



The Cathedral  
Church of **Saint John**  
**the Divine**

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**THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE PRESENTS  
GREAT ORGAN: RAYMOND NAGEM,  
PERFORMING WORKS OF DUPRÉ AND KARG-ELERT**

Performance Features New York Premiere of Sigfrid Karg-Elert's *Organ Symphony*



*Photo: Damon Scheleur*

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**(October X, 2018 – New York, NY) – The Cathedral of St. John the Divine** begins its 2018-19 season of Great Music in a Great Space **on Tuesday, October 16 at 7:30 pm** with **Great Organ: Raymond Nagem**, at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112<sup>th</sup> Street), Manhattan.

Raymond Nagem, Associate Director of Music at St. John the Divine, will showcase music by Marcel Dupré (1886–1971) and Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1930). Marcel Dupré's set of preludes and fugues struck the musical world like a jolt of electricity when they were published in 1920. Jazzy, exuberant, atmospheric, and notoriously difficult to play, they have been audience favorites ever since. From the blazing sunshine of the B Major, to the gentle lullaby of the F Minor, to the madcap jig of the G Minor, these pieces are sure to delight and thrill the listener.

Joining them on this program is Sigfrid Karg-Elert's Symphony in F# minor. This mammoth piece was written in 1930, but lay undiscovered in a publisher's archive until 1984. Though equal in scale and complexity to many orchestral symphonies, it is written to fit under the hands and feet of a single performer. This little-known masterpiece, one of the summits of the organ repertoire, will receive a dramatic and passionate performance by Dr. Nagem.

The Great Organ, built in 1911 by Ernest M. Skinner, rebuilt and expanded in 1954 by Æolian-Skinner, and fully restored in 2008, is the musical voice of the Cathedral: one of the landmark pipe organs in the United States, and an acclaimed national treasure. *Great Organ: A Recital Series* is part of the concert series *Great Music in a Great Space*, which brings world-class musicians each season to perform at St. John the Divine.

Tickets are \$25. To purchase tickets and for more information, please visit:

<http://www.stjohndivine.org/visit/calendar/events/music/17904/great-organ-raymond-nagem-7>

### **Program**

Marcel Dupré (1886–1971)  
*3 Preludes and Fugues, Op. 7*

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)  
*Symphony in F# minor, Op. 143*

### **About Raymond Nagem**

Raymond Nagem is Associate Director of Music at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. Dr. Nagem earned his B.A. from Yale University, where he studied with Thomas Murray, and his M.M. and D.M.A. from The Juilliard School. He previously held positions at The Parish of All Saints, Ashmont and at Christ Church, New Haven. In addition to his responsibilities for service playing and choral accompaniment, he works regularly with the Cathedral Chorale and the Choristers.

### **About Great Music in a Great Space**

Revived in 2011, *Great Music in a Great Space* reprises the legendary concert series first held at the Cathedral in the 1980s. The 2017–2018 season is comprised of three concert series: the Great Choir choral series, the Great Organ recital series, and our holiday concerts celebrating the Christmas season and New Year's Eve. The repertoire of the choral series encompasses a musical palette from Renaissance polyphony to contemporary compositions, and also features explorations of less familiar traditions such as Spanish Renaissance music and Eastern Orthodox hymnody. The Great Organ recital series features evening organ recitals, from both Cathedral organists and internationally acclaimed guest artists.

### **About The Cathedral**

The Cathedral of St. John the Divine is the Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of New York. It is chartered as a house of prayer for all people and a unifying center of

intellectual light and leadership.

People from many faiths and communities worship together in services held more than 30 times a week; the soup kitchen serves roughly 25,000 meals annually; social service outreach has an increasingly varied roster of programs; the distinguished Cathedral School prepares young students to be future leaders; Adults and Children in Trust, the renowned preschool, afterschool and summer program, offers diverse educational and nurturing experiences; the outstanding Textile Conservation Lab preserves world treasures; concerts, exhibitions, performances and civic gatherings allow conversation, celebration, reflection and remembrance—such is the joyfully busy life of this beloved and venerated Cathedral.

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