- 1. Fr. Toufic Bou Merhi, Superior of Santa Franciscan Monastery Gemmayzeh
- 2. Fr. Khalil Rahme, Director of the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week and of the Notre Dame University-Louaize School of Music
- 3. Dr. Edoardo Crisafulli, Director of the Italian Cultural Institute
- **4. Dr. Walid Moussallem**, Director of the Lebanese National Higher Conservatory of Music
- **5. Brother Riccardo Ceriani**, Co-director of the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week and Superintendent of the Terra Sancta International Organ Festival



The Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) and the Terra Sancta International Organ Festival, together with the Italian Cultural Institute of Beirut, have the pleasure to present the third edition of the SOL Festival (Semaine de l'Orgue au Liban - Lebanese Pipe Organ Week) from January 27 to February 4, 2018; featuring top organists from New York, Paris, Barcelona and Milan.

The pipe organ is the largest of musical instruments and the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week is the only festival in Lebanon where it can be heard, played by the most renowned international organists. The festival takes place in different churches and concert halls in Lebanon from January 27 to February 4, 2018: the audience will have the pleasure to listen to all the concerts during the course of one week only. Free admission to all concerts.

Thanks to the joint venture between NDU and Terra Sancta Organ Festival, the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week has strong local roots and, at the same time, an international dimension. The organists scheduled to perform in the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week are all internationally known, like the french Baptiste-Florian Marle-Ouvrard (organist of the church of Saint-Eustache in Paris and winner of prestigious organ competitions in Europe), Eugenio Maria Fagiani (organist of the «Giuseppe Verdi» Symphony Orchestra of Milan), Juan De La Rubia (organist of the «Sagrada Familia» basilica in Barcelona), Jennifer Pascual (organist and music director of the New York St. Patrick's Cathedral), and the young polish talent Krzysztof Musial (recent winner of third place in the Mikael Tariverdiev international organ competition, which can be considered the organ world championship). In addition to the solo recitals, the program offers a concert with organ and flute with the Italian duo Giovanni Vaglica and Calogero Giallanza. And for the first time in the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week, the organ will be played together with an orchestra, thanks to the collaboration with Lebanese Philharmonic Orchestra, featuring Eugenio Maria Fagiani, under the baton of Garo Avessian. Finally, February 4 at noon, in Tripoli-El Mina, church of St. Francis "Terra Santa", there will be the performance of the outstanding students of the organ class of the Notre Dame University School of Music: this concert is part of the celebrations for the 800 years of Franciscans friars in the Middle East.

For some years now Lebanon has witnessed a renewed interest in the pipe organ: many churches and institutions have restored their pipe organs or have acquired new ones while others are planning to install one: the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week acts as an incentive for this renaissance.

For this reason, each year the festival can be shown in new venues. This year the new entry is the church of St. Francis "Terra Santa" in Tripoli – El mina, which celebrates the VIII centenary of the arrival of the Franciscans in the Middle East with a new pipe organ, probably the only portable pipe organ in Lebanon. The concert of February 4 in El-Mina will be performed by the outstanding students of the organ class of the NDU School of Music, which is the only place in Lebanon where to study this instrument. The organ course at NDU is an advanced course, a master now in its fourth year of activity with the support of the Italian Cultural Institute of Beirut and from one year in collaboration with the Custody of the Holy Land and the support of the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America. The curriculum of studies is organized according to the parameters of European conservatories of music, thanks to the teaching of prof. Cosimo Prontera, organ teacher at the conservatory of music in Potenza (Italy). Due to the high level of the teaching, the high institute of music in Damascus sends its teachers

here to improve, as well the Custody of the Holy Land for its seminarians. The Tripoli concert shows the will of the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week to bring organ music throughout Lebanon and, at the same time, to engage in the field of musical education in order to prepare professional organists.

All the information about the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week can be found on the website www.solfestival.org, as well as on the Facebook page and on the Youtube channel of the festival.

