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NY

## **ELCCNY NEWS**

FOR RELEASE: April 11, 2022

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**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CONSERVANCY**

Restoring A National Historic Landmark

presents

### **THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA**

Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Music Director

#### **ORGAN CONCERT**

**DAVID ROBERTSON, Conductor**

**PAOLO BORDIGNON, Organist**

**ANTHONY ROTH COSTANZO, Countertenor**

**MAY 24, 2022**

**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH, NEW YORK**

**CONCERT FEATURES THE MONUMENTAL ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S PIPE ORGAN**

**NEW YORK CITY'S LARGEST – 12,422 PIPE AEOLIAN SKINNER**

Instrument Distinguished by its Provenance, Installation in the Walls of the Building,

“Celestial Division” Housed in the Recently Restored Great Dome

**PROGRAM TRAVERSES 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY WORKS**

**FOR ORGAN AND ORCHESTRA**

Gigout, Jongen, Bach, Fauré, Duruflé, Gabrieli, Beach, Saint-Saëns, Elgar

**STOKOWSKI ORCHESTRATION OF BACH “LITTLE” FUGUE IN G MINOR**

Selection Returns the Conductor's Spirit to His First American Musical Home

As Organist and Choirmaster of St. Bartholomew's Church, 1905 – 1908

**WORLD PREMIERE ORCHESTRATION OF AMY BEACH WORK**

Prelude on an Old Folk Tune (“The Fair Hills of Eire, O!”), First Composed for Solo Organ

●  
**PRODIGIOUS PAIRINGS: PAST AND PRESENT**

Six-Part Video Series, Hosted by Philippe de Montebello, to Illuminate the Organ of

St. Bartholomew's, Concert Repertoire and French Cultural Influence,

Stokowski, Architecture and Decoration of Landmark Building

**AVAILABLE TO VIEW FREE**

●  
**CONCERT SUPPORTS RESTORATION OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH SITE**

**DESIGNATED A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK IN 2016**

Gala Dinner Honors Dr. Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel, Mutual of America Financial Group

St. Bartholomew's Conservancy presents The Philadelphia Orchestra in a concert of compositions for organ and orchestra from Bach to Saint-Saëns, Elgar to Beach – Tuesday, May 24, at 7:00pm, at St. Bartholomew's Church, 325 Park Avenue, New York. David Robertson will conduct. Paolo Bordignon, St. Bartholomew's Organist and Choirmaster, will perform on the largest pipe organ in New York City (among the largest in the world), distinguished by its provenance, housed in the walls and throughout the building, including its "Celestial Division," in the recently restored St. Bartholomew's Great Dome. Countertenor Anthony Roth Costanzo will make a special appearance (courtesy of The Metropolitan Opera). The evening will support St. Bartholomew's Conservancy's restoration mission of St. Bartholomew's Church, a National Historic Landmark.

The concert program features repertoire for organ and orchestra from the 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> centuries – works by the French and Belgian composers Gigout (a pupil of Saint-Saëns), Jongen, Fauré ("Pie Jesu" from Requiem, with Mr. Costanzo), Duruflé (a master impressionist composer for the organ whose musical training spanned the Rouen Cathedral to Notre-Dame), Saint-Saëns (the finale of his Symphony No. 3, "Organ"); Gabrieli's late 16<sup>th</sup> century Canzon in Double Echo; Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance* March No. 1; and two works by Bach, including Leopold Stokowski's orchestration of the master's "Little" Fugue in G minor. The program also features the world premiere arrangement for organ and orchestra of a late work by American composer Amy Beach (Mrs. H. H. A. Beach), a St. Bartholomew's parishioner, Prelude on an Old Folk Tune ("The Fair Hills of Eire, O!"), originally composed for solo organ. The full concert repertoire is listed below.

With this performance by The Philadelphia Orchestra, the spirit of Leopold Stokowski returns to New York. In 1905, St. Bartholomew's Church, located at the time on Madison Avenue, brought the then unknown conductor from Europe to New York to become its Organist and Choirmaster. Stokowski's arrival in the City inaugurated decades of noteworthy changes in musical performance.

General Admission Tickets begin at \$75, and can be purchased online at [www.stbconservancy.org/phil-orch-organ-concert](http://www.stbconservancy.org/phil-orch-organ-concert) or by phone at 212-710-9694.

## **ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S ORGAN**

St. Bartholomew's 12,422 pipe Aeolian-Skinner organ, installed in the walls and throughout the building, with its "Celestial Division" housed in the newly restored Great Dome, is a superb example of the American Classic Organ. It is the largest in New York City and among the largest in the world. A full history of the instrument is available at <https://stbarts.org/music/the-organs/>.

