

Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series

**Angela Kraft Cross, Organist**  
*Classic to Contemporary*

Sunday, September 28, 2025 at 3pm  
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

Pacific Lutheran University  
The College of Professional Studies and School of Music, Theatre & Dance present

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Welcome to Lagerquist Concert Hall.  
Please disable the audible signal on all watches and cellular phones for the duration of the concert.  
Use of cameras, recording equipment, and all digital devices is not permitted in the concert hall.

**PROGRAM**

Prelude, Fugue and Chaconne in C Major, BWV 137 ..... Dietrich Buxtehude (c. 1637-1707)  
Tierce en Taille..... Jean Adam Guilain (c. 1680-after 1739)  
    *from Suite du second ton*  
Toccata undecima .....Georg Muffat (1653-1704)  
Toccata in F Major, BWV 540..... J. S. Bach (1685-1750)  
Sonata in F Minor, op. 65, no. 1.....Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)  
    *II. Adagio*  
    *IV. Allegro assai vivace*

*INTERMISSION*

Variations on Ode to Joy..... Angela Kraft Cross (b. 1958)  
Healing Waters..... Angela Kraft Cross  
Pièce Héroïque.....César Franck (1822-1890)  
Méditation, op. posth. ....Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)  
Symphony No. 2 in E Minor, op. 20 ..... Louis Vierne (1870-1937)  
    *V. Finale*

## Program Notes

**Dietrich Buxtehude**, a Danish Baroque composer, settled in Lübeck, Germany, where he was the organist at the Marienkirche (1668-1707). He was a master of the *stylus fantasticus* (a theatrical style of writing) in his organ compositions. A twenty-year-old Bach walked over 250 miles from Arnstadt to spend three months with this master and learn from him. The *Prelude, Fugue and Chaconne* is so named because of its three clear-cut sections: an improvisatory prelude, a strict fugue, and a dance-like final section anchored with a repeated bass figure.

**Jean Adam Guilain** was born in Germany around 1680, but emigrated to France sometime before 1702, where his compositions followed the French classical model of writing suites of small Catholic mass movements. *Tierce en taille* is a gentle and lyrical piece where the sparkly solo sound “tierce” is in the tenor voice “taille.”

**Georg Muffat** was born in France where he studied with Jean-Baptiste Lully before traveling to Prague, Salzburg, and eventually Passau, Germany. His twelve multi-sectional organ toccatas are inspired by the French and Italian traditions. His compositions are truly cosmopolitan.

**Johann Sebastian Bach**, often considered the greatest composer of all time, lived his entire life in Germany, yet was influenced by neighboring traditions such as French and Italian composition. His *Toccata in F Major* is a particularly favorite organ work with its joyful spirit, canons, and pedal cadenzas!

**Felix Mendelssohn** lived most of his life in Germany, with chapters in France, Venice, and London. Almost his entire organ career was centered on England; he was good friends with Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, who considered him their musical hero. The six organ sonatas were commissioned by a British publisher Coventry.

My “**Variations on Ode to Joy**,” in contrast to Classical and Romantic variation styles, are inspired by analytical Cubism, asking the question, “How might Picasso approach writing a set of variations?” Instead of a series of discrete variations, you will hear a nearly continuous patchwork quilt of variation snippets, some humorously interrupting each other.

*Healing Waters* is inspired by the ocean waves of the Monterey coast in California. We so often have our favorite places in nature where we bring our stresses and troubles, and the crashing waves bring insight and healing. After the water imagery of the first section, the plaintive oboe illustrates the current struggles. The cleansing waves return and lead to a moment of new insight. After a duet between the enlightened self and the waves, the healed one returns to their life and the majesty of the ocean has the last word.

**César Franck**, Belgian by birth, emigrated to Paris as a teenager where he studied music, particularly the organ. He became the “organiste titulaire” at Sainte Clotilde in Paris in 1859, and he guided the installation of a new Cavaillé-Coll organ within a year. *Piece Héroïque* was written in the aftermath of the painful Franco-Prussian war, and its middle section is like a memorial moment for a fallen soldier. It was premiered at the inauguration of the new Cavaillé-Coll organ at the Palais du Trocadero, next to the Eiffel Tower.

**Maurice Duruflé** is often called the last of the French “Impressionists,” in the lineage of Debussy and Ravel. A perfectionist composer, he published very few of his works, but they are all masterpieces. One small gem published posthumously is *Méditation*, written in 1964, using themes from the Agnus Dei of his *Messe Cum Jubilo*. Duruflé was the *organiste titulaire* at Saint Etienne du Mont in Paris, next to the Pantheon.

