

Henry Willis Organ Recital

Brisbane City Hall

Tuesday 13 June 2017, 1.15pm

Christopher Wrench



Widely recognized for his passionate and authoritative interpretations of a broad repertoire, internationally acclaimed Australian organist CHRISTOPHER WRENCH is equally at home in the varied roles of soloist, liturgical musician, accompanist, continuo and chamber player.

Præludium in g, BuxWV 149

Dietrich Buxtehude
1637-1707

Prélude & Cantilène from *Trois Pièces*, op.29 (1893)

Gabriel Pierné
1863-1937

Sonata No. 1 in d, op.42

Introduction (Largo e maestoso) & Allegro
Pastorale (Andante quasi Allegretto)
Finale (Allegro assai)

Alexandre Guilmant
1837-1911

Born in Brisbane, Wrench is a graduate of the Queensland and Vienna Conservatoria and the *Vienna University of Music*. International recognition followed performances at the Vienna Konzerthaus, St. Stephen's Cathedral, Austrian Radio, and competitions in Melbourne (1st Prize), Dublin (2nd Prize), St Alban's, England (Audience Prize) and Odense (1st Prize). He returned to Australia in 1991 to teach at the *Queensland Conservatorium of Music* and was Organist/Music Director at St Mary's Anglican Church, Kangaroo Point for 18 years prior to his and his appointment as *Director of Music* at Christ Church St Lucia (Brisbane) in 2013.

A regular performer at festivals throughout Australia; Christopher has appeared as soloist with the *Adelaide* and *Australian Chamber Orchestras*, CSO, QSO, the *Camerata of St John's* and the *Queensland Youth Symphony*, as is frequently heard on ABC Classic FM.

Twenty international tours have included Austria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, England, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Norway and Sweden. His SACD of Bach's *Six Organ Sonatas* for Melba Recordings received rave reviews from around the globe. In 2014 Wrench was one of 'five organists from five continents' who performed the Silberman 300th Anniversary Gala concert in Freiberg Cathedral, Saxony. In 2017 Christopher was appointed co-tutor at the ACT Organ School in Canberra.

www.christopherwrench.com

What the critics said:

... a perfection of execution that is jaw dropping ...

... Wrench achieves the Holy Grail of trio performance ... Brilliant music, brilliantly performed.

Church Music Quarterly, June 2013

His is the bold and determined approach of a perfectionist,

whose superb artistic quality is balanced by an extraordinary technique.

Organ Australia, Dec 2013