Sunday, September 20, 2015 3:00pm

Madonna della Strada Chapel

Stanleigh Jones, Organ

Te Deum Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

Air Gerre Hancock (1934-2012)

Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 547 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Prelude, Fugue, and Variation César Franck (1822-1890)

Adagio for Strings Samuel Barber (1910-1981)

Carillon de Westminster Louis Vierne (1870-1937)



Stanleigh Jones began his formal piano studies, at the rather advanced age of 10, under the tutelage of Cloris Browne (former member of Apostolic Church of God), and continued his studies with her until graduation from high school (Lindblom Tech). Although studying piano, it was during this time that Stanleigh found himself being inexplicably drawn to the organ, perhaps because his father had purchased an organ for the home long before choosing to buy a piano. Be that as it may, of his own volition, Stanleigh found himself practicing his piano music on the organ for countless hours. On this foundation, the seeds of organ playing were planted. Subsequently, this led to his first position as church organist (Tabor Lutheran) at the age of 14.

Never imagining himself a professional musician, Stanleigh enrolled at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI as a biology pre-med major. However, while still in his first quarter of matriculation, Stanleigh received unprecedented exposure to the broad field of music. The rest is history. Stanleigh went on to major in keyboard education, studying organ with Dr. C. Warren Becker and William Ness, and harpsichord with Dr. Hans-Jorgan Holman, minoring in automotive mechanics. After submitting an audition tape Stanleigh was chosen as one of six national finalists to compete in the First Presbyterian National Organ Competition held in Ottumwa IA (1981).

Further studies were completed under the guidance of internationally recognized organist and recording artist Wolfgang Rubsam at Northwestern University where the Master of Music degree was conferred (1984). Since then, Mr. Jones has taught in both the private and public school systems in Chicago and has been recognized for his contributions to the field of music education with various awards, including: Teacher of the Year—Hales Franciscan High School (1998); Who's Who Among American Teachers (1994); Dictionary of International Biography (1994); Who's Who in American Education (1992 and 1993 editions); finalist for the D.R.I.V. E. award—Chicago Public Schools (2003); and Honorary Doctor of Music Degree—Faith-Grant College, Birmingham, AL (1993). Interspersed throughout theses phases, Dr. Jones served as either organist or Minister of Music for various churches and denominations, including: Saint Paul Episcopal (Saint Joseph, MI), Three Oaks Methodist (Three Oaks, MI), Sharon S.D.A. (Milwaukee, WI), Tabor Lutheran, St. Mary's A.M.E., St. Joachim Catholic, and Shiloh Seventh-day Adventist (Chicago). Stanleigh is currently serving as organist for the Apostolic Church of God (Dr. Byron T. Brazier, pastor) also located in Chicago.

Dr. Jones has written several works including Give Ear to My Prayer, published by GIA Publications and coauthored Darkest Night, as recently performed by Kiel Williams at Apostolic Church of God for Joy of Easter concert, and has arranged works for both brass and string ensembles.

Dr. Jones has also given recitals and performances in Detroit and Berrien Springs, MI; New York; Walla Walla, WA; Chicago, Hinsdale, Wheaton, Evanston, IL; Atlanta, GA; Toronto, Ontario, Canada; St. Thomas, Virgin Islands; St. Maarten, Netherlands, Antilles; and a host of other locations.

Consistent with his belief of self-discovery and perpetual expansion, Stanleigh is also licensed in the state of Illinois as a Home Inspector, certified by C-Tech in cable networking, and is also certified as a teacher trainer with Time To Teach.