

Pilgrims of Light

In this talk, Latvian concert pianist Reinis Zarins proposes to survey a handful of contemporary classical composers who are all Christian, and each in their own way seek to express their worldview through their music. The resulting rich variety joyfully affirms the inconceivably abundant content of our faith. This talk will be accompanied by an evening recital that showcases the work of these composers.

Reinis Zariņš has performed as a concerto soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician throughout Europe and North America. He has participated in prestigious music festivals including the Lucerne Festival, the Bath International Music Festival, and the Scotia Festival of Music. His thoughtful virtuosity has delighted audiences at Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, London's Wigmore hall, New York's Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, and the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall in Moscow. Reinis has collaborated with leading orchestras including the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, Kremerata Baltica, and the Ostrobothnian Chamber Orchestra, and with conductors Pierre Boulez, Peter Eötvös, Pablo Heras-Casado, and Andris Poga, among others. His performances have been broadcast live by BBC Radio 3, NDR, Polish National Radio, and King FM. In 2018, he was Artist-in-Residence at Latvian Radio 3 and the Cēsis Concert Hall with his Trio Palladio. Reinis Zariņš regularly performs in his native Latvia and has won the country's Grand Music Award four times in the Outstanding Interpretation category. He champions the work of Latvian composers — several of Reinis's albums are dedicated to Latvian music, including his most recent disc of Pēteris Vasks' piano works. For his service to Latvian culture, Reinis has been awarded the Order of the Three Stars by the President of Latvia. More info: reiniszarins.com

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A. Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

- Dazzlement

1. Sound-colour
2. Birdsong
3. Timelessness

B. John Tavener (1944-2013)

- Innocence / Simplicity

1. Timelessness: symmetry, blocks, non-development, Byzantine chant

C. Georgs Pelēcis (1947)

- Euphony

D. Andrejs Selickis (1960)

- Archetypes