

**The  
Eric Thompson  
Charitable Trust**

**for organists  
and organ music**

**Organ Recitals – October 2019  
Tuesdays 1.00 to 1.45 pm**



**The Guild Church of  
St Lawrence Jewry next Guildhall**

## The Eric Thompson Charitable Trust for Organists and Organ Music



Eric Thompson OBE

**The Eric Thompson Trust** was founded in 1993 to commemorate the life and work of the late Eric Thompson OBE.

Eric's interest lay in music administration and, after a period with Boosey & Hawkes, he joined the Arts Council and established himself as a highly regarded senior manager of the Council's various musical programmes.

Eric was always interested in the organ and took care to ensure that the instrument, its players and its repertoire were properly represented in the work of the Arts Council and in concerts arranged by the British Council.

After retiring he became Honorary Secretary of the Royal Philharmonic Society, where he continued to promote the organ and its music, and to support young organists.

The Trust's charitable objectives mirror Eric's interests. It provides grants to aspiring professional organists to attend master classes, summer schools, or lessons from a distinguished teacher outside regular study. Through the generosity of Flentrop Orgelbouw, an annual scholarship is also available for a young organist to stay at their Zaandam workshops, learn the rudiments of organ building and take lessons from leading Dutch organists on some of Holland's most famous instruments.

Since it was founded the Trust has supported over 100 young organists - many of whom now hold prestigious positions in cathedrals, colleges, churches and schools. The Trustees listed below meet twice a year to review applications and to advance the Trust's work:

Robin Jéquier (Chairman)

The Revd Canon Jeremy Davies  
Kathleen Duncan OBE  
Dame Glynne Evans DBE CMG  
David Graham

Colin Hamling (Clerk to the Trustees)  
Anne Marsden Thomas MBE  
Dinah Molloy Thompson  
David Titterington

To mark its 25th anniversary, The Eric Thompson Trust is campaigning to extend its reach in the field of organ music and raise awareness of its core mission, by:

- doubling the total amount of grants made each year from £3,000 to £6,000 p.a.
- making an Annual Award of up to £5,000 p.a. for young musicians to undertake projects related to the organ such as research, composition or recordings.

**1.00pm TUESDAY 1 OCTOBER**

**Richard Moore**

Sub Organist, Guildford Cathedral

**Fanfare for Organ**

*John Ernest Cook (1918-1984)*

**Trio Sonata No 5 in C major BWV 529**

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*

Allegro – Largo - Allegro

**Meditation from Suite Laudate Dominum**

*Peter Hurford (1930-2019)*

**Prière from Six Pièces pour Grand Orgue**

*César Franck (1822-1890)*

**Magnificat**

*Matthias Weckmann (1621-1674)*

Versus à 5 - Versus à 4 Auff 2 Clavir - Versus à 5 - Versus à 6



**Richard Moore** read Music as Organ Scholar of St John's College, Oxford, before taking up a place at the Royal College of Music, London, to study repertoire with David Graham and improvisation with Sophie-Véronique Cauchefer-Choplin. He graduated from the MMus degree with distinction and won the Walford Davies Prize for organ performance.

Richard held the William and Irene Miller Organ Scholarship at St Paul's Cathedral where, in addition to playing for services and

training choristers, he also played at a number of important occasions, including the state funeral of Baroness Thatcher.

After leaving St Paul's, he spent a year as Acting Assistant Organist of St Martin-in-the-Fields, a particular highlight of which was a service to commemorate the 70th anniversary of VJ Day, in the presence of HM The Queen and other members of the royal family, and broadcast on BBC television.

Richard took up the post of Sub Organist at Guildford Cathedral in 2017. Alongside his duties at the Cathedral, he maintains a vibrant musical relationship with Ellie Lovegrove as the Trumpet and Organ duo *Illumina*: their 2017 CD recording, *Illuminations, Dances and Poems* produced by Convivium Records, was that year's prestigious Annual Award funded by The Eric Thompson Trust.

In the meantime, Richard continues his studies with Bine Katrine Bryndorf, and holds the Soloist Diploma of the Royal Danish Academy of Music.

