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## RELEASE

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### GREAT MUSIC IN A GREAT SPACE KICKS OFF 2022 ONLINE WITH PERFORMANCE BY ARTIST IN RESIDENCE DAVID BRIGGS AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE



*Concert will be streamed on the Cathedral's website*

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The Cathedral of St. John the Divine welcomes the New Year and the continuation of its 2021-2022 season of Great Music in a Great Space with an online performance by Artist in Residence David Briggs, premiering on **Tuesday, January 11 at 7:30 pm on the Cathedral's website, [stjohndivine.org](http://stjohndivine.org).**

Organ virtuoso David Briggs, Artist in Residence at the Cathedral, has been described by *The New York Times* as “one of the world’s greatest contemporary organists.” His January 11 program of German, French and English Romantic fireworks includes Julius Reubke’s tempestuously romantic Sonata on the 94th Psalm, written at the tender age of 24—a virtuosic score that almost trumps Franz Liszt at his own game.

In light of the ongoing pandemic, this first concert of 2022 will be held online and available to all as a free video stream on the Cathedral's website, Facebook page, and YouTube channel. No

tickets or advance reservations are needed to view the performance, which will premiere on January 11. Patrons who had already purchased tickets to the performance will be contacted to make alternate arrangements.

For more details and information on all the Cathedral's programs and services, visit [stjohndivine.org](http://stjohndivine.org).

#### PROGRAM

Sir William Walton (1902-1983)

'Spitfire' Prelude and Fugue (from 'First of the few'), arr. Tom Winpenny

César Franck (1822-1890)

Choral No. 1 in E major (1890)

Julius Reubke (1834-1858)

Sonata on the 94th Psalm

#### **About David Briggs**

David Briggs is an internationally renowned organist whose performances are acclaimed for their musicality, virtuosity, and ability to excite and engage audiences of all ages. Consistently ranked as one of the finest organists of his generation, David's extensive repertoire spans five centuries. He has also become one of the foremost organ transcribers of symphonic works, thereby giving listeners the opportunity to experience the organ in a new way. He has transcribed orchestral compositions by Schubert, Tchaikovsky, Elgar, Bruckner, Ravel, and Bach, as well as Mahler's Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Eighth symphonies.

Described as "an intrepid improviser" by Michael Barone, host of American Public Media's Pipedreams, David performs more than 50 concerts a year at international venues, teaches performance at Cambridge University, frequently serves on international organ competition juries, and gives master classes at colleges and conservatories across the U.S. and Europe.

David is also a prolific composer whose works range from full scale oratorios to works for solo instruments. He has recorded two DVDs and 37 CDs, many of which include his own compositions and transcriptions. David is currently Artist in Residence at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. For more information, please visit [david-briggs.org](http://david-briggs.org).

#### **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. Great Music in a Great Space presents choral, orchestral, and instrumental music, in the magnificent, deeply spiritual setting of the world's largest Gothic cathedral. The beloved holiday traditions of the Christmas Concert and New Year's Eve Concert for Peace are an integral part of our concert series. Joined by Rose of the Compass, Musica Sacra, and the Oratorio Society of New York, the Cathedral Choirs, Orchestra, and a remarkable artistic team of organists and soloists bring the beloved space of the Cathedral to life with this transcendent music.

### **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.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cathedral has responded to changing needs in the local community and across the city and state. People from many faiths and communities worship together in daily services held online and in person; the soup kitchen serves roughly 50,000 meals annually; social service outreach has an increasingly varied roster of programs to safely provide resources and aid to the hardest-hit New Yorkers; the distinguished Cathedral School prepares young students to be future leaders; Advancing the Community of Tomorrow, 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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