

New York Philharmonic Presents

# **Artist Spotlight**

Wednesday, February 7, 2024, 7:30 p.m.

Cameron Carpenter, Organ

Wu Tsai Theater David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center Home of the New York Philharmonic

This program will last approximately one and three-quarters hours, which includes one intermission.

The Digital Organ is made possible by Ronnie P. Ackman and Lawrence D. Ackman.





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### Cameron Carpenter, Organ

J.S. BACH (1685-1750) arr. Cameron CARPENTER (b. 1981)

### Goldberg Variations, BWV 988 (1741)

Aria

Variation 1: a 1 Clav. Variation 2: a 1 Clav.

Variation 3: Canone all'Unisono a 1 Clav.

Variation 4: a 1 Clav.

Variation 5: a 1 ô vero 2 Clav.

Variation 6: Canone alla Seconda a 1 Clav. Variation 7: a 1 ô vero 2 Clav. al tempo di

Giga

Variation 8: a 2 Clay.

Variation 9: Canone alla Terza a 1 Clav.

Variation 10: Fughetta a 1 Clav.

Variation 11: a 2 Clav.

Variation 12: a 1 Clav. Canone alla quarta

in moto contrario Variation 13: a 2 Clav. Variation 14: a 2 Clav.

Variation 14. a 2 Clav. Variation 15: Canone alla Quinta a 1 Clav.

Variation 16: Ouverture a 1 Clay.

Variation 17: a 2 Clay.

Variation 18: Canone alla Sesta a 1 Clay.

Variation 19: a 1 Clav. Variation 20: a 2 Clav.

Variation 21: Canone alla Settima

Variation 22: a 1 Clav. Variation 23: a 2 Clav.

Variation 24: Canone all'Ottava a 1 Clav.

Variation 25: a 2 Clav. Variation 26: a 2 Clav.

Variation 27: Canone alla Nona a 2 Clav.

Variation 28: a 2 Clav.

Variation 29: a 1 ô vero 2 Clav. Variation 30: Quodlibet a 1 Clav.

Aria da Capo

#### Intermission

MUSORGSKY (1839-81)

arr. Cameron CARPENTER

Pictures at an Exhibition (1874)

Promenade

Gnomus (Gnome)

Promenade

Il Vecchio Castello (The Old Castle)

Promenade

Tuileries

Bydlo (Polish Ox-Cart)

Promenade

Ballet des poussins dans leurs coques (Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks)

Samuel Goldenberg und Schmuyle (Samuel Goldenberg and Schmuyle)

Limoges: Le Marché (The Marketplace

at Limoges)

Catacombae: Sepulcrum Romanum (Catacombs: Roman Burial Place)

Con mortuis in lingua mortua (With the

Dead in a Dead Language)

La Cabane sur des pattes de poules (Baba-Yaga) (The Hut on Chicken

Feet: Baba-Yaga)

La Grande porte de Kiev (The Great Gate of Kiev)

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# About the Program



In its reliance on J.S. Bach as the frame for Musorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition, this program recalls my New York years (2000-10) and their influence on my style.

After the pipe organ at Trinity Church Wall Street was destroyed on September II, 2001, its replacement with a revolutionary digital organ opened possibilities from which I was to greatly benefit. My first recording on this organ, produced in 2007, comprised Pictures at an Exhibition and my own New York City Sessions, a seven-movement evocation of the metropolis. My dream of creating a touring organ became reality in 2013 with the International Touring Organ (ITO), introduced to the public at Lincoln Center in early 2014. The music of J.S. Bach played a central role in my relationship with the

ITO in the 350-plus installations and 500-plus concerts we performed together worldwide over the next seven years, until the organ's existence was sadly made impossible by the economics of COVID-19.

At a time in which ever more decadent concert hall pipe organs, costing many millions of dollars, continue to platform the pipe organ itself mainly as a status symbol, it is reassuring and inspiring to see the digital organ given its rightful home in the musical center of the United States. Perhaps it will finally be understood that the digital organ is no threat to the pipe organ — it is not merely a high-tech simulacrum, but rather is an instrument with its own mysteries, potential, and promise. The pipe organ, in embodying much of the evolution of information technology and binary computing, both foretells and requires the evolution of the digital organ. Like a prodigious child that matures to achieve more than its parents could have imagined, the digital organ is as much a part of the organ's past as any pipe organ, and it is also already its future. May its evolution always continue.

- Cameron Carpenter

### The Artist



Organist and composer Cameron **Carpenter** – who has performed across the United States and Europe as a chorister, accompanist, and keyboard soloist - was

the first organist nominated for a Grammy, for the album Revolutionary (Telarc, 2008). He premiered his first concerto for organ and orchestra, The Scandal, Op. 3, in 2011 with the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen at the Cologne Philharmonie. He also premiered Terry Riley's organ concerto, At the Royal Majestic, in Los Angeles, reprising it in Geneva and Berlin.

Carpenter received the Leonard Bernstein Award at the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival 2012. He was the first organist-in-residence at the Berlin Philharmonie (2012-13) and artist-in-residence at the Konzerthaus Berlin (2017–18). Other honors include the ECHO Klassik award for If You Could Read My Mind (2015). A Sony Classical artist since 2013, he has been a featured speaker at TED, IdeaCity, Aspen Ideas Festival, and other conferences. He designed and debuted the George W. Mergens Memorial Organ at Palm Beach's Kravis Center for the Performing Arts.