Follow Richard: [www.illumina.london](http://www.illumina.london) and Convivium: [www.ConviviumRecords.co.uk](http://www.ConviviumRecords.co.uk)

**1.00pm TUESDAY 8 OCTOBER**

**Ourania Gassiou**

Organist at French Protestant Church London, and at Athens Concert Hall (Megaron)

**Pastorale Op 19**

*César Franck (1822-1890)*

**Von Gott will ich nicht lassen BuxWV 221**

*Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)*

**Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott BuxWV 184**

*Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)*

**Wo ist der König der Juden**

*Otto Malling (1848-1915)*

No 2 from Die Heiligen drei Königen Op 84

**Allegro Cantabile from Symphony No 5 in F major**

*Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)*

**Preludio from Deuxième Symphony Op 26**

*Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)*



**Ourania Gassiou** was born in Athens and studied the piano at the Nakas Conservatory and the organ at the Athens Concert Hall.

She is also a graduate of the Royal Academy of Music in London, where she studied with Nicolas Kynaston.

Whilst at the Academy she received a scholarship from the Onassis Foundation and was awarded several of the major prizes and awards of the Royal Academy of Music, including the Dip RAM, the most prestigious award for an outstanding final recital.

She was also nominated Pidem Organ Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music. Aided by an Eric Thompson Trust Grant she continued her studies with Johannes Geffert in Cologne and Susan Landale in Paris.

As a soloist and chamber musician, Ourania has performed extensively throughout the UK and Europe in recital series and at major international festivals. Recent appearances have included performances in Westminster Abbey, Westminster Cathedral, St Paul's Cathedral, Altenberg Dom, Riga Cathedral, Copenhagen Cathedral, Basel Münster, Maria Laach Abbey, Barcelona Cathedral, Women of the World Festival (Royal Festival Hall, London), Oundle Festival (UK), and Bratislava Castle, among others.

Ourania has also been a prize winner in the International Organ Competition of Saint-Maurice, Valais, Switzerland, and in the First Mediterranean Piano Competition of Andros, Greece.

In 2011 she was appointed Organist and Curator of the organs of the Athens Concert Hall in Greece and she is also the organist of the French Protestant Church in London.

[www.facebook.com/ourania.gassiou](http://www.facebook.com/ourania.gassiou)

**1.00pm TUESDAY 15 OCTOBER**

**Andrzej Malitowski**

Organist, Church of St Anselm and Cecilia, London

**Prelude and Fugue in C major BWV 547**

***Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)***

**Organ Sonata No 4 in B flat major Op 65**

***Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)***

Allegro con brio - Andante religioso - Allegretto - Allegro maestoso e vivace

**Fuga-Bolero**

***Marian Sawa (1937-2005)***

**Symphony No 1 Op 14**

***Louis Vierne (1870-1937)***

Andante – Final



**Andrzej Malitowski** has recently graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in London where he studied with David Titterington and Bine Katrine Bryndorf.

Since his arrival in London in 2016 he has gained recognition as a recitalist, performing at such venues as King's College Cambridge, St Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Central Hall, Royal Festival Hall, Southwark Cathedral, St John's Smith Square, Reading Town Hall, as well as internationally in Germany and Poland.

He has received many prestigious awards, including the Nicholas Danby Trust Scholarship, The Eric Thompson Trust Award, the Stephen Bicknell Organ Studies Award and First Prize at the inaugural Cambridge Academy of Organ Studies Competition in 2018. He has participated in organ masterclasses with Martin Schmeding, Arvid Gast, Ludger Lohmann, Peter Planyavsky, Susan Landale, Franz Stoibar, Ulrik Spang-Hanssen and Michal Novenko.

Before moving to London he held a position of organist in Zabrze, where he directed a choir in his local church and also conducted detailed research on the history of the organ there. In 2016 he graduated with distinction from the Church Music School in Gliwice, Poland (Diecezjalna Szkoła Organistowska II stopnia) in the organ class of Waldemar Krawiec. During his time there he won prizes in international competitions in Kraków, Białystok, Opole, and Bielsko-Biała.

