

Pipe organ recital at Christ Church soars with Christopher Wrench in the works



Reviews

Rodney Smith, The Advertiser
May 15, 2017 6:24pm

LIKE any concert, a pipe organ recital needs harmony between the auditorium, the instrument and the performer and all three were present on this occasion with happy results.

Christ Church possesses just enough resonance for sumptuous sound, the instrument itself is one of Adelaide's best and **Christopher Wrench proved wholly sensitive to his surroundings and listeners with every note he played.**

His empathy with the organ's romantic repertoire is palpable and his ability to manage brilliantly the intricacies of Romantic rubato permeated almost his entire program of easy-on-the-ear popular perennials that entertained as well as informed.

John Ireland's little *Capriccio* (1911) was huge fun as it tripped along between nonchalant humour and breezy brilliance, displaying links with what used to be called Light Music. Wammes' recently popular minimalist *Miroir* (1989) was equally entrancing with its slight, sweet-toned breathy innocence.

But **Wrench also handles lengthy narratives with ease.** Guilmant's expansive *Sonata in D Minor* ended this recital with all the French élan, swagger and sheer brilliance we expect from that organ

school. **Wrench was persuasive whether in its lyrical or bombastic moments**, always illuminating its declamatory style with colourful, creative sonorities.

Franck's *Choral in E* also benefited from all this and being the better piece made a big lasting impression as **Wrench got past the instrument's mechanics to its heart.** Franck would have been delighted with that.

Christopher Wrench
Christ Church, North Adelaide
May 14

<http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/entertainment/arts/pipe-organ-recital-at-christ-church-soars-with-christopher-wrench-in-the-works/news-story/dc915b99917ed12f56c6523e9b992b28>

Organ Music Society of Adelaide Inc.

Newsletter

June/July 2017

Volume 50, No.3



Christopher Wrench at Christ Church, North Adelaide in May