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World renowned organists Wayne Marshall, Olivier Latry, and David Briggs come together for the “Grand Organ Celebration” concert at the @KimmelCenter’s Verizon Hall on 2/26! More info @ KimmelCenter.org

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**KIMMEL CENTER CULTURAL CAMPUS PRESENTS
GRAND ORGAN CELEBRATION
WITH WORLD-RENOWNED ORGANISTS
WAYNE MARSHALL, OLIVIER LATRY & DAVID BRIGGS
FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

“While Marshall’s stunning virtuosity is certainly the main feature of this performance, he is also an astute musician who successfully treads that fine line between mere exhibitionism and musical respectability.”

- GRAMOPHONE

“The organ world boasts few stars, but French virtuoso Olivier Latry is surely one of them.”

-THE TELEGRAPH

“David Briggs is among the most important British exponents of the art of improvisation to have lived, his legendary skill not only delighting audiences the world over but inspiring the rising generation of organists to pursue the art seriously.”

- JONATHAN LILLEY, ELY CATHEDRAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Philadelphia, PA, December 19, 2019) – The Kimmel Center Cultural Campus presents three world renowned organists, **Wayne Marshall, Olivier Latry, and David Briggs**, for the

Grand Organ Celebration at Verizon Hall on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 8:00 p.m. These awe-inspiring musicians will perform the music of Bach, Widor, Liszt, Ravel, Saint-Saëns, and Gershwin on the Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ. The concert will culminate in a three-way improvisation by the organists, based on subjects suggested by the audience.

“Our Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ is the largest mechanical pipe organ in a concert venue in the entire United States and it has been played by some of the most talented organists in the world,” said Anne Ewers, President and CEO of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. “With the *Grand Organ Celebration*, three such virtuosi are gathered in Philadelphia to showcase their incredible talents for both classical composition and original improvisation in a concert that is wholly unique. Audience participation encouraged!”

Wayne Marshall serves as the Chief Conductor of WDR Funkhausorchester Cologne and Organist in residence at the Bridgewater Hall, Manchester. Wayne makes guest appearances with the Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano Giuseppe Verdi and many other orchestras. Wayne has become known for his musical diversity. As pianist and organist, Wayne has been featured extensively on albums and has performed recitals at some of the world’s most prestigious venues, as well as performing as soloist with numerous orchestras, including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Berlin Philharmonic, and the London Symphony Orchestra.

French organist Olivier Latry is one of the most distinguished concert organists in the world today. One of three titular organists at the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris, he is also Professor of Organ at the Paris Conservatory of Music, Organist Emeritus with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra in Canada, and Artist in Residence at the Dresdner Philharmonie for 2017 – 2019. He maintains a full schedule of concert performances, appearing regularly as a soloist at prestigious venues and festivals and with leading orchestras around the world.

David Briggs is an internationally-renowned organist whose performances are acclaimed for their musicality, virtuosity, and ability to excite and engage audiences of all ages. With an extensive repertoire spanning five centuries, he is known across the globe for his brilliant organ transcriptions of symphonic music by composers such as Mahler, Schubert, Tchaikovsky, Elgar, Bruckner, Ravel, and Bach. Fascinated by the art of improvisation since a child, David also frequently performs improvisations to silent films such as *The Phantom of the Opera*, *The Hunchback of Notre-Dame*, *Nosferatu*, *Jeanne d’Arc*, *Metropolis*, as well as a variety of Charlie Chaplin films.

Other featured upcoming performances featuring the Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ include: **Cashore Marionettes: *Simple Gifts*** (March 21, 2020, Verizon Hall), ***Rock the Organ*** (April 8, 2020, Verizon Hall), and ***The Passion of Joan of Arc*** (May 16, 2020, Verizon Hall).

GRAND ORGAN CELEBRATION

Kimmel Center Cultural Campus’ Verizon Hall
February 26, 2020, 8:00 p.m.

Tickets

Tickets are on sale now starting at \$35.00. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999, online at www.kimmelcenter.org, or at the Kimmel Center Box Office. Group sales are available for groups of 10 or more and can be purchased by calling 215-790-5883. See www.kimmelcenter.org for more information.

Organ performances are made possible through the Wyncote Foundation.

The Kimmel Center Cultural Campus

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, our mission is to engage the region's diverse communities with art through performance and education. Our Cultural Campus serves more than 1 million guests per year and includes the **Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts**, the **Academy of Music**, and the **Merriam Theater**- representing more than 160 years of rich history for the performing arts along Philadelphia's Avenue of the Arts. We are home to eight esteemed Resident Companies: **The Philadelphia Orchestra**, **Opera Philadelphia**, **Pennsylvania Ballet**, **The Philly POPS**, **PHILADANCO**, **The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia**, **The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society**, and **Curtis Institute of Music**. With nearly 9,000 seats per night, we are the region's most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. Our Cultural Campus serves as a preeminent and inclusive place to enjoy exceptional experiences that reflect the spirit of our region by cultivating a creative and socially-responsible environment where our community shares experiences that are delivered with pride, integrity, and respect. As a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization, we collaborate on, present, and produce a broad range of relevant and meaningful events, we serve as an active gathering space for social and community events, we educate the region's young people through access to quality arts experiences, and we provide support to artists in the creation of new work. TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank, is our proud sponsor of the Kimmel Center's 2019-2020 Season. American Airlines is the official airline of Broadway Philadelphia. For additional information, visit www.kimmelcenter.org.

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