

FROM ORIGINAL DSD MASTER

2^xHD
FUSION

THE POWER OF THE ORGAN

RACHEL LAURIN

DSD

Direct Stream Digital

DXD

Digital eXtreme Definition



RACHEL LAURIN

Rachel Laurin leads an international career as a concert organist and prolific composer. She was Associate Organist at St-Joseph's Oratory, Montreal (1986-2002), and Titular Organist at Notre Dame Cathedral, Ottawa (2002-2006). She now devotes herself to composition, recitals, master-classes and lectures. She has performed organ recitals in major cities in Canada, the United States and Europe, and made more than twelve recordings, including two CDs devoted to her own compositions.

Rachel is frequently invited as a recitalist, composer, lecturer and teacher, in Canadian and American universities: Yale University (New Haven, Connecticut), Baylor University (Waco, Texas), Syracuse University (New York, NY), Kansas City University (Missouri), St. Thomas University (Minneapolis, Minnesota), Mount Royal College (Calgary, Alberta), University of Alberta (Edmonton). In the fall of 2019, she returns to Yale University as a Distinguished guest Artist.

Laurin has served as "house composer" at Wayne Leupold Editions since 2006. She is also an Associate Composer of the Canadian Music Centre since 1989. She has composed more than a hundred works for various solo instruments, voice, instrumental ensembles, choir, and orchestra, including a piano concerto and a concerto for organ, string orchestra and timpani. Her published compositions are recognized internationally and have been performed and recorded on five continents.

She has won many prestigious awards, including the Holtkamp-AGO Composition Award in 2008, First Prize in the 2009 Marilyn Mason New Organ Music Competition, and more recently the First Prize at the Orgelkids Tenth Anniversary Composition Contest (2019), in the category for Do-Organ Solo. Her works are published by Doberman, Éditions du Nouveau Théâtre Musical, RCCO Music Publications (Canada), Europart (France), Hinshaw Music/Fred Bock, and Wayne Leupold Editions (USA).

Composing almost exclusively on commissions, recent premieres of her works include the *Fantaisie à Deux*, Op.88, by the Chenault Organ Duo, in Atlanta (June 2019) and the *Te Deum*, Op.90, for organ, brass quintet and timpani, at the dedication of the Christ Cathedral, Diocese of Orange, CA, in July 2019.

Rachel Laurin is a member of the *Comité d'Honneur de la Fédération Francophone des Amis de l'Orgue* (FFAO) since 2016.

THE POWER OF THE ORGAN

To Demonstrate all the splendour, power, and subtle nuances of this instrument – to illustrate its eclecticism – the choice of music seemed self-evident. In the famous and varied organ treasures included in this precious sound-document, the listener will appreciate this jewel of Notre-Dame Basilica in all its aspects.

The first notes of Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D minor, BWV 565, cause all heads to turn toward the "King of Instruments". Similarly, each work presented in this recording has captured the attention of music-lovers for different reasons, depending on the character of the piece and the period in which it was composed. There is, however, one point in common uniting all these masterpieces: each one is inspired by the past, taking its origins from the universal musical heritage; each one enriches the present, adding to the repertoire a testimony of the present, unique and new; finally each piece secures the future of the art of music by participating in its constant evolution. Why is it that some works more than others have influenced their era or the very repertoire of an instrument like the organ, almost to the point of becoming icons? In addition to the many and varied technical reasons, the mysterious power arising from these pages exerts a fascination that time cannot erase. Moreover, the sustained and unchanging sounds of the organ suggest a fullness of sound that draws us inexorably toward the Mystery of the Beyond. May this richness of sound coming to our ears through the profound and mysterious power of the Cathedral organ inspire us more and more toward Beauty and Truth!

Recorded in DSD format, this album is a gift to the Audiophile, permitting the listener to fully enjoy the warmth, second harmonics and versatility of the instrument.

