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DANIEL ROTH, ONE OF THE LEADING FRENCH ORGAN VIRTUOSOS TO PERFORM
ON THE E.M. SKINNER ORGAN AT THE CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION,
ORLEANS, MA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ORLEANS – Widely acclaimed as one of the leading French organ virtuosos, Daniel Roth from Paris, will be performing a concert as guest organist at the Church of the Transfiguration, Rock Harbor, Orleans, on Thursday, March 30th. Mr. Roth has held numerous prestigious positions throughout his career including being appointed Titular Organist at St. Sulpice in Paris, where his predecessors were Charles-Marie Widor, Marcel Dupré and Jean-Jacques Grunenwald. He was also the Artist-in-Residence at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., and has had an extensive teaching career. Mr. Roth is a graduate of the Paris Conservatory where he studied with Rolande Falcinelli and Maurice Duruflé. He has won several competitions, among them the Grand Prix de Chartres in 1971 for both interpretation and improvisation.

Daniel Roth will perform on the “overwhelmingly breathtaking” [E.M. Skinner Organ](#) at the [Church of the Transfiguration](#). This powerful instrument, restored by Nelson Barden of Boston, is comprised of seventeen different Twentieth Century E.M. Skinner organs, and is the only organ in the world with its particular surround-sound configuration. Consistent with the artwork in the Church, the rich variety of sounds and voices it can create give it the ability to “speak” a multitude of musical languages in prayer and praise to God.

The concert will be held on Thursday, March 30th at 7:30pm at the Church of the Transfiguration, Rock Harbor, Orleans, MA. Tickets are \$25 (\$20 for Seniors, free for students and 18 and under). Call 508-240-2400 for ticket information and reservations.

The E.M. Skinner Organ at the Church of the Transfiguration

Built by Nelson Barden & Associates of Boston, MA, the [E.M. Skinner organ](#) at the Church of the Transfiguration is a restoration and expansion of components from seventeen twentieth-century organs of the E.M. Skinner Organ Company.

When completed, it will include 150 ranks and over 12,000 pipes, which are suspended in mahogany cases over the two side aisles.

“The E.M. Skinner organ at the Church of the Transfiguration is a masterpiece of balance of harmonics, voicing, scale and color that is just overwhelmingly breathtaking.”—Organ Historical Society

The Church of the Transfiguration

[The Church of the Transfiguration](#) (“An architectural wonder” —*Cape Cod Travel Guide*) is a contemporary expression of an ancient fourth-century style of architectural heritage shared by all Christians. Designed by William Rawn Associates of Boston, and constructed of Minnesota limestone the color of Cape Cod sand, the church features a long rectangular nave, a rounded apse at the east end, narrow side aisles, a peaked timber roof, and interior columns and arches along the side aisles. The art program for the church combines fresco, mosaics, stone and bronze sculpture and stained glass to present a cohesive narrative based on biblical history and church tradition.

About the Artist



Photo by Sjaak Verboom

Daniel Roth has been widely acclaimed as one of the leading French organ virtuosos, and has held several prestigious positions as an artist and teacher. At age twenty he made his debut at the organ of the Basilique du Sacré Coeur in Paris, as assistant to his teacher Madame Falcinelli. He later succeeded her as Titular Organist, a post he held until 1985 when he was appointed Titular Organist at St. Sulpice, the famous Paris church where his predecessors were Charles-Marie Widor, Marcel Dupré and Jean-Jacques Grunenwald.

A former student at the Paris Conservatory, his teachers have included Marie-Claire Alain and Maurice Duruflé. Daniel Roth has won several competitions, among them the Grand Prix de Chartres in 1971 for both interpretation and improvisation.

From 1974 to 1976 Daniel Roth held the position of Artist-in-Residence of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC. Upon his return to France, he resumed his teaching position at the Conservatory of Marseille, which he held until 1979 when he was appointed to the Conservatory of Strasbourg,

a post he filled for nine years. From 1988 until the summer of 1995, Mr. Roth taught at the Musikhochschule in Saarbrücken; he then served as Professor of Organ at the Musikhochschule in Frankfurt am Main, succeeding Edgar Krapp and Helmut Walcha, until his retirement in 2007.

Renowned for his brilliant interpretations of organ literature and for his thrilling improvisations which are regularly included in his concert programs, Daniel Roth has concertized extensively throughout Europe, Great Britain, The United States, Scandinavia, Japan and Korea. In addition to his regular tours, he has come to North America on several occasions as guest artist for various conventions: the Third International Congress of Organists (Washington DC and Philadelphia), the national convention of the Royal Canadian College of Organists (Montreal) and the national convention of The American Guild of Organists held in Detroit. He has also served as visiting artist/instructor at Yale University, where he gave private lessons, presented a lecture and performed a recital at Woolsey Hall.

Mr. Roth has earned the Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, Officier des Arts et Letters, and he was named an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Organists. In July 2006 he was awarded the "Europäische Kirchenmusik" prize by the Europäische Kirchenmusik Festival in Schwäbisch-Gmünd, Germany. Other musicians who have received this prize include Krystof Penderecki, Arvo Pärt, and Petr Eben.

A prolific composer as well as performer, Mr. Roth has written works for organ solo, flute and organ, choir and organ, orchestra, and for piano, organ and orchestra. He has also composed three transcriptions for organ: *Rédemption* and *Symphonie en ré mineur* by César Franck, and *Scherzo* (from *Six Duos for Harmonium and Piano*) by Camille St-Saëns, which are published by Leduc, Delatour, Schott-Mainz, Bärenreiter, Novello, Association Boëllmann-Gigout, Butz (Bonn), and Joubert (Paris). Daniel Roth has been commissioned to write works for Kenneth Star in Boston, Philip Brunelle in Minneapolis, the towns of Ingolstadt and Ludwigshafen (Germany), the Music Festival San Sebastian, Spain, and the Festival of Dudelange (Luxembourg). In January of 1999, he was honored with a concert entirely dedicated to his compositions at the Church of the Madeleine in Paris. Later that year he was awarded the Prix Florent Schmitt by the Institut de France, Académie des Beaux-Arts for his compositions. In 2004 the city of Ludwigshafen commissioned him to compose a work for orchestra; the tone poem *Licht im Dunkel*, which received its world premiere in May 2005 performed by the Staatsphilharmonie Rheinland-Pfalz, under the baton of Daniel Roth's son François-Xavier Roth. Its first performance in Paris took place the following year during the St-Etienne-du Mont Festival. Mr. Roth later added a second and third movement to turn *Licht im Dunkel* into a Tryptique for piano, organ and orchestra (I L'Espérance; II L'Amour; III La Joie). "La Joie" was premiered in 2008 during the César Franck-Tage-Philharmonie Essen (Germany) conducted by Emmanuel Plasson. The complete Tryptique, now published by Schott, will receive its world premiere on April 18, 2010, during the dedication of the new Metzler organ in the Church of Saint Anne in Düren, Germany (near Köln).

Daniel Roth has numerous recordings to his credit from companies of JAV Recordings, Erato, Philips, Arion, Pathé-Marconi, EMI, Wergo, Motette-Ursina, Priory

and Aeolus. He has won several “Diapason d’Or” from the French magazine Diapason.

LONDON “Daniel Roth showed himself a master both stylistically and technically...”
Musical Times

PARIS “His strong technique ... the wild character of his improvisations as well as his accomplished knowledge of harmony have rightly impressed the audience.”
Le Figaro

WASHINGTON DC “... a brilliant display of subtle registration and blazing virtuosity ... Daniel Roth revealed a commanding technique and an infallible ear for balances.”
Washington Star