**Louis Vierne** was the blind *organiste titulaire* at the Notre Dame Cathedral (1900-1937) in Paris. Like César Franck and Charles-Marie Widor ahead of him, he was inspired to write symphonies for organ solo exploiting the orchestral tonal resources of the Cavaillé-Coll organs. This is the mighty “Finale” to *Symphony No. 2*, written shortly after his tenure at Notre Dame started.

## About the Performer

**Angela Kraft Cross**, San Francisco Bay Area organist, pianist, and composer, graduated from Oberlin College and Conservatory of Music in 1980 with bachelor's degrees in physics and organ performance. She then earned her Doctor of Medicine degree at Loma Linda University, where she subsequently completed her residency in ophthalmology. In 1993, she completed her Master of Music degree in piano performance at the College of Notre Dame with Thomas LaRatta. Her organ teachers have included Louis Robilliard, Aude Heurtematte, Marie-Louise Langlais, Sandra Soderlund, S. Leslie Grow, William Porter, and Garth Peacock. In 2001, she was awarded the Associateship credential of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) after passing rigorous playing and written examinations. She has studied composition with Pamela Decker.

Dr. Kraft Cross has performed extensively on both organ and piano, having given over six hundred concerts across the United States, in Canada, England, Holland, France, Russia, Finland, Hungary, Korea, Lesotho, and Guam, including such venues as Notre Dame Cathedral, St. Sulpice and the Madeleine in Paris, Washington National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., St. Patrick's Cathedral and St. Thomas Church in New York City, Methuen Memorial Music Hall and Trinity Church in Boston, E. Power Biggs' organ at Harvard, and Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's Cathedral, and Southwark Cathedral in London. She has been featured soloist with local Bay Area ensembles; Master Sinfonia Orchestra, Soli Deo Gloria, Sine Nomine, Masterworks Chorale, Viva la Musica, The Choral Project, and the San Jose Symphonic Choir, as well as Seattle's Philharmonia Northwest Chamber Orchestra, and the Skagit Symphony in northern Washington. In October 2017, Viva la Musica performed her composition *Exsultate Deo* on their international tour to Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland, and St. Petersburg, Russia. In Spring 2022, she performed the Jongen *Symphonie Concertante* and Guilman *Symphony No. 1* with the Saratoga Symphony.

In July 2011, Dr. Kraft Cross was a featured recitalist at the San Francisco AGO Region IX Convention. She has released nine solo CD albums, recorded locally in California as well as in Paris, Lyon and London. Her latest CD album, *Passages on the Journey*, recorded in Methuen, Massachusetts, features her compositions of the past ten years. Her organ recordings can be heard on *Pipedreams* with Michael Barone on American Public Media, as well as on *Sounds of the Spires* with Jennifer Pascual and are accessible on Spotify and other streaming services. Starting in 2018, Lorenz Music/Sacred Music Press has begun publishing her compositions and has released eight books of organ compositions: *Tree of Life*, *Journey to Wholeness*, *Messianic Longings*, *House of Love*, *Courage in a Time of Struggle*, *Eternal Oasis*, *Organ Inventions*, and *Hymn Inventions*. They have also published her anthems "Exsultate Deo" and "What Does the Lord Require of You?" During the Covid-19 pandemic, she built a YouTube channel of organ and piano performances: *Angela Kraft Cross organist*. For the National Prayer Service associated with the 2021 Presidential Inauguration, Thomas Sheehan performed her "Healing" movement from *Journey to Wholeness* for the postlude at Washington National Cathedral. She served as the organist of the Congregational Church of San Mateo from 1993 to 2025 as the Artist in Residence. She is also a regular organ recitalist at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor as well as at St. Mary's Cathedral, Trinity Church, and Mission Dolores in San Francisco.

In addition to her musical career, Dr. Kraft Cross retired in 2011 having worked for 22 years as an ophthalmic surgeon at the Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Redwood City, and now volunteers as an ophthalmologist at the Samaritan House San Mateo. She is committed to the musical education of young people, and since 1997 has been instrumental in organizing Organ Camps for young pianists headquartered at her church. She deeply enjoys teaching and several of her students have gone on to incorporate organ study in their university studies in schools such as Oberlin, USC, Stanford, UC Berkeley, and Yale. Dr. Kraft Cross is the founding director of the San Francisco Peninsula Organ Academy, a nonprofit organization formed in 2014 to support young concert organists with scholarships on short intensive overseas study trips. She also served as faculty and/or performed in Pipe Organ Encounters in San Francisco 2005, San Diego 2012, and Stanford 2013 and 2016, and Los Angeles 2018. She was the President of the Junior Bach Festival in Berkeley 2018-2021, and is currently Co-Music Director. She is also a member of the Concert Artist Cooperative III. Come visit her website at: [www.angelakraftcross.com](http://www.angelakraftcross.com).

