

ROBERT NOEHREN

plays

MARCEL DUPRÉ

THE ROBERT TURNER ORGAN OF THE HISTORIC
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY



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NOEHREN PLAYS DUPRÉ

DE 1028
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- 1 Carillon (5:25)
- 2 Fileuse (3:39)
- 3 Prelude and Fugue in B Major (7:05)
- 4 Prelude and Fugue in F Minor (7:33)
- 5 Prelude and Fugue in G Minor (7:19)
- 6 In Dulci Jubilo (1:33)
- 7 Cortège et Litanie (5:21)

TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 38:25

Executive Producer: *Amelia S. Haygood*
Producer: *John Wright*
Recording Engineer: *Tim Housel*
Design: *Tri Arts, Inc.*

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Marcel Dupré (1886–1971) was known as one of the most famous organists of his day. His vast repertoire was renowned; he was the first person to perform the complete organ works of Bach from memory. By 1958 when he had reached the age of 63 he had played more than 2,000 recitals, many of them during extensive tours of the United States. The hallmarks of Dupré's artistry were his formidable technique and his free improvisation, an art which was firmly rooted in a rigorous knowledge of plainchant, counterpoint, harmony, and form. Not only did these improvisations constitute an important part of his recitals and his work as the organist at the church of St. Sulpice in Paris, but they were often the inspiration for many of his published works. He had begun composing at an early age; in 1914 he won the coveted *Grand Prix de Rome*. Indeed, Dupré's greatest contribution is as one of the most important composers for organ of the twentieth century.

Carillon is the fourth movement from a set of *Seven Pieces, Op. 27*, written during 1930. This work finds its inspiration in a long tradition among French organ composers for writing great pieces depicting the tolling of church bells. In his *Carillon* Dupré displays an exciting virtuoso style of writing, effectively exploiting the vast resources of the French cathedral organs.

In November, 1924 Dupré opened his third American tour with a recital in New York and presented for the first time a performance of his *Suite Bretonne, Op. 21*. Included in this suite was the second movement, **Fileuse** (spinner) a musical impression of the picturesque occupation of the women of Brittany. It shows the influence of the 19th century tradition of works in the form of études such as the "Spinning Song" of Mendelssohn and many other *moto perpetuo* pieces displaying technical virtuosity.

World War I had prevented Dupré from enjoying the benefits of the *Grand Prix de Rome*, which would have included a period of residence at the Villa Medici, the French Institute in Rome. Instead he turned his attention that summer to the composition of **Trois Préludes et Fugues, Op. 7**, which have become perhaps his most famous and which marked a new level of stylistic development in writing for the organ.

The lovely setting of **In Dulci Jubilo**, an old chorale tune, is one of a set of *Seventy-Nine Chorales, Op. 28* written by Dupré in 1932 as preparatory exercises for the study of the Bach chorale preludes.

During Dupré's first transcontinental tour of the United States in 1922 the **Cortège et Litanie**, inspired by an improvisation, began its interesting evolution. It first took form in a ballet suite for 11 instruments, but was later incorporated into the *Four Pieces for Piano, Op. 19*. American friends heard the work and urged him to transcribe it for organ solo and later for organ and orchestra. The theme of the *Cortège* a stately religious melody, introduces the work. This is followed by the ostinato figure of the *Litanie* which is repeated over and over in increasing complexity, until it is joined in a brilliant climax by a return of the *Cortège* theme. The *Cortège et Litanie* has found great appeal with audiences everywhere and probably remains Dupré's most popular work.

John Wright

Robert Noehren is one of America's best-known recitalists and recording artists and has to his credit more than forty LP's, covering more than 150 masterworks of organ literature. His early organ studies were with Lynnwood Farnam and Gaston Dethier, and he studied composition with Hindemith. From the late forties to the late seventies, he held the prestigious position of University Organist at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. From 1955 to 1979, he headed his own organ building firm, producing some twenty instruments during that time. He is one of very few American organists to have received the coveted *Grand Prix du Disque*.

