Olson holds a B.Mus. degree in Organ Performance and Sacred Music from Pacific Lutheran University, where he was a student of David P. Dahl, Margaret Irwin-Brandon, and Maurice Skones.

In 1981, Olson earned a M. Mus. degree in Organ Performance and Music Literature from the University of Oregon, where he graduated a Pi Kappa Lambda honor student. His teachers were John Hamilton and Guy Bovet. He was organist at Central Lutheran Church in Eugene, Oregon during this time.

Olson pursued doctoral studies in Organ Performance and Choral Conducting at the University of Washington where his mentors were Carole Terry, Joan Catoni Conlon, and Abraham Kaplan. He was for many years an accompanist in the UW Voice and Choral Divisions.

He has done additional post graduate performance studies in organ, choral conducting, and sacred music at the Eastman School of Music, Eton, (UK), Westminster Choir College of Rider University, Indiana University, and at Hebrew Union College in New York City.

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UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

GUEST ARTIST SERIES

Paul Richard Olson

organ

Beall Concert Hall Sunday, April 14, 2013, 4 p.m. PROGRAM ABOUT TONIGHT'S ARTIST

Three Organ Works

Johann Ludwig Krebs (1713-1780)

Prelude in C Major Fantasia in F Major Fantasia and Fugue in F Major

Prelude VIII in E flat Major

Johann Christian Kittel (1732-1809)

Two Chorale Preludes from "The Great 18"

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr, S. 663 Nun Danket Alle Gott, S. 657

Three Pieces

Albert-Paul Alain (1880-1971)

Largo (Prière) Aria Pastorale

Dialog Prelude with Choral

Ester Mägi (b.1922)

Ester Mägi has been dubbed the "first lady" of Estonian music, renowned for her sensitive qualities as much as for her strength of form. Most of her output is vocal and chamber music, but her few symphonic pieces have become standard repertoire for many conductors. (Cleveland Kersh, 2004)

Prelude and Fugue in B minor, S. 544

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please reserve applause until the conclusion of the entire program

Paul Richard Olson has served as Organist and Choirmaster at the historic Grace Church (Episcopal) in Brooklyn Heights, New York since 1992. He is the Music Specialist in the Grace Church Nursery School, teaching singing and music skills to children from age two through kindergarten.

Olson is the principal accompanist for the Preparatory Division of the internationally acclaimed Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy. He also serves as a staff accompanist at Brooklyn Heights Synagogue, Temple Shaaray Tefila, New York City, and Temple Emanuel, Long Beach, New York, and at The Academy of Jewish Religion (Cantorial School) in Yonkers, New York.

In addition to his busy church and synagogue duties, Olson maintains an active schedule as a chamber musician and recitalist. He appears regularly as an accompanist with singers and major church choirs and choral societies in New York City and throughout the United States.

He has performed at numerous music festivals including the Aspen and Oregon Bach Festivals. For two seasons, Olson was the pianist for the televised Lincoln Center Holiday Tree Lighting Festival in New York City.

As an organ soloist, he has performed countless recitals in major churches and on college and university campuses around the country and abroad. He has been a featured recitalist, clinician, and accompanist at national and regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists and at other church music conferences and workshops.

A native of the Pacific Northwest, Olson served as a church musician for several major churches in the area before moving to New York in 1992. During this time he was a frequent performer with the Seattle Symphony Chorale and Northwest Chamber Chorus. Paul was organist at Temple De Hirsch Sinai in Seattle for many years.

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