The Lebanese Pipe Organ Week is a co-production of Notre Dame University and the Terra Sancta International Organ Festival of the Custody of the Holy Land. The festival is made possible thanks to the availability of organs and locations given by churches and institutions of different traditions, the patronage of Ministry of Culture, the collaboration Philharmonic with the Lebanese Orchestra, the partnership of Italian Cultural Institute of Beirut, foundation Marc-Henri Mainguy, the support of Institut Français au Liban, Embassy of Poland in Beirut, Embassy of Spain in Beirut, along with with Tamburini organ builder and Meouchy & Zakaria Printing Press as technical sponsors.





# Lebanese Pipe Organ Week 2018

The "Lebanese Pipe Organ Week" — a 7-day cultural music event launched three years ago — has today developed into a successful customary artistic festival, following its runaway success two years ago.

As in previous years, we continue to work toward developing this unique cultural activity at all levels, i.e. musically, artistically, and technically. This degree of development is achieved through collaborations with various embassies, particularly the Italian, French, Spanish, Polish, and U.S. embassies, which are participating with us this year. As a result, the prestigious 2018 edition is more eclectic than its precursors, as it brings together professional musicians from various cultural backgrounds who will perform an arrangement of carefully selected pieces.

The Pipe Organ Week 2018, held in partnership with the Terra Sancta International Organ Festival of Music, bears testament to the distinct Christian presence in the spheres of culture, music, and education, not only in Lebanon but also across the Middle East.

This festival is a symbol of ecumenical cooperation among Christian churches given that the organ is a Christian instrument. According to tradition, "Wherever an organ exists, there exists a church." The perspective is particularly true given that the organ holds a special place in the Church, particularly the Latin Catholic church, where the organ is considered the only musical instrument that can amplify the beauty and splendor of religious ceremonies and lift up the hearts of the faithful to God...

Accordingly, we can consider the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week as part of the Terra Sancta Organ Festival thanks to our partnership, which has bestowed upon the festival deep local roots and strong international dimensions.

As every year, the festival will be held over seven nights (from January 27, 2018, till February 4, 2018) in different churches and halls, where we have been called to restore all the old and forgotten organs of Lebanon.

We are fortunate because the program is varied, and it will give us the opportunity to listen to the greatest internationally-acclaimed musicians who will play the most renowned pieces, which were especially composed for the pipe organ and for this event in particular.

The variety of participating countries and musicians this year adds more color and vibrancy to the Lebanese Pipe Organ Festival, especially since Lebanese students will play on a new organ in a special event that will be held in Tripoli. Those fourth-year students are learning to play this instrument at the Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) School of Music (the only school that teaches the study of the pipe organ) with Professor ...

The Pipe Organ Festival invitation is open to all music amateurs and those interested in listening to and enjoying this great instrument, which is considered "lost" in the modern era, and it is an instrument we are striving to revive. The positive feedback we received during the last few years gave us the impetus to work toward developing this cultural activity to enhance the music culture in Lebanon.

To conclude, we would like to thank the following:

- Festival sponsor, His Excellency Minister of Culture Dr. Ghattas Khoury;
- Terra Sancta Organ Festival
- Marc Henri Mainguy Foundation (MHM);
- Fra Ricardo Ceriani;
- Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) group;
- American University of Beirut (AUB);
- Italian Cultural Institute;
- French Cultural Institute (l'Institut français) ;
- Spanish Cultural Institute ;
- Polish Cultural Institute;
- U.S. Cultural Institute ;
- Lebanese National Higher Conservatory of Music;
- Maronite Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary (OMM);
- Carmelite Order;
- Congregation of the Lazarist Fathers;
- Church of the Holy Heart of Jesus (Frères), Gemmayze;
- Head of the National Evangelical Church of Beirut Pastor Habib Badr;
- All musicians, particularly Professor Naji Hakim; and
- All media outlets (audiovisual and press).





Delegate for Music of the Custody of the Holy Land, Director of the Terra Sancta International Organ Festival and Co-director of the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week

## 1) Presentation

I am very happy to present for the third time the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week and especially because this presentation takes place in one of the Franciscan monasteries of the Custody of the Holy Land, which celebrates this year 800 years of presence in the Middle East and in Lebanon. My name is Riccardo Ceriani and I am the Delegate for Music of the Custody of the Holy Land, the director of the Terra Sancta International Organ Festival and the co-director of the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week.