Rachel Laurin, titular organist
Notre-Dame Basilica, Ottawa
Translated by Karen Holmes

POWER OF THE ORGAN



CASAVANT/GUILBAULT-THÉRIEN ORGAN

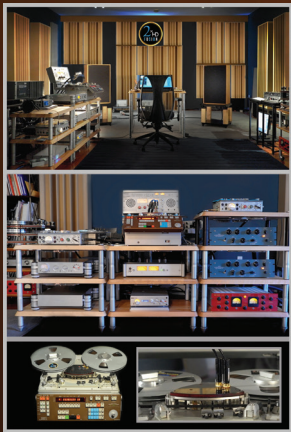
NOTRE-DAME CATHEDRAL, OTTAWA, CANADA







THE 2xHD MASTERING PROCESS



The 2xHD Fusion Mastering System: In the constant evolution of its proprietary mastering process, 2xHD has progressed to a new phase called 2xHD FUSION, integrating the finest analog, with state-of-the-art digital technology.

The mastering chain consists of a selection of high-end vacuum tube equipment. For the recordings on this album, the original DSD master was played on a Nagra HD DAC X high-end tube playback converter, wired with OCC silver cables to the 2xHD analog mastering electronic tube system permitting 2xHD FUSION to obtain a better resolution and 3D imaging.

The resulting signal is then transferred back into high resolution formats by recording it in DXD using a custom 2xHD Technologies A to D converter. All analog and digital cables that are used are state-of-the-art Siltech. The 2xHD FUSION mastering system is powered by a super capacitor power supply, using a new technology that lowers the digital noise found in the lowest level of the spectrum.

2xHD.com
Pure Emotion

THE POWER OF THE ORGAN

- 1 **TOCCATA (FROM SYMPHONY NO. 5)** 5:55
C.M. WIDOR
- 2 **WESTMINSTER CARILLON (3RD SUITE, FANTASY PIECES)** 6:40
L. VIERNE
- 3 **TOCCATA** 3:09
E. GIGOUT
- 4 **TOCCATA AND FUGUE IN D MINOR BWV 565** 9:38
J.S. BACH
- 5 **FUGUE IN SOL MINOR BWV 577** 3:20
J.S. BACH
- 6 **CHORALE JESU, JOY OF MAN'S DESIRING** 3:09
J.S. BACH
- 7 **GOTHIC SUITE, OP 25, INTRODUCTION - CHORAL** 3:04
L. BOËLLMANN
- 8 **MENUET GOTHIQUE** 3:06
L. BOËLLMANN
- 9 **PRIÈRE À NOTRE DAME** 4:48
L. BOËLLMANN
- 10 **TOCCATA** 3:36
L. BOËLLMANN
- 11 **DESSUS DE CORNET ET BASSE DE TROMPETTE
(SUITE DU 1ER TON)** 1:47
L.N. CLÉRAMBAULT
- 12 **NOËL GRAND JEU AND DUO** 5:36
L.C. DAQUIN
- 13 **ANDANTE CANTABILE (FROM SYMPHONY NO.4)** 6:04
C.M. WIDOR
- 14 **CHORALE NO. 3 IN A MINOR** 13:28
C. FRANCK
- 15 **AVE MARIA D'ARCADELT** 5:39
F. LISZT

Produced by Auditorama
Recorded November and December, 2003
at Notre-Dame Cathedral, Ottawa
Recording Producer: Raymond Daveluy
Recording Engineer and Technical Director:
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Technical Assistant: Denis Guérin
Audio Consultant: Yolande Roberge
Pure DSD Recording Editor: Martin Léveillé
Assistant Organist: Fabien Tousignant
Tuning & Organ Maintenance:
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Album & booklet concept: André Perry
Graphics: Sylvie Labelle

2XHD MASTERING:
RENÉ LAFLAMME
2XHD EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:
ANDRÉ PERRY

Thank you
Les Amis De La Cathédrale,
Monsieur L'abbé Jacques Kabangu,
recteur de la cathédrale, Norman Verral,
Hhb for the Sadie digital editor