



LRCD-1123



Riyehee  
Hong

RECITAL IN  
*York Springs*

TAYLOR AND BOODY

OPUS 12



# York Springs

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TAYLOR AND BOODY OPUS 12 (1986)

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1	Fugue in G minor	Johann Adam Reincken	4:48
2	Paduana Lachrymae	Melchior Schildt	5:30
3	Præludium in E minor	Nicolaus Bruhns	9:10
4	Mein junges Leben hat ein End	Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck	7:37
5	Tiento de 1º tono de mano derecha	Pablo Bruna	3:59
6	Trio in G	Gottfried August Homilius	2:58
7	Voluntary in A minor, op. 6, no. 2	John Stanley	5:12
Partita in A major, HWV 454		George Frideric Handel	
8	Allemande		4:14
9	Courante		2:39
10	Sarabande		2:21
11	Gigue		2:26
Prelude and Fugue in A minor, BWV 543		Johann Sebastian Bach	
12	Prelude		3:27
13	Fugue		6:36
TOTAL TIME:			60:59

## THE MUSIC

### Fugue in G minor

*Johann Adam Reincken (1643-1722)*

A key figure in Dutch and North German organ music, Johann Adam Reincken may have exercised considerable influence on J.S. Bach, who later arranged several of the chamber works in Reincken's *Hortus musicus* for organ. Reincken's early musical training was in his home town of Deventer, in the Netherlands, but as a teenager he studied in Hamburg with Heinrich Scheidemann, a student of Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck and organist at St. Catharine Church, the post to which Reincken would hold from 1663 until his death in 1722. Authorship of the Fugue in G minor on this recording is not definitively known but is widely attributed to Reincken. With its highly profiled subject combining arpeggios and driving, repeated notes, alternating with episodes of highly figural sequential composition, this



shows how much the form had evolved since the time of Sweelinck.

### Paduana Lachrymae

*Melchior Schildt (1592 or 1593-1667)*

The son and grandson of organists in his native Hanover, Melchior Schildt moved to Amsterdam in 1609, where he studied with Sweelinck for three years. Lost for nearly three centuries, Schildt's music was rediscovered in manuscript in 1955, and exemplifies the North German organ school of the first half of the seventeenth century that was influenced by the techniques of his teacher. (For a recording of the complete works of Schildt, see Loft Recordings LRCD-1104 "Organ Works of Melchior Schildt") His *Paduana Lachrymae* is a set of five variations based on the first of seven pavaes in the collection *Lachrymae*, or

*Seaven Teares*, for lute and consort of viols, published in 1604 by the English composer John Dowland. Schildt's variations are filled with quasi-improvisatory scalar passagework characteristic of the lute origins of this pavane, yet take full advantage of the resources offered by the keyboard to present variations that exhibit steadily increasing contrapuntal and rhythmic complexity.

#### **Præludium in E minor**

*Nicolaus Bruhns (1665-1697)*

Descended from a family of musicians active in Schleswig-Holstein, Nicolaus Bruhns, a student of Buxtehude, was a leading figure of the North German organ school of the later seventeenth century. A violinist and gambist in addition to being an organist, Bruhns was famous for accompanying his own elaborate violin performances while seated at the organ playing the pedals. Buxtehude recommended Bruhns for a position in Copenhagen, where Bruhns worked for a few years before becoming organist in the North Frisian town of Husum, close to the modern border of Denmark, where he

remained until his early death at age 31. Bruhns's surviving output for organ is small: four præludia (one probably not his) and a large chorale fantasia on *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland*. The præludium presented here is the larger of two in E minor. Its five sharply contrasted sections masterfully display the principal compositional techniques of the organ music of its time: an opening, improvisational toccata; a fugue in the *ricercare* style whose slow, descending chromatic subject and pulsating, repeated-note countersubject masterfully culminate in affecting, plangent dissonance; a second, lengthy toccata of greatly varying textures; a second, lighter fugue with a gigue-like character; and a concluding toccata finishing off the work with a quick, intense climax.

#### **Mein junges Leben hat ein End**

*Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621)*

The Dutch organist, composer and teacher Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck—the “Orpheus of Amsterdam”—occupied a towering position as progenitor of the North German organ school. Born (like

Reincken) in Deventer, but resident in Amsterdam nearly his entire life, Sweelinck was organist of his city's Oude Kerk for more than 40 years. During his lifetime his fame and influence as a composer and performer extended throughout Europe. Sweelinck left a large body of vocal, organ, and harpsichord music, notable for its virtuosity, motivic development, and contrapuntal sophistication; in the latter domain, Sweelinck is especially notable for his fugal writing, which foreshadowed the innovative and highly learned fugal

compositions characteristic of the North German school in the seventeenth century and later. Sweelinck's set of six Variations on the secular tune *Mein junges Leben hat ein End* display his mastery of variation techniques. (Like his student Schildt, Sweelinck also composed variations on Dowland's *Paduana Lachrymae*). The work is comprised of six variations. In the first three variations the melody is presented unadorned over a lively accompaniment that includes motivic imitation and increasingly rapid keyboard





figuration. The fourth and fifth variations apply figuration to the theme itself, while the accompanying parts, in contrast, start out simply but then become ever more active rhythmically and contrapuntally. The closing variation recalls the texture and mood of the opening; the contrapuntal intricacies of the accompanying parts are again contrasted with the unadorned theme as the variations come to their close.

