

FRIDAY MUSIC AT MIDDAY



National City Christian Church

5 THOMAS CIRCLE, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

CARSON COOMAN

Organist

April 23, 2021

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Music at Midday
National City Christian Church
Washington, D.C.

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Recorded in Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dawn Shadow , op. 372a (2007)	Robert Daigneault (b. 1940)
Fyrarna (The Lighthouses) (2002)	Villemo Daneling (b. 1977)
Ricercare (1992)	Guy Bovet (b. 1942)
abhanden (méditations sur l'orgue 3) (2021)	Eva-Maria Houben (b. 1955)

MEET THE ARTIST

Carson Cooman is an American composer and organist. He holds degrees in music from Harvard University and Carnegie Mellon University and since 2006 has held the position of Composer in Residence at the Memorial Church, Harvard University. As an organ recitalist, Cooman specializes in the performance of contemporary music. Over 300 new compositions by more than 100 international composers have been written for him. Cooman has made many recordings as organist, including more than 10 complete CD releases of music by Thomas Åberg, Paula Diehl, Carlotta Ferrari, Lothar Graap, Eva-Maria Houben, and Andreas Willscher, along with several multi-composer albums. His recordings of more than 2,000 additional contemporary organ compositions can be heard freely from YouTube and his website. As a composer, Cooman has created a catalog of works in many forms—ranging from solo instrumental pieces to operas, and from orchestral works to hymn tunes. His work has been performed on all six inhabited continents and appears on over forty recordings, including more than twenty-five complete CDs on the Naxos, Albany, Artek, Gothic, Divine Art, Métier, Diversions, Convivium, Altarus, MSR Classics, Raven, and Zimbel labels. For more information, visit carsoncooman.com

MEET THE COMPOSERS

Canadian composer **Robert Daigneault** (b. 1940) was born in Ontario and studied at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. Daigneault was composer in residence for the Toronto Dance Theatre (for whom he wrote more than 15 dance scores) and has composed works for numerous ensembles and musicians. His music has been heard through North American and Europe. The Canadian Music Centre described Daigneault's work as follows: "Daigneault is fascinated by reality and mystery. He defines reality as anything that already exists in the world. What interests him is to use a fragment of reality as the starting point for a composition, and to make reality fanciful. He draws on many sources-jazz, blues, hymn tunes, folk tunes, other composers, patterns from nature such as plant, rock, cloud, wood textures, organic forms, stories, poetry, photos, depression, and joy." Daigneault has also been active as an educator. Through the Canadian Artist in Schools Programs, he ran workshops in which students wrote and performed their own musicals, and he has also taught piano and composition privately. In the late 2000s, after a large output of several hundred compositions in various forms, Daigneault stopped composing notated scores to focus instead on creating "musique concrete" electronic compositions.

Villema Daneling (b. 1977) was born in Västerås, Sweden and was raised in Tomelilla. She was educated in organ at the Malmö Academy of Music and has worked as an organist and church music in Ystad, Hörby, Orsa, and Simrishamn. Daneling has also pursued active freelance activities as a choir director, singer, and accompanist. As a composer, she has written a variety of instrumental and vocal works.

Swiss organist and composer **Guy Bovet** (b. 1942) was born in Thun and studied in Lausanne (with Marie Dufour), Geneva (with Pierre Segond), and in Paris (with Marie-Claire Alain). From 1979-99, he was a faculty member of the University of Salamanca and in 1989 became professor at the Musikhochschule in Basel. His extensive activities as performer, composer, and teacher have taken him around the world many times, and he has been actively involved in projects relating to the restoration and preservation of early organs. Bovet has written more than 200 musical works; in addition to numerous organ pieces, there are works in many other genres, including music for the theater and films.

German composer and organist **Eva-Maria Houben** (b. 1955) was educated at the Folkwang-Musikhochschule in Essen, where she studied organ with Gisbert Schneider. After receiving her doctorate and post doctorate qualifications in musicology, she taught at various institutions and since 1993 has been a professor at Dortmund University's Institut für Musik und Musikwissenschaft. She has published numerous books and articles on subjects related to contemporary music. Houben has been performing for many years as an organist and is a member of the Wandelweiser Group of experimental composers and performers. Her large catalog of compositions include works in many genres, ranging from solo instrumental pieces to orchestral works.

WELCOME TO NATIONAL CITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Since 1981 National City Christian Church has presented midday concerts with a special emphasis on its heroic pipe organ. At most of our midday concerts you will hear the majestic roar of this 7,500-pipe, five-keyboard Möller organ (the city's third largest pipe organ) in 30-minute recitals of some of the most thrilling and audience-friendly music performed by some of the nation's finest organists.

National City Christian Church is the national church of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), a house of prayer for all people, and home to an open and affirming community of faith. The congregation dates back to 1843, and the current sanctuary, designed by celebrated architect John Russell Pope, was dedicated in 1930. Pope later planned and built the National Archives and the Jefferson Memorial. NCCC has long been a church of presidents. James A. Garfield and Lyndon B. Johnson were members and actively involved in this congregation. During the 1980-81 renovation of the sanctuary, stained glass windows were installed to memorialize these two great leaders of our country. NCCC is actively involved in social service projects and supports organizations such as Martha's Table and N Street Village. It also distributes 10,000 bags of food each year at its weekly food pantry and is home to a number of non-profit organizations. Please join us for worship on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. Our services are currently being broadcast on the church's YouTube channel and Facebook page. Please visit our [website](#) for a complete listing of our offerings, services, and events.



NATIONAL CITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

5 Thomas Circle, NW, Washington DC 20005

Phone: 202-232-0323

www.nationalcitycc.org

Rev. Dr. Amy Butler, Interim Senior Minister

Rev. Dr. J. Michael McMahon, Artistic Director, Music at Midday

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