## 2) Custody of the Holy Land, Terra Sancta Organ Festival and the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week

The Custody of the Holy Land is present in the Middle East since the thirteenth century, and in Lebanon currently we have three monasteries, in Beirut-Gemmaizeh, Harissa and Tripoli. The Custody of the Holy Land is a special and international mission of the Catholic Church in the Middle East, reporting directly to the Pope. The Custody of the Holy Land is also a diplomatic entity recognized by many countries and institutions.

The Terra Sancta Organ Festival, organized by the Custody of the Holy Land, is meant to show the Christian presence in the Middle East in the field of music, culture and education because where there is a pipe organ, some Christian community is present. All concerts of the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week are included in the program of the Terra Sancta Organ Festival, thanks to the joint venture with the Notre Dame University School of Music.

The Terra Sancta Organ Festival is the biggest international organ festival in the Middle East and the Levant and one of the biggest in the world, with more than 30 concerts, performed by the most renewed organists in the world from Italy, Germany, France, United States, Austria, Poland and so on.

# 3) Top organists at the Lebanese Pipe organ Week

Why am I stressing this point? That's in order to guarantee the Lebanese and inform them -as I am qualified in this matter- that the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week has been presenting every year some of the top organists in the world, who usually perform in the most important international festivals.

Unfortunately names of organists are not so popular like the ones of some conductors, pianists or tenors, but I could say that Eugenio Maria Fagiani, Jennifer Pascual, Juan De La Rubia –only to mention three of them performing this year in the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week- represent for organ what Bocelli represents for voice.

So, it's completely true what it is written in the press release: "Thanks to the joint venture between Notre Dame University School of Music and Terra Sancta Organ Festival, the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week has strong local roots and, at the same time, an international dimension".

Indeed it's not enough to invite musicians from abroad in order to speak of "international dimension" or "international festival": you have to invite the top.

## 4) The renaissance of organ music in Lebanon

The Lebanese Pipe Organ Week acts as an incentive for the renaissance of organ music in Lebanon, in particular thanks to the endorsement of Fr. Khalil Rahmeh and the Italian organ builder Saverio Anselmi Tamburini. During the last three years two new organs have been built (in the parish of Antelias and in the Carmelite church of Maayssra), two have been fixed (the ones of AUB and of Collège du Sacré-Coeur - Gemmaizeh), one has been fixed and enlarged (in the basilica of the Medaille Miraculouse – Ashrafieh).

The Custody of the Holy Land, after the re-opening of its convent in Tripoli, thanks to Fr. Quirico Calella, brought there the only portable pipe organ existing in Lebanon at the moment and soon a new pipe organ is expected in our church of St. Antony in Harissa. Other two new pipe organs are planned in Jal El Dib and Beirut and hopefully they will be inaugurated this year. Finally I am sure that Maestro Walid Moussallem, together with me and Fr.Khalil, wishes that also in the church of St. Joseph, where the Lebanese Philarmonic Orchestra performs its concert season, the pipe organ might be restored.

## 5) Commitments in music education

The School of Music of the Notre Dame University has started for three years a class of organ, thanks to the support of the Italian Cultural Institute of Beirut and to the Italian teacher Cosimo Prontera. I do not want to repeat what it is written in the press release about the importance and the quality of this master.

From this year the Custody of the Holy Land supports this course directly and sending four students. Two of them are seminarians. The other two are teachers themselves, who teach organ and piano at the High Institute of Music in Damascus, with which the Custody of the Holy Land has an agreement. The purpose is to restart organ classes in Syria, in order to support music culture and because we need organists for our churches and our choirs. For this reason we have fixed our pipe organs in Damascus and Aleppo. In addition, we have been organizing for three years the Terra Sancta Organ Festival (here called Damascus Pipe Organ Week), which is the only international music festival active in Syria in the last three years during the war.