**Tiento de 1° tono de mano derecha**  
**Pablo Bruna (1611-1679)**

Even though Pablo Bruna was blind

(due to smallpox contracted at the age of five), he became organist and later choirmaster of the church of St. Maria in his native city of Daroca in Aragon, Spain. Bruna composed twenty *tientos*, works in a free, often imitative and virtuosic style comparable to the fantasia or toccatas current in other countries of seventeenth-century Europe. As with the Italian appellation *toccata*, the Spanish *tiento* derives from the verb “to touch,” suggesting a sophisticated work for keyboard. Bruna’s *Tiento de 1° tono de mano derecha* is in three broad sections and, as the title suggests, accords a prominent role to the right hand. The first section starts in a solemn, imitative style but quickly introduces a bouncing cadential figure that is then repeated sequentially many times. A formal break announces a second section, in triple time, filled with syncopated rhythms yet retaining an essential connection to the ascending melodic figure that opened the work. A third section is joined almost seamlessly to the second, similar in tone to the imitative texture of the opening, yet increasingly dominated by elaborate figuration.

**Trio in G**  
**Gottfried August Homilius (1714-1785)**

Homilius was a composer of a large number of vocal and instrumental works who has enjoyed an increasing reputation as advocate of the *empfindsamer Stil* (“sensitive style”), especially in sacred music of the early classical period. While a law student in Leipzig in the 1730s and 1740s, Homilius, who had a much stronger interest in music, studied composition and organ with J. S. Bach. In the Trio in G one can observe, in the studied imitation, the interplay of figuration in the two manuals, the sequential writing, and the fluent support provided by the pedals, key characteristics of Bach’s trio writing; yet in the Homilius the tone is lighter, simpler, and perhaps deliberately “edifying” in the manner of this newly emerging style of the mid-eighteenth century.

**Voluntary in A Minor, op. 6, no. 2**  
**John Stanley (1712-1786)**

Nearly blind from the age of two, the London organist, violinist, and composer John Stanley began musical studies at seven. By eleven he was appointed organist at the

Church of All Hallows, Bread Street, and at seventeen was reportedly the youngest recipient of a B. Mus. degree from Oxford. Stanley had a remarkable ability to assimilate new works, and his great versatility and skill made him a leading light in London musical life in the age of Handel and later. Stanley conducted many performances of Handel’s oratorios and was, as Handel had earlier been, a governor of the Foundling Hospital (famous for its annual charitable performances of *Messiah*). In 1779 he became Master of the King’s Music, a post he held until his death. The work on this recording, Stanley’s Voluntary in A minor from 1752, consists of two contrasting movements. The stately opening Andante weaves a tight web of short motives in a texture characteristic of the by-then-receding high Baroque. In contrast, the two-voice texture of the Allegro that follows is bright and cheerful despite its overall minor key, punctuated by rapid passagework and sequences along with frequent digressions into major keys. The Allegro’s clear sectional form, with its many restatements of its opening material, contrasts strongly with the through-composed structure of the Adagio.



## Partita in A Major, HWV 454

*George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)*

The Partita in A major is one of several keyboard works that Handel composed around 1705-06, likely in Hamburg. It follows the traditional plan, also employed in the *sonata da camera*, of allemande, courante, sarabande (here in the style of a chaconne), and gigue. The keyboard writing of this partita is completely idiomatic, with a rhythmic drive and contrapuntal disposition rooted in Handel's renowned improvisational technique. And while Handel's keyboard suites do not display the rigor and polish of the partitas and suites of J.S. Bach to which they inevitably are compared, they in many instances surprise the listener with sudden and quite unexpected turns in harmony and texture.