[www.AndrzejMalitowski.com](http://www.AndrzejMalitowski.com)

**1.00pm TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER**

**Robert Smith**

Assistant Director of Music, York Oratory

**Prelude and Fugue in E minor BWV 548**

***Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)***

**The Harmonious Blacksmith**

***Handel arr Sigfried Karg-Elert (1877-1933)***

**Pensée d'Automne**

***Joseph Jongen (1873-1953)***

**A Quiet Pavan, with Canons (UK premiere)**

***Bertie Baigent (b. 1995)***

**Work for Organ**

***Donnacha Dennehy (b. 1970)***

**Mozart Changes**

***Zsolt Gárdonyi (b. 1946)***



**Robert Smith** is Assistant Director of Music of York Oratory (St. Wilfrid's Church), having previously served as Assistant Organist at St. Paul's Bloor Street, the largest Anglican church in Toronto, where he regularly accompanied the church choir. From 2011 to 2014 Robert was Organ Scholar of Somerville College, Oxford, where he accompanied and occasionally directed the college choir for regular services, concerts, and recordings.

He began musical life aged 5 on the piano, then took up the organ aged 13 and received lessons from Henry Fairs at the Birmingham

Conservatoire for five years. During this time he played regularly for his parish church in Bournville, and took part in masterclasses at Lincoln's Inn and St. Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham. Upon reaching Oxford Robert was taught by Stephen Farr and achieved his ARCO diploma, for which he also won the Sowerbutts Prize and Durrant Prize.

Robert has participated in choir concerts and tours across the UK, including playing three times at St. Paul's Cathedral, London. As well as giving recitals, he has participated in masterclasses led by (among others) David Goode, Guy Bovet, Thomas Trotter and William Whitehead. He has been a finalist in the Northern Ireland International Organ Competition three times. He collaborated with conductor Nicholas Cleobury for a concert recorded by the BBC. Robert has also performed internationally, including a choir tour in America, where he also gave a recital at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston. This was followed by five extensive recital tours of Germany, playing baroque Wagner and Silbermann organs as well as romantic and modern instruments in Berlin, Brandenburg, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, Thuringia and Bavaria. Robert received funding from the Eric Thompson Trust for his first Germany tour in 2014, when he recorded his first commercial solo CD, which was released by the German record label JUBAL in April 2015.

[www.robert-smith.org.uk](http://www.robert-smith.org.uk)

**1.00pm TUESDAY 29 OCTOBER**

**Polina Sosnina**

Pettman Organ Scholar, London Oratory; Organ Scholar, St Martin-in-the-Fields

**Prelude and Fugue in A minor BWV 543**

***Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)***

**Organ Sonata No 6 in D major Op 65**

***Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)***

Choral - Andante sostenuto – Allegro molto – Fuga - Finale

**Prélude, Fugue and Variation in B minor Op 18**

***César Franck (1822-1890)***

**Paeon**

***Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)***



**Polina Sosnina** is the 2019-20 Pettman Organ Scholar at the London Oratory and Organ Scholar at St Martin-in-the-Fields. She graduated in Natural Sciences from Magdalene College, Cambridge, where she also held an organ scholarship. She has since worked in various roles including the Walford-Davies Organ Scholarship at Temple Church in 2018-19, prior to which she was Director of Music at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Brentwood.

Polina is currently studying organ performance at the Royal College of Music in London, with David Graham and Andrew Dewar. Her recent performances include a recital as part of the Bach Corner series in the 2019 International Organ Festival at St Albans, and recitals at other London venues including Temple Church and St Martin-in-the-Fields. She has also accompanied broadcasts and recordings for BBC Radio 4, as well as playing for regular services and concerts at St Martin's and the Oratory.

In 2017, Polina was awarded first prize in the Brian Runett Organ Competition at St John's College, as well as a Lincoln Award for organ performance and the Macfarlane-Grieve Prize for music from Magdalene College. She also received first prize in Essex Organists' Association 2018 competition and performed as a semi-finalist in IAO/RCO 2018 Organ Playing Competition.

In addition to organ performance, Polina is interested in music education, both in and outside church. As Director of Music at St Thomas' Church, she trained the choristers for the RSCM Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards and organised several collaborative projects to raise the profile of the church's Girls' Choir. Polina also works for the musical charity Thetford Voices, which runs workshops for young singers in Norfolk, and has organised musical outreach projects both as a student and more recently in Brentwood.

We extend our warmest thanks to The Reverend Canon David Parrott, Guild Vicar of St Lawrence, and Catherine Ennis, Director of Music, for allowing us to hold recitals in this lovely Wren church with its superb Klais organ (pictured below)



To apply or donate to the Trust, or for news of recitals and events please visit:

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*For future recitals see [OrganRecitals.com](http://OrganRecitals.com)*