## 6) Preserving heritage

The pipe organ is not like a trumpet, which works even if nobody plays it in two hundred years: pipe organs need to be played and maintained, or they get out of order and lose their value (and their value is high, because they are very expensive). So, we need organists, not only for culture, not only to enjoy a specific music repertoire, not only to accompany our celebrations and solemn liturgies, but also to preserve our heritage.

The joint venture between the Custody of the Holy Land and Notre Dame University School of Music in the Lebanese Pipe Organ Week and in the master of organ takes care of all these aspects.

# PROGRAM

<b>Saturday</b> , January 27, 2018	<b>Collège du Sacré-Coeur</b> Gemmayzé, Beirut	Baptiste-Florian Marle-Ouvrard (FRA)
<b>Sunday</b> , January 28, 2018	Notre Dame de la Médaille Miraculeuse Basilica - Ashrafieh, Beirut	Eugenio Maria Fagiani (ITA)
<b>Tuesday</b> , January 30, 2018	Saint Elias Monastery Sanctuaire de l'Enfant-Jésus de Prague Maaysra	<b>Giovanni Vaglica</b> (ITA) <b>Calogero Giallanza</b> , flute (ITA)
<b>Thursday</b> , February 1, 2018	Notre-Dame de Louaizé Monastery - Zouk Mosbeh	Juan de la Rubia (ESP)
<b>Friday</b> , February 2, 2018 8:30 p.m.	Saint Joseph Church Monnot, Achrafieh	Eugenio Maria Fagiani (ITA) Lebanese Philharmonic Orchestra Garo Avessian, conductor (LB)
<b>Saturday</b> , February 3, 2018	Assembly Hall - AUB Hamra	<b>Jennifer Pascual</b> (USA)
<b>Sunday</b> , February 4, 2018 noon	Saint Francis Church Tripoli, El Mina	Outstanding Students of Organ Class at NDU School of Music
<b>Sunday</b> , February 4, 2018	The National Evangelical Church of Beirut Riad Essoulh	Krzysztof Musiał (POL)

**Baptiste-Florian MARLE-OUVRARD** is one of the younger generation of French organists defending an eclectic repertoire while giving an important contribution to the art of improvisation.

After brilliant studies at the National Conservatory of Music in Paris (CNSM) where he received such teaching from Olivier LATRY, Thierry ESCAICH, Philippe LEFEBVRE, Pierre PINCEMAILLE, Jean-François ZYGEL and François-Xavier ROTH where he received 8 awards, he became laureate of numerous international competitions among which we can mention:

- International competition of improvisation from Leipzig 2009 (First Prize)
- International competition of improvisation Luxembourg 2011 (First and audience Prize)
- Winner of the M.Tariverdiev international competition in Kaliningrad, Russia 2011
- International competition of Grand Prix d'Improvisation de Chartres (2° Prix ex-aequoand audience Prize - Grand-Prix not awarded) – 2012
- International competition of Longwood Gardens Clarence Snyder Award (USA) - 2013

Titular organist of the Saint Vincent de Paul Church of Clichyla-Garenne (Paris) since 2001, he was appointed by competition in 2015, titular organist on the great organ of the main church Saint Eustache in Paris. He perpetuates in Saint Eustache, with the help of his colleague Thomas Ospital, an intense musical life around the great organ with weekly concerts and various cultural events.

His intense concert activity leads to occur throughout Europe and in Russia, Canada, the USA and South Africa. He regularly teaches improvisation and French music at academies and master classes. In 2007, he has created his first piece, an oratorio composed for choir, orchestra and organ named L'Arche de Noé. According to the german magazine «Organ -Journal für die Orgel, he has been named «Organist of the Year 2007»

Also passionate by music accompaniment of silent film, he regularly collaborates with the French Cinematheque in Paris, where he was artist in residence for the 2015 Festival "All the memory of World". Although possessing a vast repertoire, he regulary include in his program several transcriptions of symphonic works. He also continues to explore the most bold combinations between organ and other forms of artistic expression, dance, graphic works, electronic music.