Carpenter Cameron designed, financed, and converted most of his activities to his International Touring Organ (ITO). Following ITO's debut at Lincoln Center and the Vienna Konzerthaus in 2014, he toured extensively with the instrument throughout the United States, Europe, Russia, China, and Australia in a variety of solo, concerto, open air, collaborative, and broadcast presentations. He premiered his own organ-andorchestra version of Rachmaninoff's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini with the ITO at the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra in 2018, since performing it with ensembles including the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Radio Symphony Orchestra Wien, Graz Philharmonic, Bamberg Philharmonic, Orchestre National de Lyon, and Minnesota Orchestra. He recorded it with the Berlin Concerthaus Orchestra and Christoph Eschenbach in 2019.

# Jaap van Zweden and the New York Philharmonic



Jaap van Zweden became Music Director of the New York Philharmonic in 2018. In 2023-24, his farewell season celebrates his connection with the Orchestra's musicians as he leads performances in which six Principal players appear as concerto soloists. He also revisits composers he has championed at the Philharmonic, from Steve Reich and Joel Thompson to Mozart and Mahler. He is also Music Director of the Hong Kong Philharmonic, since 2012, and becomes Music Director of the Seoul Philharmonic in 2024. He has appeared as quest with the Orchestre de Paris; Amsterdam's Royal Concertgebouw and Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestras; Vienna, Berlin, and Los Angeles philharmonic orchestras; and London Symphony, Chicago Symphony, and Cleveland orchestras.

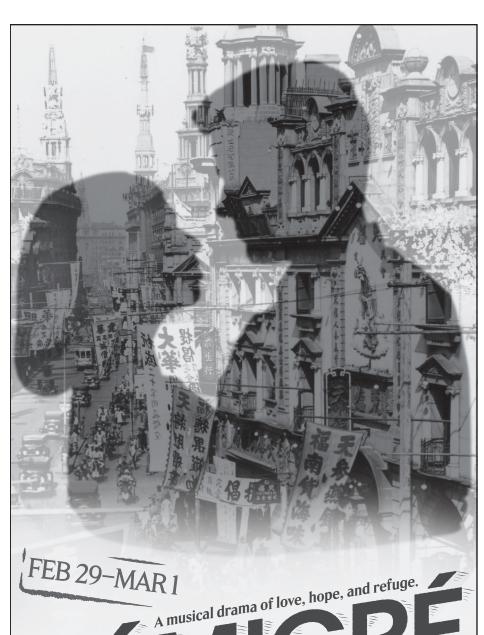
Jaap van Zweden's NY Phil recordings include David Lang's *prisoner of the state* and Julia Wolfe's Grammy-nominated *Fire in my mouth* (Decca Gold). He conducted the first performances in Hong Kong of Wagner's *Ring* Cycle, the Naxos recording of which led the Hong Kong Philharmonic to be named the 2019 *Gramophone* Orchestra of the year. His performance of Wagner's *Parsifal* received the Edison Award for Best Opera Recording in 2012.

Born in Amsterdam, Jaap van Zweden became the youngest-ever concertmaster of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra at age 19 and began his conducting career almost 20 years later. He was named *Musical America's* 2012 Conductor of the Year, was profiled by CBS 60 Minutes on arriving at the NY Phil, and in the spring of 2023 received the prestigious Concertgebouw Prize. In 1997 he and his wife, Aaltje, established the Papageno Foundation to support families of children with autism.

The New York Philharmonic connects with millions of music lovers each season through live concerts in New York and around the world, broadcasts, streaming, education programs, and more. In the 2023–24 season — which builds on the Orchestra's transformation reflected in the new David Geffen Hall — the NY Phil honors Jaap van Zweden in his farewell season as Music Director, premieres 14 works by a wide range of composers including some whom van Zweden has championed, marks György Ligeti's centennial, and celebrates the 100th birthday of the beloved Young People's Concerts.

The Philharmonic has commissioned and / or premiered important works, from Dvořák's New World Symphony to Tania León's Pulitzer Prize-winning Stride. The NY Phil has released more than 2,000 recordings since 1917, and in 2023 announced a partnership with Apple Music Classical, the new streaming app designed to deliver classical music lovers the optimal listening experience. The Orchestra builds on a longstanding commitment to serving its communities — which has led to annual free concerts across New York City and the free online New York Philharmonic Shelby White & Leon Levy Digital Archives — through a new ticket access program.

Founded in 1842, the New York Philharmonic is the oldest symphony orchestra in the United States, and one of the oldest in the world. Jaap van Zweden became Music Director in 2018–19, following titans including Bernstein, Toscanini, and Mahler. Gustavo Dudamel will become Music and Artistic Director beginning in 2026 after serving as Music Director Designate in 2025–26.

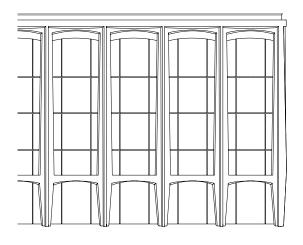


Aaron ZIGMAN | Mark CAMPBELL libretto & Brock WALSH additional lyrics



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