

10-15-1986

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Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "10/15/1986 - Dary Zwicky" (1986). 1986.920.
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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

Oct. 15, 1986
Local

75

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Dr. Gary Zwicky, a faculty member in the Music Department at Eastern Illinois University, will present an organ recital on Thursday, Oct. 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Dvorak Concert Hall. There is no admission charge.

In observance of the 100th anniversary of the death of Franz Liszt, Zwicky will play Liszt's Prelude and Fugue on the Chorale "ad nos, ad salutarem undam." This monumental work, based on a theme from Meyerbeer's opera "Le Prophète," was composed in the same year, 1850, as his piano transcription of Bach's organ Prelude and Fugue in A Minor.

Zwicky will open the program with Bach's original, which combines the youthful daring of his Weimar period in the Prelude with the compositional mastery of his Leipzig period in the Fugue.

The program will close with a performance of an organ suite developed from incidental music by Petr Eben, a contemporary Czech composer, for a 1976 Viennese stage production of Goethe's Faust. In seven scenes, plus a prologue and epilogue, Eben portrays the struggle between Good and Evil, much as Liszt had done a century earlier in his Faust Symphony.

Zwicky, from a conversation with the composer in 1985, learned that he may have played the American premiere of Eben's "Laudes" at the inaugural recital of the EIU organ in 1974.

In that work, as well as in the Faust for Organ, Eben combined plainsong melodies with odd juxtapositions of common chords in irregular rhythms, often in ostinato repetitions.

In various movements of Faust, Eben also quotes student songs and folksongs, a Lutheran chorale, and a Schubert Lied. The use of a stage organ at the Vienna Burgtheater as both a sacred and a profane (street) calling for unusual colors and affects from the EIU concert organ.

Zwicky, who has taught organ at EIU since 1966, is a Fellow of the American Guild of Organists, and is also a member of the Organ Historical Society. He will be travelling to Europe on a sabbatical leave in the Spring of 1987 to study old manuscripts and old organs, including the organ on which the Liszt "Ad nos" was premiered.