

CUSTODIA TERRÆ SANCTÆ

Il Delegato per la Musica e lo Spettacolo
The Delegate for Music & Performing Arts



אחראי למוזיקה ולאמנויות הבמה
المنسوب الموسيقي للفنون الأدائية

TERRA SANCTA ORGAN FESTIVAL HOLY LAND PIPE ORGAN WEEKS 2018

Organ concerts in the churches of the Holy Land: a repertoire open to everyone

The Terra Sancta Organ Festival arrives in Israel and Palestine with the **Holy Land Pipe Organ Weeks**, eight concerts in two weeks, which will be held in the church of St. Peter in Jaffa (23rd and 30th October), in the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth (24th and 31st October), in the church of St. Saviour in Jerusalem (25th October and 1st November) and in the church of St. Catherine at the Basilica of the Nativity in Bethlehem (26th October and 2nd November).

The concerts will feature Spain's Pedro Alberto Sanchez, organist at the Monastero Reale of the Escorial in Madrid, who will perform in the first week from 23rd to 26th October, and the talented young Italian, Davide Mariano, a soloist of international level who has won some of the most important competitions, in the week from 30th October to 2nd November.

The concerts in Nazareth on 24th and 31st October can be followed in live streaming on the website of the festival - www.tsorganfestival.org - where it is also possible to consult the complete programme of this and the previous four seasons.

The Holy Land Pipe Organ Weeks have been organized with the support of the Consulate-General of Spain in Jerusalem / AECID for the Jerusalem and Bethlehem concerts, the Italian Cultural Institute of Tel Aviv for the concert in Jaffa and the Italian Cultural Institute in Haifa for the Nazareth concert.

The Terra Sancta Organ Festival, organized by the Custody of the Holy Land in all the countries where it is active, is a way of showing the presence of the Christian communities in the Middle East and in the Levant in the field of music and culture. Organ music here represents an exceptional artistic repertoire, perceived as specifically Christian, as the pipe organ is present almost only in churches. The concerts take place in churches but the audience is made up of music lovers of all religions: the Terra Sancta Organ Festival is one of the rare occasions in the Middle East and in the Levant when the sound of a pipe organ can be heard outside the normal liturgical context.

The fifth season of the Terra Sancta Organ Festival opened on 20th September in the Basilica of Mount Nebo in Jordan, continuing on the island of Rhodes from 28th September to 6th October with the *Organ & Music Festival Rhodes*, in Harissa, Lebanon on 20th October for the inauguration of the new organ and the dedication of a street to St. Francis, and then in Israel and Palestine. In November, the festival will be in Syria with the fourth *Damascus Pipe Organ Week* to then start the new year in Lebanon with the *Lebanese Organ Week* and concerts in Cyprus.

The Terra Sancta Organ Festival can take place thanks to the collaboration of the convents and organizational resources of the Custody of the Holy Land, such as the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America, the Magnificat Institute of Jerusalem, the Christian Information Center, the Christian Media Center, Custodia.org and ATS Pro Terra Sancta.

Info: organfestival@custodia.org – www.tsorganfestival.org

(see below the biographies received from the organists)

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PEDRO ALBERTO SÁNCHEZ

Reverend Pedro Alberto Sánchez, O.S.A. was born in Salamanca, Spain. His earliest music training began as a member of the famous boys' choir at the Real Monasterio de San Lorenzo de El Escorial and studied in the music conservatory of Madrid "Arturo Soria", where he graduated with the degree of Organ Professor.

He then moved to Rome to attend the well-known Conservatorio Santa Cecilia advancing in organ and composition under the tutelage of great maestros, including Ottorino Baldassarri, Jiri Lecjian, and Federico del Sordo and was a member of the Schola at Saint Peter's Basilica. Later he continued his studies at the Pontificio Instituto de Música Sacra where he specialized in Gregorian Chant and Improvisation.

Father Sánchez received a Master's Degree in Organ Pedagogy from the Real Conservatorio Superior de Musica in Madrid, where his mentor was Dr. D. Miguel Bernal Ripol. He has performed organ concerts in Spain, Mexico, Poland, Switzerland, Italy, Panama, Belgium and the United States of America.

Father Sánchez was ordained a Priest of the Augustinian order, with religious studies at the Estudios Eclesiásticos por la Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca and Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas in Rome (Canon Law).

Currently, he holds the title of Music Director and Organist at the Real Monasterio del Escorial and Director of the Semanal Internacional de Organo de Madrid.

