



# CHRISTMAS ORGAN RECITAL

Thomas Sheehan

DECEMBER 25, 2023 • 1:30 PM

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*Toccata of Christmas Song* (2023)

Grimoaldo Macchia  
(b. 1972)

*Noël « Suisse »* (ca. 1757)

Louis-Claude Daquin  
(1694–1772)

*A Festive Voluntary: Variations on Good King Wenceslas* (1987)

Petr Eben  
(1929–2007)

*An offering is received to support the Cathedral music and organ programs.  
All are invited to make a gift as the plate is passed, online at [cathedral.org/musicgiving](https://cathedral.org/musicgiving),  
or by scanning the code at the bottom of this page.*

*Gaudete: Dance for Organ* (2023)  
*World premiere*

Brenda Portman  
(b. 1980)

Three Christmas Fantasies (2013)  
I. Kommet, ihr Hirten  
II. Quem pastores laudavere  
III. Vom Himmel hoch

Margaretha Christina de Jong  
(b. 1961)

Prelude and Fugue on “Nativitate Domini”, Op. 68

Takashi Sakai  
(1948–2019)

“Hallelujah” from *Messiah*, HWV 56

George Frideric Handel  
(1756–1659)

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# About the Artist

Thomas Sheehan is the Organist and Associate Director of Music at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC, where he is responsible for the organ program at the Cathedral, covering both liturgical and concert expressions of organ music. In this position, he has played for several high-profile civic events, including the virtual service celebrating the inauguration of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris.

Prior to this position, he served on the music staffs of the Memorial Church, Harvard University; Saint Mark's Church in Philadelphia, PA; and Trinity Episcopal Church in Princeton, NJ. Tom holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Boston University, where he was a student of Peter Sykes and wrote a dissertation on the organ works of his National Cathedral predecessor Richard Wayne Dirksen.

Tom is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, where he received diplomas in organ and harpsichord, studying with Alan Morrison and Leon Schelhase. He received both the Master of Music and Bachelor of Music degrees from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ, as a student of Ken Cowan. He has performed as an organist throughout the United States, in Canada, and in Europe, including recital appearances in Reykjavík, Toulouse, and Montréal.

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Renovation of the Great Organ is a marquee project of *A Cathedral for the Future*, a five-year comprehensive fundraising effort to sustain the mission and ministries of Washington National Cathedral for the next generation.

After nearly 85 years of expansion, patches, and retrofitting, the massive pipe organ is close to the point of no return. A lead donor has generously seeded the necessary funds to rebuild the instrument, but substantial support is still needed to complete the project.

To see behind-the-scenes photos and learn about how you can get involved in this project, visit [cathedral.org/campaign](https://cathedral.org/campaign)