In 2016, he collaborated with the American choreographer Dylan Crossman to create the ballet breath on the pond but also with the clarinestist Yom, in a program mixing various traditional world music.

BAPTISTE-FLORIAN MARLE-OUVRARD

www.bfmo.fr



As an affirmed international concert organist he performs in whole Europe, Jordan, Russia, Belarus, Syria, United Kingdom, Canada and the USA on the most important instruments. He is invited to hold masterclasses (both in Interpretation and Improvisation) and lectures for several top-class music institutions around Europe and North America as the Cambridge University Organ Scolar's Forum (UK) and the RCCO, Toronto (CDN). He is also invited to serve as juror in international competitions.

From 2008 he is the Guest Organist of the Franciscan Shrine of La Verna, Arezzo. In 2010 he started the collaboration as the organist with the Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano LaVerdi, with which he recorded several times for the Italian's state broadcasting company Radio Tre Rai, as well as the recording project of the symphonic music of Nino Rota, published by Decca, under the baton of maestro Giuseppe Grazioli. With LaVerdi he performed at the BBC-Proms in London, at the Royal Albert Hall, under the baton of Xian Zhang; as well as in Milano, uner the direction Riccardo Chailly.

During February 2017 he has been the first Western musician since 2011 invited to perform in Syria, at Damascus Opera House and Saint Anthony's Church, with the Syrian National Symphony Orchestra conducted by maestro Missak Baghboudarian.

His works as a composer are now part of the repertoire of some of the most prestigious artists of our time as Stephen Tharp and David Briggs.

With the CD "Crucis Christi Mons Alvernae", recorded with the choir of La Verna's friars, obtained the "Recording of the year 2009" acknowledgement from Alias, cultural review of the Italian National newspaper II Manifesto. His recordings include collaboration with VDE-Gallo, Spektral Records and Decca.

Eugenio is the Artistic Director of the Festival Internazionale di Musica d'Organo de La Verna from November 2014. In April 2015 he received by the Archbishop of Arezzo the title as the Artistic Director of the new Festival Organistico "S.Donato". From 2016 he has also been appointed as the Artistic Advisor of the Terra Sancta Organ Festival, organized by the Custody of the Holy Land.

GIOVANNI BATTISTA VAGLICA

**Giov. Battista Vaglica** attends successfully his musical studies contemporary with the classical ones at the Conservatory of Music V. Bellini in Palermo, and here he got the diploma in piano, organ and in organistic composition.

He amplified his musical knowledges by attending several specialization courses, studying thoroughly the old, baroque and romantic executive procedure and he got a diploma at the Corso di Perfezionamento Liturgico Musicale (Musical Liturgical Specialization Course) representing the Archdiocese of Monreale.

He got several pubblications, together with articles and activities on organ building (organaria) and on musical Sicilian tradition, among them, it is particularly relevant the book Gli Organi antichi nel territorio Monrealese (Old organs in Monreale) ed. Augustinus 1991, the first congress on sicilian organ building (organaria) art (1990), a series of concerts in the Cathedral of Monreale, and in several towns in Sicily (1990/1993), the first performance in Sicily of the Mass for Blessed Virgin Maria by Giovan Battista Fasolo (1645), the first book's recording of I. Sgarlata's first musical opera (ed. Pantocratore 2003).

As organist, he performed in relevant festival and musical seasons such as : The week of sacred music in Monreale, the Organistic festival in S. Martino delle Scale, the Organistic festival in Ragusa, the F. Ferrara Philarmonic orchestra, the Opera Laboratory, and last but not least he performed for different associations as Amici della Musica and for the Provincia regionale di Palermo.

He continuously co-operates with the gregorian group and the poliphonic chorus Cum Jubilo , since he is initiated in a polyhedrical activity of recording.

Respecting the nature of his instrument, the organ, he chooses in an appropriate way the repertory to the different kinds of organs, in order to exalt their own timbre-phonic traits.