ORGAN SPECIFICATIONS

GREAT

16	Spitzflöte
8	Prinzipal
8	Bordun
8	Flûte Harmonique
8	Spitzflöte
4	Oktave
4	Rohrflöte
4	Spitzflöte
2	Oktave
2	Spitzflöte
	Sesquialtera (II)
1 ¹ / ₃	Mixtur (III-V)
2 ² / ₃	Scharf (IV)
16	Fagot
8	Trompete
4	Klarine
	Tremulant

SWELL

16	Rohrbordun
8	Prinzipal
8	Rohrflöte
8	Viola de Gambe
8	Voix Celeste
8	Flauto Dolce
8	Flute Celeste (tc)
4	Oktave
4	Koppelflöte

3 ¹ / ₅	Grosse Terz
2 ² / ₃	Nasat
2	Oktave
1 ³ / ₅	Terz
1	Sifflöte
1 ¹ / ₃	Mixtur (III-V)
1 ¹ / ₃	Zimbel (III)
16	Basson/Hautbois
8	Trompette
8	Hautbois
8	Voix Humaine
4	Clairon
	Tremulant

POSITIV (Expressive)

8	Prinzipal
8	Gedackt
8	Dolce
8	Unda Maris (tc)
4	Oktave
4	Spillflöte
2 ² / ₃	Nasat
2	Oktave
2	Blockflöte
1 ³ / ₅	Terz
1 ¹ / ₃	Quintflöte
1	Mixtur (IV)
1 ¹ / ₂	Scharf (III)
16	Rankett

8	Trompette
8	Cromorne
4	Clairon
4	Oboe-Schalmei
	Tremulant

PEDAL

16	Prinzipal
16	Subbass
16	Rohrbordun (Swell)
16	Spitzflöte (Great)
10 ² / ₃	Quintflöte (Swell)
8	Prinzipal
8	Bassflöte
8	Spitzflöte (Great)
8	Rohrflöte (Swell)
4	Oktave
4	Flute
2	Flute
2	Mixtur (V)
32	Contre Basson (Swell)
16	Posaune
16	Basson (Swell)
16	Rankett (Positiv)
8	Trompete
8	Hautbois (Swell)
4	Klarine
4	Cromorne (Positiv)

OTHER ROBERT NOEHREN RECORDINGS ON DELOS

BUXTEHUDE: Organ Works, Noehren Organ, First Unitarian Church, San Francisco, California • *Preludes and Fugues in E Minor, A Minor, F-Sharp Minor, G Minor; Chorale Fantasia: Wie schon leuchtet der Morgenstern; Fugue in C Major (Gigue); Chorale Prelude: Ach Herr, mich armen Sunder; Chorale Prelude: Ich ruf zu Dir, Herr Jesu Christ; Prelude, Fugue and Chaconne* [DE 3023]

BACH: Masterworks for Organ, Rieger Organ, Pacific Union College, Angwin, California • *Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor, S. 565 / Erbarm' Dich Mein, O Herre Gott, S. 721 / Christ Lag in Todesbanden, S. 625 / Chorale-Partita, O Gott, Du Frommer Gott, S. 767 / Trio Sonata No. 5 in C Major, S. 529 / Prelude and Fugue in G Major, S. 541 / Fantasie and Fugue in C Minor, S. 537* [DE 3028]

ROBERT NOEHREN PREMIERES: D.F. Pilzecker Organ, Church of St. Jude, Detroit, Michigan • Widor: *Allegro from the Sixth Symphony for Organ, Op. 42* • Brahms: *Herzlich thut mich verlangen, Op. 122, No. 9; O wie selig seid ihr doch, ihr Frommen, Op. 122, No. 6* • Bach: *Prelude and Fugue in A Minor / Chorale* • Alain: *Variations on a Theme by Clement Jannequin* • Hindemith: *Sonata No. 1* • Karg-Elert: *Fuge, Kanzone und Epilog, Op. 85, No. 3* • Messiaen: *Dieu parmi nous (La Nativité du Seigneur, 1935)* [DE 3045]

COUPERIN: Mass for Parish Services, D. F. Pilzecker Organ, Church of St. Jude, Detroit, Michigan • *Messe à l'usage ordinaire des paroisses pour les fêtes solennelles / A la venue de Noël* [DE 3046]



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