first English-language biography of that composer), and, most recently, *Gigli* (the first book on the great tenor in English in 56 years)

a b o u t t h e h o o k p i p e o r g a n

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."

2017 WORCESTER ORGAN CONCERT SERIES

Wednesday • August 2 Mark Mummert, organist, in concert

Wednesday • August 9 Worcester Organ Concert

Wednesday • November 29 "All That (Holiday) Jazz" - Hook Organ with WPI Jazz Ensemble, Rich Falco, dir.