

University Organ Series

UNIVERSITY ORGAN SERIES

MICHAEL GAILIT

ORGAN

The Cosmopolitan World of Felix Mendelssohn

ORGAN HALL

Sunday, January 28, 2001 • 2:30 p.m.

ASU FineArts
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

School of Music
www.asu.edu/cfa/music

MICHAEL GAILIT

Organist St. Augustine's Church, Vienna (former court church)
Organ Performance Class Conservatory of Music, Vienna
Piano faculty member University of Music, Vienna

Michael Gailit, born in 1957, received his musical and academic training at the University of Music in Vienna, Austria. He studied piano with Hilde Langer-Rühl and Alexander Jenner, and organ with Herbert Tachezi. In 1977, he received his performance degree in organ, and took first prize in the competition "Jugend musiziert". In 1980 and 1981 he received degrees in piano and organ pedagogy and the graduation award from the University. He completed his studies with a performance degree in piano in 1982. Finally he earned a MA degree in 1993.

Michael Gailit is organist at St. Augustine's Church which has the largest music program in Vienna with a high mass with choir, soloists and orchestra every Sunday, with organ masses, organ meditations and recitals and orchestra concerts throughout the year. The organ music is performed on two tracker instruments, a four-manual Rieger of 1976 and a two-manual Reil of 1985 (the latter built in historic Thuringian style of the time of Bach).

In 1995, Gailit was asked to take over an organ performance class at the Vienna Conservatory of Music, the first open organ teaching position in Vienna after 16 years. There he initiated a series of seminars and workshops on performance practices in organ music of all time periods. Gailit is also a member of the piano faculty of the University of Music in Vienna since 1980. From 1981 he has also been a guest professor for the Vienna Music Program of DePauw University, Indiana. He has given courses, master classes and lectures in Vienna, Germany, Sweden and the United States. Since 1976, Michael Gailit has performed in many European music centers and at international festivals in Austria, Germany, Switzerland, France, Great Britain, Slovenia, Italy, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Poland, Finland, Estonia, Canada and Russia. Since 1984, he regularly has toured the United States giving recitals and master classes both on organ and piano.

He appeared as soloist with the Austrian Radio Symphony, the Vienna Symphony, the Vienna Philharmonic, the Berlin Philharmonic, the Concertgebouw Orchestra and the Chamber Orchestra of Europe and conductors such as Claudio Abbado, Luciano Berio, Riccardo Chailly, Andrew Davis, Dennis Russell Davies, Michael Gielen, Bernhard Haitink, Sir Charles Mackerras, Vaclav Neumann, Giuseppe Patané, Peter Schreier and Leif Segerstam. He recorded for the Austrian radio (ORF), the Sender Freies Berlin (SFB), the Mitteldeutscher Rundfunk (MDR) and Minnesota Public Radio, U.S.A. Live performances of contemporary music (organ and orchestra) were subsequently released on record and compact disc. Since 1991 Gailit has released three solo CDs. In addition to several articles in music magazines, he has published the first comprehensive book on the Liszt pupil Reubke („Julius Reubke - Life And Works“) in 1995.

PROGRAM

The Cosmopolitan World of Felix Mendelssohn

Prelude and Fugue D Major, BWV 532

Johann Sebastian Bach
1685-1750

Prelude and Fugue C Minor, Op. 37/1

Felix Mendelssohn
1809-1847

2nd Sonata in C Minor, Op. 65/2

Grave; Adagio
Allegro maestoso e vivace
Fuga: Allegro moderato

Felix Mendelssohn

6th Sonata in D Minor, Op. 65/6

Choral; Andante sostenuto
Fuga: sostenuto e legato
Finale: Andante

Felix Mendelssohn

Prelude and Fugue in A Minor, BWV 543

J.S. Bach

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In respect for the performers and those audience members around you,
please turn all beepers, cell phones, watches to their silent mode. Thank you.



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