



Brett Judson
organ
www.brettjudson.net

Scott Perkins
saxophone and voice
www.scottperkins.org

Lars Gjerde
organ and jazz piano
www.larsgjerde.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – July 20, 2010

Brett Judson, (585) 766-3355, Encore@EncoreMusicCreations.com, concert organist
Scott Vaillancourt, (207) 777-1200 ext 217, Director of Music, Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul

INTERNATIONAL TRIO TO PRESENT JAZZY RECITAL IN LEWISTON

Encore Music Creations presents a young and ambitious trio of musicians from the prestigious Eastman School of Music in an exciting concert at the mighty Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Lewiston on Thursday, August 12, at 7:30pm.

Encore was founded in 2010 by Eastman graduates Scott Perkins (composer, tenor, saxophonist) and Brett Judson (concert organist). They are touring Norway and New England this summer with Norwegian musician and Eastman graduate Lars Gjerde (organist, jazz pianist), presenting an hour-long program of eclectic church music, ranging from fiery and meditative organ pieces to swinging and expressive jazz arrangements with piano and saxophone. The program for the tour has the title “Espressivo - Music for Joy and Reflection.” It consists of international and timeless selections of church music for organ, organ and saxophone, organ duo, and jazz piano with voice and saxophone. The music is meant to inspire joy and create room for meditation. The richness of styles should appeal to a broad audience with many different kinds of experience with church music. The artists will speak to the audience about the music and will invite the listeners to participate in hymn-singing as part of the program.

There is no charge for admission to the recital. A free will offering will be received to help offset expenses for the artists. The program is sponsored by the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul and will take place in their beautiful sanctuary at 122 Ash Street, Lewiston, Maine 04240.

For more information about *Encore*, please visit www.EncoreMusicCreations.com. To read about the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, please see www.saintspeterandpaul.us

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Artist Biographies

A native Californian, **Brett Judson** graduated from the Crystal Cathedral High School in Garden Grove. He has studied with leading organists such as J. Christopher Pardini, Mark Thallander, David Goode, Wayne Foster, and, recently, with Dr. William Porter at the Eastman School of Music. Brett has won the American Guild of Organists Scholarship from the Long Beach chapter and two Fred Swann Organ awards. In 2008 he received the Barnes Award for Excellence in Pipe Organ from the Eastman School of Music. He has conducted the orchestra at the Crystal Cathedral, where he has been a featured artist on numerous occasions. Via the *Hour of Power* telecast, Brett has performed for more than 20 million people. Brett recently played on the National Public Radio show *Pipedreams!* In Rochester, New York, he served as Chancel Choir Director and Organist at Penfield United Methodist Church. Starting in the fall of 2010, Brett will study for his master’s degree in organ with Dr. Martin Jean at the Yale Institute of Sacred Music.

ENCORE

music creations

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Connecticut native **Scott Perkins** enjoys a multifaceted career as a musician. He is a composer of chamber and choral music, art songs and musical theatre, solo instrumental works, electroacoustic installations, and music for film and church. His compositions have been performed throughout North America and Europe and have won international prizes. Devoted particularly to early and new vocal music, Scott has concertized as a tenor throughout the United States and in England, Mexico, Scotland and Norway. He is an award-winning scholar of the music of Benjamin Britten.

Scott is completing his doctoral studies in composition with Ricardo Zohn-Muldoon at the Eastman School of Music. He received master's degrees in music theory and music theory pedagogy from Eastman, and he holds a bachelor's degree in music theory and composition from Boston University's College of Fine Arts. He has taught courses at Eastman and at Nazareth College in ear training, music theory, orchestration and music technology, and he has given private composition lessons at Nazareth.

Lars Gjerde, from Aure, Norway, is a doctoral candidate in organ performance with Prof. David Higgs at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, where he has earned a master's degree and the Sacred Music Diploma. Former organ teachers include Brian Hepworth, Oddbjørn Sæbø, Marilyn Schempp, and Karstein Askeland. At Eastman, Lars has studied organ literature with Dr. Hans Davidsson, harpsichord and improvisation with Dr. William Porter, and jazz piano with Prof. Tony Caramia. Lars has taught secondary organ lessons at Eastman and sung alto with the Christ Church Schola Cantorum under Stephen Kennedy.

Lars received degrees in music and German from Augustana College of Liberal Arts (Sioux Falls, South Dakota) and the Edvard Grieg Academy of Music (Bergen, Norway). At Augustana, Lars served as the Chapel Organist, sang with the concert and chamber choirs, and accompanied choral and opera ensembles. He was Organist and Choir Director at First Methodist Church in Bergen, where he also sang with the distinguished Bergen Domkantori under Magnar Mangersnes. Lars was a Second National Winner in the Music Teachers National Association Collegiate Organ Competition and earned Honorable Mention in the Reuter/Augustana Arts National Undergraduate Organ Competition. He has won numerous music and academic scholarships. Lars has participated in academies and performed around America and Europe, and he has played on the National Public Radio show *Pipedreams!*