## Prelude and Fugue in A Minor

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*

Bach's "Great" Prelude and Fugue in a minor, BWV 543, is a fitting conclusion to a recording containing several compositions of the North German school. Many of elements of the North German

quasi-improvisational style are present in the prelude. They include broken-chord figuration of contrapuntally-conceived harmonic progressions over chromatically descending bass lines, virtuosic cadenza-like passages, and harmonic progressions of steadily increasing tension played over long-held pedal tones. The fugue that follows, in contrast, displays Bach's preeminent rigor in contrapuntal technique. There, the 6/8 meter theme reveals, in its unaccompanied statement at the outset, a multi-voice polyphonic design fully contained within itself. The theme in turn supports, and is supported by, diverse appearances of countersubjects, with numerous interspersed episodes built up from thematic material derived from the motivic elements of the theme and countersubjects. The fugue concludes with a virtuosic, cadenza-like section in which the performer's skills on the pedals, and then the manuals is shown to brilliant effect.

—PETER BRESLAUER



## THE ORGAN

**HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
YORK SPRINGS, PENNSYLVANIA  
TAYLOR & BOODY ORGANBUILDERS  
OPUS 12 (1986)**

### GREAT

Principal	8'
Quintadena	8'
Octave	4'
Superoctave	2'
Sesquialtera II	
Mixture III-IV	

### POSITIVE

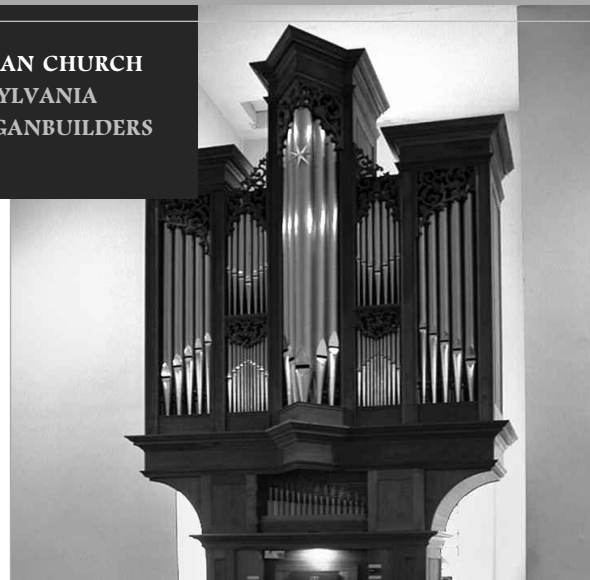
Gedackt	8'
Blockflöte	4'
Octave	2'
Quinte	1 1/3'
Regal	8'

### PEDAL

Subbass	16'
Trompet	8'

### Couplers:

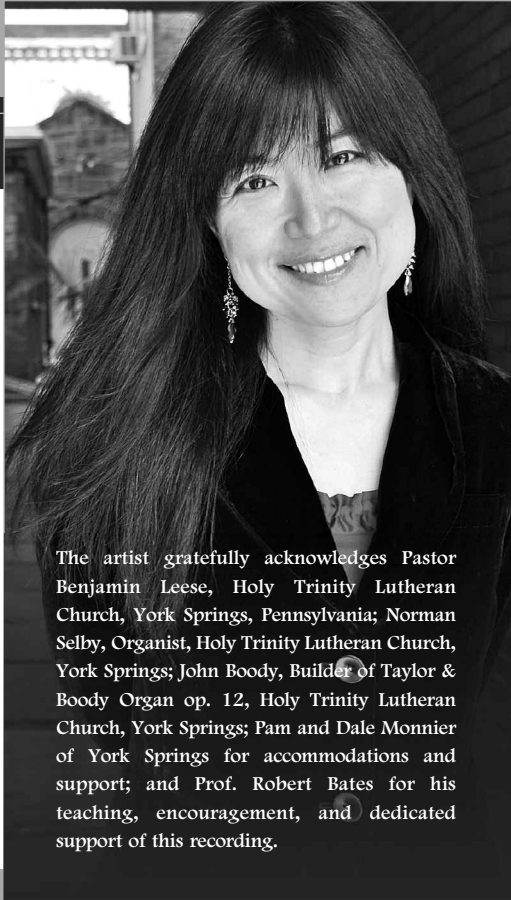
Gt/Pos	Zimbelstern
Gt/Ped	Tremulant (whole organ)
Pos/Ped	Kirnberger III temperament



## THE ARTIST

**T**he American musician **Riyehee Hong** has enjoyed an international career as an organist and choirmaster in Massachusetts, California, Texas, Pennsylvania, France, and Spain. She has extensively performed in Europe and the United States, including several programs of music of the German Baroque of the 17th and 18th centuries performed on historically significant organs. She received a Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Houston, Moores School of Music, where she was a student of Robert Bates and completed a dissertation on the late-18th-century "Post-Classical" French organ composer Guillaume Lasceux.

PHOTO © JULIE DESIDERIO



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## CREDITS

**Executive producer**  
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**Recording, editing & mastering**  
Roger W. Sherman

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**Photography**  
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