

LENTEN CONCERT SERIES
March 6, 2025 • 12 Noon

Andrew Risinger, organ

Sonata No. 3 in A Major
I. Con moto maestoso
II. Andante Tranquillo

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

The Con moto maestoso movement began life as a wedding processional for Mendelssohn's sister. Later developed it into the full sonata movement, the fugal counterpoint of the middle section incorporates statements of the German choral "Out of the Depths I Cry to Thee."

Récit de Tierce en taille

Nicolas de Grigny
(1672-1703)

Nicolas de Grigny served as organist of the abbey church of Saint Denis in Paris as well as the Cathedral of Notre-Dame de Reims. His *Livre d'orgue* is considered to be the pinnacle of the baroque French organ tradition. The lyrical Tierce en taille movement has the solo melody in the tenor range with accompanying voices above and below it. The florid ornamentation creates elegant flourishes and a sense of drama while maintaining a rather dolorous character.

Fugue in G Minor, BWV 578

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Lotus

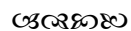
Billy Strayhorn
(1915-1967)
Arr. Alec Wyton

Billy Strayhorn had a close musical partnership with Duke Ellington. When Duke Ellington died in 1974, his funeral was held in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine where Alec Wyton was organist. Ellington's sister, Ruth, asked Wyton to improvise on Strayhorn's tune *Lotus Blossom* during communion. Some years later, Ruth requested that Wyton transcribe and publish his improvisation. In 1986, he transcribed the recording and published it in 1987 as *Lotus*.

Toccata in B Minor

Eugène Gigout
(1844-1925)

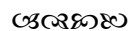
Andrew Risinger, a native of Texas, holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Organ Performance from Baylor University where he studied with Joyce Jones. He earned a double Master of Music degree in Organ Performance and Choral Conducting from The University of Alabama where he studied organ with J. Warren Hutton and conducting with Sandra Willetts. Andrew serves as Organist and Associate Minister of Music of West End United Methodist Church, a post he has held since 1995. He also teaches on the adjunct music faculty of Belmont University. In 2007 he was named Organ Curator for the Schermerhorn Symphony Center, Nashville Symphony's home, which houses the Martin Foundation Organ built by Schoenstein & Co. Also serving as primary organist for the Nashville Symphony, Andrew was the soloist for the new instrument's inaugural performance with orchestra in September of 2007. A prizewinner in several competitions, Andrew has performed throughout the United States, and his performances have been heard on National Public Radio broadcasts of *Performance Today* as well as on *Pipedreams*.



Still to Come in the Series

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| March 13 | Kateri Andress , organ |
| March 20 | Isaac Johnson , organ |
| March 27 | Sarah Crocker , harp |
| April 3 | Elliston Trio – Erin Hall , violin
Keith Nicholas , cello • Matthew Phelps , piano |
| April 10 | Phil DeGreg , jazz piano |

Each half-hour concert begins at noon in the sanctuary. Following the concert, lunch is available at 12:30 p.m. in McWhirter Hall for \$12. **Lunch requires a reservation.** Register online at westendumc.org/lentenconcerts or call the church at 615.321.8500 by noon on Wednesday, one day prior to each concert.



West End United Methodist Church
2200 West End Avenue • Nashville, Tennessee 37203 • 615.321.8500