He is member of the Diocesan Commission of Sacred Music in the Archdiocese of Monreale; Honorary inspector in subject of Old and Historical Organs of the Regione Siciliana; Regular organist at the Basilica Benedettina in S. Martino delle Scale, where he took care of the restoration and reconstruction work on big organs; Organist in the church of S. Teresa del Bambino Gesu'; he teaches piano at the secondary school and also Introduction to liturgic music at the Institute of Religious Science in the Archdiocese of Monreale.

Quoted by dailies and magazines, he is esteemed by national and foreign musical personalities.



Born in Naso (Messina - Italy), and graduated from the Conservatory of Santa Cecilia in Rome, **Mr. Giallanza** is very active as a performing flutist and composer in Italy and abroad, his repertoire ranges from baroque to contemporary music both as solist and in chamber ensembles.

He appeared in many prestigious venues and festivals around the world. His recordings include: Mediterranea (1999 - Ed.Mus), Cantoberon with Luca Mereu with whom he founded the Duo Nesos, Thalassa (2001). And Due fauni, arco e pizzicato (2005). "Al Muhda Ilayy" (2007 - Ostinati Music Workshop, IMAIE) "Shulùq" (2001 – ENPALS). His recordings include engagements with RAI 2 Television, Vatican Radio, Algerian Television, RAI Filodiffusione, and Rai International.

He is the Artistic Director of the 'Ostinati' Music Workshop which carries out research and experiments on the relationship between music and word.

In 2009 the show "Nzula", by Francesco Randazzo, with original compositions, performed live, by M.° Giallanza won the First Prize as best show of the 2nd National Festival "Schegge d'Autore" from the National Union of Dramatic Authors and the Audience Award for the show of Magna Graecia Institution- Battipaglia Prize.

In 2004, he played the main character in the documentary film "Favola del Vento e del Mare" directed by Pierpaolo Gandini, for which he also composed and performed the soundtrack.

In 2009, he won First Prize of the 3rd edition of the IMAIE competition, contemporary classical music section, with the CD "Al Muhda Ilayy". In 2010 he was awarded the VI edition of the "Antonello da Messina" National Prize .

In 2012 he was titled a Medal, by the President of the Italian Republic Giorgio Napolitano, for his work as Artistic Director of the Nebroideo Organ Festival "Annibale Lo Bianco". In 2013, he was appointed Knight of the Italian Republic for Merit. A native of La Vall d'Uixó (Castelló, Spain), **Juan de la Rubia** has performed on the principal stages of Europe, as well as in Latin America and Asia, to great acclaim from public and critics alike. In recent years, his concert activity has been non-stop, performing in over twenty countries in concert halls such as the Auditorio Nacional de Música in Madrid, the Palau de la Música Catalana in Barcelona, Berlin's Konzerthaus, the Leipzig Gewandhaus, the cathedral in Cologne and the Mariinsky Theatre and Philharmonia in St. Petersburg.

He has appeared as a soloist with the Freiburg Baroque Orchestra, interpreting Händel organ concertos and Bach cantatas, and as continuo and/or director of various instrumental and vocal ensembles for early music.

He is currently a professor at the Escola Superior de Música de Catalunya (ESMUC) and organist of the Basilica de la Sagrada Familia in Barcelona.

After beginning his musical studies with his father and Ricardo Pitarch, he developed as an organist and pianist in Valencia, Barcelona, Berlin and Toulouse, garnering five Extraordinary Prizes in different specialties. Among his teachers are Óscar Candendo, Wolfgang Seifen, Michel Bouvard and Montserrat Torrent, who were a great support throughout his studies. He also took master classes from, among others, Olivier Latry and Ton Koopman.

His repertoire spans works from early music to contemporary. The highest recognition has come in four areas: keyboard music of the Renaissance and Spanish Baroque, the great works of Romanticism (including transcriptions of works by Wagner and Brahms, whose Symphony No. 1 in C minor, Op. 68 he himself has fully transcribed), his improvisations, and his interpretations of Bach. The latter could be heard in places closely associated with the composer, such as Arnstadt and Naumburg, as well as his complete works for organ, programmed by the Auditorio Nacional in Madrid (2014-16) and Bachcelona Festival (Barcelona).