## **PRODIGIOUS PAIRINGS: PAST AND PRESENT**

A six-part video series, *Prodigious Pairings: Past and Present*, hosted by Philippe de Montebello, explores and illuminates the organ of St. Bartholomew's, concert repertoire, the French cultural influences on organ music in America, Stokowski, and the architecture and decoration of the Landmark building. The complete series will be available, free, on the St. Bartholomew's Conservancy Website (Episodes 1 – 4 available now), at

<https://www.stbconservancy.org/prodigious-pairings-past-and-present>.

Episode 1: The Spirit of Leopold Stokowski Returns to New York

Presented by Leon Botstein

Episode 2: The Monumental St. Bartholomew's Pipe Organ

Presented by Paolo Bordignon

Episode 3: The Parisian Belle Epoque and Gilded Age New York

Presented by Bénédicte de Montlaur

Episode 4: Composer Amy Beach

Presented by Angel Blue

Episode 5: Muralist Hildreth Meière

Presented by Kathleen Murphy Skolnik

Episode 6: St. Bartholomew's Church in New York City

Presented by Paul Goldberger

## **THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA**

<https://www.philorch.org/your-philorch/meet-your-orchestra/>

## **DAVID ROBERTSON, CONDUCTOR**

<http://conductordavidrobertson.com/>

## **PAOLO BORDIGNON, ORGANIST**

<https://www.paolobordignon.com/about>

## **ANTHONY ROTH COSTANZO, COUNTERTENOR**

<https://anthonyrothcostanzo.com/About>

## **ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CONSERVANCY**

St. Bartholomew's Conservancy is a tax-exempt, nonprofit organization. Its mission is to help fund restoring and preserving the exterior and gardens of the St. Bartholomew's site, long a celebrated New York City Landmark and one of the City's recently designated National Historic Landmarks. To date, the Conservancy has contributed over \$3 million to essential restoration and preservation projects, including Great Dome and North Façade restoration, drainage and roof replacement, retiling the Park Avenue Terrace, and restoring stone and iron work. By helping bring this remarkable architectural gem back to life, the Conservancy seeks to enhance the beauty of Park Avenue while heightening public awareness of the importance of preserving historic buildings and open space in densely populated urban areas. For more information please visit

<https://www.stbconservancy.org/>.

## **THE ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S SITE**

Recognized the world over for their masterful integration of architecture and art, St. Bartholomew's Church and Community House were completed in 1930. Romanesque in form with rich Byzantine decoration, the two stylistically akin structures and their abutting gardens sit astride a full block of Park Avenue between 50th and 51st Streets in midtown Manhattan. So situated, they create an airy oasis amidst an otherwise dense corridor of soaring office towers. The site was designated a New York City Landmark in 1967, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980, and designated a National Historic Landmark on October 31, 2016. St. Bartholomew's Church on Park Avenue is an outstanding example of the work of architect Bertram G. Goodhue. The building's main entrance is through the renowned Triple Portal, designed in 1903 by Stanford White of McKim, Mead & White, and inspired by the porch of France's Abbey Church of St. Gilles-du-Gard, one of Medieval Europe's grandest pilgrimage destinations. Its bronze doors and friezes are the work of distinguished American sculptors Philip Martiny, Herbert Adams, and Andrew O'Connor, the last in collaboration with sculptor Daniel Chester French. The interior contains works by

architectural sculptor Lee Lawrie and mosaicist and muralist Hildreth Meière, whose work can also be seen at Rockefeller Center and Temple Emanu-El.

## **GALA EVENT**

In support of St. Bartholomew's Conservancy's mission to restore the National Historic Landmark's façades and gardens, the evening will feature a gala cocktail reception at Inside Park at St. Bartholomew's Church, and a post-concert dinner at 370 Park Avenue. The Gala will honor Dr. Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel and Mutual of America Financial Group for their support of the restoration and preservation of the St. Bartholomew's site. Barbara Tober is the Gala Chair. Lead Corporate Sponsor: Waldorf Astoria New York. For more information, contact The JFM Group at [StBConservancy@thejfmgroup.com](mailto:StBConservancy@thejfmgroup.com) or go to <https://www.stbconservancy.org/gala-organ-concert>.



**May 24, 2022, 7pm**  
**St. Bartholomew's Church**  
**325 Park Avenue, New York**

## **THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA**

**David Robertson, Conductor**  
**Paolo Bordignon, Organist**  
**Anthony Roth Costanzo, Countertenor**

Gigout	<i>Grand choeur dialogué</i>
Jongen	Toccata from <i>Symphonie concertante</i>
Bach / Stokowski	"Little" Fugue in G minor
Bach	Sinfonia from Cantata No. 29
Fauré	"Pie Jesu" from Requiem – Anthony Roth Costanzo
Durufié	Scherzo
Gabrieli	Canzon in Double Echo
Beach	Prelude on an Old Folk Tune ("The Fair Hills of Eire, O!") [arr. Jim Gray, World Premiere]
Saint-Saëns	Finale from Symphony No. 3, "Organ"
Elgar	<i>Pomp and Circumstance</i> March No. 1

Anthony Roth Costanzo appears courtesy of The Metropolitan Opera.

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