DAVIDE MARIANO

Davide Mariano (b. 1988) is certainly the most active Italian organist on the international scene of his generation performing a repertoire ranging from the middle ages to the contemporary era. He has appeared in some of the most prestigious venues in Europe, the USA and Asia, including Musikverein in Vienna, Auditorio Nacional de Música in Madrid, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, Prinzregententheater in Munich, Kyoto Concert Hall, L'Auditori in Barcelona, Theater an der Wien, Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris, The Symphony Hall in Osaka, Philharmonie Essen, chapel of the Versailles castle, Brucknerhaus in Linz, AT&T Center Theatre in Los Angeles, The Cleveland Museum of Art, as well as for festivals in Rome, Vienna, Paris, Amsterdam, Helsinki, Copenhagen, and Toulouse. As an organist, harpsichordist and pianist, he collaborates with diverse groups, among them Orchester Wiener Akademie, Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, Musica Angelica Los Angeles Baroque Orchestra, Israel Chamber Orchestra, Sapporo Symphony Orchestra, and Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra with conductors such as M. Pommer, R. Paternostro, G. Sabbatini, M. Haselböck, J. Hirokami, T. Otaka, E. Oue, S. Sato, and C. M. Prieto. In 2017 he has played the re-opening concert of the Suntory Hall in Tokyo. Mariano has given lectures and masterclasses on organ music in Japan and for the American Guild of Organists in the USA.

Among other awards, Mariano has won the 2nd prize - interpretation and the Peter Hurford Bach Prize at the 28th St Albans International Organ Competition (England), the 1st prize at the Fourth International Organ Competition in Fano Adriano (Italy), the 3rd prize at the Fourth International Organ Competition Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck in Amsterdam, special prizes at the Eighth Mikael Tariverdiev International Organ Competition (Russia), the 2nd prize at the Third International Organ Competition "Premio Elvira Di Renna" (Italy), and the 2nd prize in piano at the Eighth

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National Music Competition “Città di Ortona” (Italy). The Italian region of Molise has awarded him for his artistic activity. Furthermore, he has received scholarships from the Tokyo Foundation, the Fondation l’Or du Rhin, the Fondation Meyer, the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, and the Austrian Ministry of Sciences, Research and Economy.

Mariano was the first to obtain the Artist Diploma (“Diplôme d’Artiste Interprète”) in organ from the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et Danse of Paris, studying with Michel Bouvard, Olivier Latry, and Louis Robilliard. At the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, he earned with unanimous distinction a Master’s degree in organ in the class of Martin Haselböck and a Master’s degree in harpsichord in the class of Gordon Murray, with the Honorary Prize of the University (“Würdigungspreis”) as one of the best students. He acquired a diploma in organ at the age of 19 and graduated in the organ-soloist class, both with distinction, under Francesco Di Lernia at the Conservatory of Music “L. Perosi” in Campobasso (Italy). He also took lessons from, or attended masterclasses given by, W. Zerzer, M. Radulescu, L. F. Tagliavini, L. Ghielmi, P. D. Peretti, J. Essl, M. Imbruno, H. Haselböck (organ and organ improvisation), G. Murray (fortepiano), W. Glüxam, S. Gottfried, N. Parle, E. Fadini, S. Rambaldi, G. Isphording (harpsichord, basso continuo, and contemporary harpsichord), L. M. Clemente and R. Fiore (orchestral conducting).

He has made two CD recordings as a soloist: “TRIADÉ” - Italian, French and German organ music (Label JASRAC, 2017), “Concerto per la Solidarietà” (Euromeeting italiana, 2009), and one CD recording with the Orchester Wiener Akademie: “Franz Liszt: The sound of Weimar, Vol. 3” (NCA, 2011). He has also recorded for the Austrian Ö1 radio station and Radio Stephansdom.

Mariano has been organist in residence for one year at the Sapporo Concert Hall “Kitara” (Japan) and organist in residence at the St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans (USA) from December 2017 to April 2018. At present he lives in Vienna and studies conducting at the Anton Bruckner Private University in Linz under Georg Leopold and at the Conservatory “A. Pedrollo” in Vicenza under Giancarlo Andretta. Upcoming engagements will bring him to perform as a soloist at the Église de la Madeleine in Paris, at the Musikverein in Vienna, at the Berlin Konzerthaus, at the Tokyo cathedral, and to give masterclasses in some Italian Conservatories.