Since his first recording in 2003 he has published seven discs as soloist. Open to other artistic disciplines, de la Rubia has collaborated with other performing artists such as director Lluís Pasqual and choreographer Nacho Duato.

Juan de la Rubia is one of the most acclaimed performers of his generation. He has received numerous prizes, most notable among them are the award from the Permanent Competition of Juventudes Musicales de España, which marked a decisive turning point in his musical career, and the Primer Palau Prize granted by the Palau de la Música Catalana. In 2012, he was named a member of the Catalan Royal Academy of Fine Arts of St. Jordi.

# UAN DE LA RUBIA

CALOGERO GIALLANZA

**Dr. Jennifer Pascual** was appointed Director of Music at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City in 2003. Jennifer earned a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Organ Performance from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY where she studied with David Higgs. She holds a Master of Music Degree in Piano Performance from the Mannes College of Music. She received the Bachelor of Music Degrees in Piano and Organ Performance and Music Education from Jacksonville University in Florida. She has served as an organist and choir director in the Dioceses of St. Augustine, FL and Rochester, NY, and the Archdioceses of Newark, NJ and New York City, NY, and has served at three Roman Catholic Cathedrals. She currently serves as the Director of Music of the New York Archdiocesan Festival Chorale. Jennifer has performed as an organist and conductor in Austria, Belgium, Canada, Ireland, Israel, Italy, the Philippines, Russia and the United States.

As the Director of Music, Dr. Pascual had the privilege of overseeing all of the liturgical music for His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI's visit to New York in 2008 in addition to conducting music for the Masses at St. Patrick's Cathedral and Yankee Stadium. She conducted the St. Patrick's Cathedral Choir for President Bush at the White House for National Day of Prayer. In December 2008 Dr. Pascual was named a Dame of the Order of St. Gregory the Great, papal recognition of service to the Church. In September 2015, Dr. Pascual conducted both the New York Archdiocesan Festival Chorale and the St. Patrick's Cathedral Choir and orchestra during the Mass at Madison Square Garden celebrated by Pope Francis in 2015. She also conducted the music for Papal Vespers at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

With the broadcast of live Mass from St. Patrick's Cathedral on The Catholic Channel, SIRIUS/XM 129, the St. Patrick's Cathedral Choir which she conducts can be heard from 10:15 - 11:30 a.m. on Sundays from September to June. She also hosts a radio talk and music show called "Sounds from the Spires" broadcast on the same channel, Saturdays, 1:00 a.m. - 2:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. -12:00 a.m. and Sundays, 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. (all Eastern times).

KRZYSZTOF MUSIAŁ

**Krzysztof Musiał** was born in 1992 in Brzesko, Poland. He is currently a student at the Academy of Music in Kraków under the supervision of Prof. Andrzej Białko. He also studied at Musikhochschule Lübeck as an Erasmus+ Student under Prof. Arvid Gast.

He has participated in numerous organ competitions and was awarded several prizes, such as:

- III prize in the 10<sup>th</sup> International Mikael Tariverdiev Organ Competition in Kalingrad (2017)
- III prize in the 6<sup>th</sup> International Feliks Nowowiejski Organ Competition in Poznań(2017)
- Il prize in the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Organ Competiton "Barock and Romanticism" in Katowice (2016)

He was awarded also special prizes for the performances of the music of Johann Sebastian Bach.

He gave concerts in Poland (e.g. at the Festivals in Kraków, Poznań, Wrocław and Pasłęk), France, Germany, Holland, Lithuania and Russia.

He participated in masterclasses led e.g. by professors Johannes Geffert, Lorenzo Ghielmi, Bernhard Haas, Michel Radulescu, Julian Gembalski i Józef Serafin.

# Acknowledgements

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Fr. Raimond Abdo, Couvent Saint Elie - Maaysrah
Notre Dame de Louaizé Monastery – Zouk Mosbeh
American University of Beirut (AUB)
Fr. Quirico Calella, St. Francis Church Terra Santa - Tripoli, El Mina

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