

# All Hallows' Eve Organ Concert

with Organist Larry Blackburn  
First Presbyterian Church  
Salt Lake City, Utah

HALLOWEEN NIGHT 7:00 PM  
OCTOBER 31, 2020  
Online only  
[www.fpcslc.org](http://www.fpcslc.org)

It's a full moon...you'll just want to **howl!!**



## Program

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| Toccata and Fugue in D minor, BWV 565             | J.S. Bach (1685-1750)                       |
| Phantom of the Opera, from "Phantom of the Opera" | Andrew Lloyd Webber (b. 1948)               |
| Fantasia on <i>Judex Credis</i>                   | Alexandre-Pierre François Böely (1785-1858) |
| Moto Ostinato, from "Sunday Music"                | Petr Eben (1929-2007)                       |
| Toccata in C Minor, from "Suite Gothic"           | Léon Bœllmann (1862-1897)                   |
| Tu es Petra, from "Byzantine Sketches"            | Henri Mulet (1878-1967)                     |

## **Program Notes**

### **Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor, BWV 565**

Perhaps the most famous organ composition of all time. Not sure why it's so strongly associated with horror films and Halloween, perhaps it's the 1940 Disney classic film *Fantasia*.

BACH'S composition was often referred to as **Phantom of the Opera** theme until Andrew Lloyd Webber's smash hit came along. So I decided to combine the two...besides I had four friends request it be on the program.

### **Fantasia on Judex Credis**

Born at the palace of Versailles Böely attended the Paris Conservatory as a violinist, but dropped out before graduating to become an organist. In post Napoleonic France churches music in general was, quite frankly, frivolous and trite. Even church organs had thunder effects and bird calls built into the organ.

Fantasia on Judex Credis translated is "I believe" and comes from the creed. Organists refer to this composition as a bellows buster piece. When an organ was finished being made they needed to test the bellows to see if the wind was strong enough for a full organ. It starts out nice and sweet and builds through a section of repeated rhythmic chords under a sustained melody, and finally to full organ where the organist places their forearms down on the key to check for pitch sag.

### **Moto Ostinato**

Moto Ostinato means repeated rhythmic motion.

Eben wrote a suite depicting Sunday School lessons he heard as a child. This is from the scripture in Mark where a possessed man was asked "What is your name?" He replied, "I am Legion, for we are many," referring to the many demons within. The composition represents a battleground between good and evil. The first theme represents evil, ascending minor thirds coming from below. Later, the good theme descends as if coming from above.

### **Tocatta in C Minor**

At the age of nine young Léon entered the school of classical and religious music in Paris. His Tocatta is his best known work, with its driving minor theme in the pedal and the flourishes in the hands, it is an organist and audience spooky favorite, for young and old frights alike.

### **Tu es Petra**

From scripture, "Thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The work opens with a lashing of chords as if it were the flames of hell, the pedal contains the ominous melody of foreboding. The tumultuous scene continues to build in fervor a final swell and hear the theme on full organ. The message of the church prevails in a magnificently satisfying F-sharp major finish.