



CLIVE DRISKILL-SMITH

Concert Organist

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“For sheer colour and finesse in every facet of organ playing, Driskill-Smith will be hard to beat, his mastery of the mechanics of the instrument the best of all of the competitors (in the Calgary International Organ Competition).

Elegant and suave in everything he played...” (Calgary Herald)

British organist Clive Driskill-Smith has taken the classical music world by storm, enthraling audiences from Beijing to Boston to Budapest with his extraordinary playing and fearless programming. Critics have praised his “blazing technique and unbelievable virtuosity” (*Chiff Chat*, American Guild of Organists) and described his performances as “intensely moving and truly breathtaking” (*Organo Pleno*, Australia). His solo recitals, and duo performances with Grammy Award-winning percussionist Joseph Gramley, bring audiences to their feet across the world.

Mr. Driskill-Smith is the Organist and Choirmaster at All Saints’ Episcopal Church in Fort Worth, Texas, a post that he combines with an international concert career. During the last few years, he has performed at the National Cathedral in Washington DC, Melbourne Town Hall, Westminster Abbey, the Grand Philharmonic Hall in Perm (Russia), and the National Performing Arts Center in Taipei. He has played at Festivals – such as the BBC Proms, the East Texas Pipe Organ Festival, and National Conventions of the American Guild of Organists – and he has worked with numerous conductors, including Dr. Stephen Darlington, Klaus Tennstedt, and Sir Colin Davis. His performances have been broadcast on the BBC (UK), NHK (Japan), *Pipedreams* (USA), and on radio and television throughout the world. His CDs have received critical acclaim, and he has recorded albums with Peter Gabriel on Virgin Records, and with Howard Goodall on EMI Classics.

Mr. Driskill-Smith was educated at Eton College and Oxford University, where he read Music at Christ Church. He graduated in 1999 with a Double First (First Class Honors in both examinations), and with the MPhil (Master of Philosophy) degree in 2001.

During his teens, he played the bassoon in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain, and he performed piano concertos by Rachmaninov, Mozart, Shostakovich, and Beethoven. He was awarded the ARCM (Associate of the Royal College of Music) diploma in Piano Performance in 1996, and the FRCO (Fellow of the Royal College of Organists) diploma in 1998. He studied the organ with David Sanger and won several international competitions, including the *Performer of the Year* competition in 2000 and the Calgary International Organ Competition in 2002.

From 2001 to 2018, Mr. Driskill-Smith was the organist at Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford, where he worked with Dr. Stephen Darlington, director of the world-famous choir. He was also a Trustee of the Royal College of Organists, a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Musicians (one of the ancient Livery Companies which evolved from London’s medieval guilds), and Professor of Organ at the Royal Academy of Music in London.

Clive Driskill-Smith is represented in North America exclusively by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC.

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