



## LYNNE DAVIS

### Concert Organist

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“Lynne Davis played with precision and ‘*le bon gout.*’ Her sense of style was excellent and she clearly showed her mastery of all the French-style ornamentation.” (*The Calgary Herald*)

Though American by birth, **Lynne Davis’** career has been steeped in French music, culture, and style. After taking First Prize at the 1975 St. Albans International Organ Competition in England, she has performed in nearly every cathedral in France, numerous major cities throughout Europe, and from coast to coast in the United States and Canada. Her activities have included being a featured performer at two national conventions and several regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists, a member of Chartres, Dallas, St. Albans, Taraverdiev (Russia), and Montréal international organ competition juries, and giving master classes on French organ literature and its history. From the late 1970’s until 2006, Lynne Davis made France her home, having married Frenchman and Chartres International Organ Competition founder Pierre Firmin-Didot. Her unique living, vast working experience, and her lineage of study in France makes her an authority in all French organ repertoire.

Awarded by the Republic of France, she holds the coveted *Certificat d’Aptitude de Professeur d’Orgue*. A highly regarded teacher, she served as organ professor at the Conservatory of Music in Clamart, near Paris, from 1990–2006 and from 1997–2006 at the French National Regional Conservatory in Caen. In 2006, she returned to the U.S. and was appointed the *Robert L. Town Distinguished Professor of Organ* at the Wichita State University School of Music in Kansas. In addition to heading the organ program, she is producer and artistic director of the *Rie Bloomfield Organ Series*, *Distinguished Guest Artists*, and the *Wednesdays in Wiedemann* series which she created in 2007. Lynne Davis’s recordings include *Musique pour Cathédrales*, released on the Quantum label, *Lynne Davis en Concert*, recorded on the Cavillé-Coll organ at St. Etienne in Caen in Normandy, and *Lynne Davis at the Marcussen organ in Wiedemann Hall*, produced by Wichita State University. Her YouTube channel carries more than 50 live performances.

Ms. Davis graduated with honors in organ performance from the University of Michigan where she studied with Robert Clark. She then studied for eight years with Marie-Claire Alain, and also studied with Jean Langlais, Maurice and Marie-Madeleine Duruflé, André Fleury, Gaston Litaize, Edouard Souberbielle, and partook in classes with numerous other European master organists.

Following the immense success of the *American Alain Festival* which she organized at Wichita State University to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Jehan Alain, she was awarded as a French citizen the distinction of *Chevalier de l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres* from the French Ministry of Culture and Communication in 2012. In 2011, she was awarded the Excellence in Creativity Award from Wichita State University. In 2013, she received the medal of the city of Wichita from Mayor Carl Brewer and in 2016 the Burton Pell award from the Wichita Arts Council. In April 2021, she was promoted to Full Professor at the university.

Lynne Davis is represented in North America exclusively by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC.

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