## About the Organ Builder

Since the founding of the company in 1979, Paul Fritts & Co. Organ Builders has built forty-four instruments. The team has devoted considerable time researching and practicing the techniques developed by the finest organ builders working in the Netherlands, Germany, Spain, Mexico, France, and the United States with an emphasis on the so-called Golden Age period of organ building. Organ building during these early times reached a very high level of sophistication, particularly when we study techniques of pipe construction and voicing. Elegant speech combined with a full yet sweet and colorful tone captivates the listener. The research also includes careful observations of the acoustical properties of the rooms in which the pipes speak; a key aspect to consider as one evaluates the sound of an organ. These experiences, together with the extensive expertise found within the workshop, contribute to each new project. The primary mission is to craft instruments that today's players and audiences will love and cherish.

Recent work has reflected a desire to expand further the range of the instruments while maintaining high musical standards within a meaningful and useful style. For the most part, this involves building larger, more expansive projects with additional features that broaden the musical scope of the organs. Among the most recently completed installations is a seventy-stop organ in the Basilica on the campus of The University of Notre Dame in Indiana. This is the firm's largest instrument to date with four manuals housed within a highly decorated case that includes a Rückpositive case cantilevered from the gallery rail similar to the organ here at PLU.

There are currently eight craftsmen working with Paul in the workshop. All design work along with the construction of the thousands of components (except for the electric blowers, electronic pre-set systems and small hardware items) is done in-house. The establishment of the pipe shop in 1983 completed this vision for the company, enabling personalized attention to the most important parts of the organs. The workshop itself, located just ten blocks from PLU, features a beautiful timber-framed structure with sufficient height and space for even the largest organs to be assembled prior to dismantling and shipment.

**Disposition of the Gottfried and Mary Fuchs Organ**  
 Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Building  
 Pacific Lutheran University  
 Tacoma, WA

**Built by Paul Fritts & Co. 1998**

Great		Positive		Swell	
Praestant (Gis)	16'	Praestant (F)	8'	Quintadena	16'
Octave	8'	Gedackt	8'	Principal	8'
Rohrflöte	8'	Octave	4'	Bourdon	8'
Spielflöte	8'	Rohrflöte	4'	Viole de Gambe	8'
Salicional	8'	Octave	2'	Voix Celeste (c")	8'
Octave	4'	Waldflöte	2'	Octave	4'
Spitzflöte	4'	Nasat	1 1/3'	Koppelflöte	4'
Quinte	2 2/3'	Sesquialter	II	Nasard	2 2/3'
Octave	2'	Scharff	IV-VII	Gemshorn	2'
Cornet	V	Fagott	16'	Tierce	1 3/5'
Mixture	V-VII	Trompete	8'	Mixture	V-VII
Trompete	16'	Dulcian	8'	Trompete	8'
Trompete	8'			Hautbois	8'
Baarpfeife	8'			Voix Humaine	8'
				Schalmey	4'
<b>Pedal</b>					
Subbaß	32'	Praestant	16'	Posaune	32'
Subbaß	16'	Octave	8'	Posaune	16'
Gedackt	8'	Octave	4'	Trompete	8'
Nachthorn	2'	Mixture	V-VII	Trompete	4'
				Cornett	2'
<b>Couplers:</b>	Positive/Great Swell/Great Swell/Positive Great/Pedal Positive/Pedal Swell/Pedal	<b>Key Action:</b> Direct Mechanical, suspended			
		<b>Manual compass:</b> 58 notes (C-a''')			
		<b>Pedal compass:</b> 30 notes (C-f')			
		<b>Temperament:</b> Kellner			
<b>Other:</b>	Tremulants Wind Stabilizer				

For pictures of the organ, please visit the organ builder's website at [www.frittsorgan.com](http://www.frittsorgan.com). For more information about the organ, the organ program at PLU, and the Richard D. Moe Organ Series, please visit [www.plu.edu/organ](http://www.plu.edu/organ).

**2025-2026 Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series**  
 Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Building  
 Pacific Lutheran University  
 Angela Kraft Cross, Sunday, September 28, 2025, 3pm  
 Julia Brown, Sunday, November 9, 2025, 3pm  
 Justin J. Murphy-Mancini, Sunday, February 8, 2026, 3pm  
 Stephen Price, Sunday, April 19, 2026, 3pm

If you would like to be on the mailing list for these organ concerts and other organ related events at PLU, please send an email to [organ@plu.edu](mailto:organ@plu.edu) with the subject line "Subscribe." You will receive a reminder email with program and artist information before each concert.

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