

Repertoire list for Course No. 9

César Franck: Complete Works for Organ and Harmonium

Professor: Joris Verdin



The harmonium is the product of a long process, starting in the era of baroque and classical style, and coming to an end in those years that marked the official breakthrough of the new style, which we call the romantic style. Invented in 1842, the instrument was quickly adopted by the young generation of keyboard players. The modulation of a sustained tone was of course possible in the human voice, in stringed instruments, but in the keyboard field, only in the harmonium.

In the nineteenth century all organists were not only pianists, but also harmonium players. The harmonium was a genuine part of their musical world. The aesthetical elements of this new instrument had a great influence on organ playing and writing for the organ. César Franck is an outstanding example for understanding this evolution. The radical change in his compositional style around 1860 is partly explained by his knowledge of the harmonium. César Franck answers to the general need for a keyboard instrument capable to achieve important changes in volume, connected to changes in timbre, in order to express the musician's feelings and communicate them to the listener.

Special focus on:

Harmonium

- Cinq Pièces pour harmonium
- Quasi Marcia op 20
- From L'Organiste: Pièces en ut, pièces en mi, pièces en mi bémol

Organ

From the Six Pièces:

- Pièce en La Majeur (A major, 1854)
- Fantaisie en ut (C Major)
- Grande Pièce Symphonique

Trois Pièces:

- Fantaisie (in A major)
- Cantabile
- Pièce héroïque

From the Chorals:

- Choral No. 1
- Choral No. 3

Choose which pieces from this list you want to prepare and let us know by sending an email to office@organfestival.nl. Please note that the playing time per student is limited and that we cannot guarantee that you can play all your preferred pieces. Nevertheless, choose approximately 5 to 7 items so that the professor can compile an attractive course program. If we do not receive notification of your prepared pieces, your registration will be changed to passive.