

## Hans-Ola Ericsson – Organist, Pedagogue, Composer

Hans-Ola Ericsson's activities in the field of music in general and in the art of music for the organ in particular is extensive and diverse.

He is active as concert organist with concerts in all the Nordic countries, the Baltic countries, in most of the other European countries, with a special emphasis on Germany, as well as in USA, Canada, Japan, South Korea and China.

The repertoire is broad but there is a particular focus on the music from the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries as well as on music from the baroque era with a special emphasis on the music by Johann Sebastian Bach.

The successful career as a performer has led to numerous recordings (see below) including a highly acclaimed complete recording of Olivier Messiaen's organ music. In 1999 the influential German magazine Die Zeit named this complete recording one of the 111 most important recordings for the next millennium ([http://www.zeit.de/1999/01/111\\_Platten\\_fuer\\_das\\_naechste\\_Jahrtausend](http://www.zeit.de/1999/01/111_Platten_fuer_das_naechste_Jahrtausend)).

In connection to different recording projects, he worked extensively together with different composers, such as Johan Cage, Olivier Messiaen, György Ligeti, and Bengt Hambraeus.

As pedagogue Ericsson has held positions as full, tenured Professor at The School of Music in Piteå of Luleå University of Technology, Sweden, and at the Schulich School of Music of McGill University in Montreal, Canada. He has also been appointed guest professor in Bremen, Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Helsinki, Riga, Esbjerg and in Regensburg. He is also frequently engaged as a jury member in international organ competitions.

Due to his profound knowledge of music for the organ and of the instrument itself, Ericsson is frequently engaged as consultant in organ building projects. In addition he has led two larger projects, the Övertorneå project and the building of the organ in Studio Acusticum in Piteå.

Ericsson's compositional activities were intense until the middle of the 1980s with an extensive work list. After that there was long period of relative compositional silence. However, in 2000 Ericsson wrote an organ mass, "The Four Beasts' Amen", for organ and electronics. The work was commissioned for the inauguration of the prestigious research organ in Göteborg (GOArt). After that several works for different settings, including stage music have been premiered.

Hans-Ola Ericsson is a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Music, the Swedish Society of Composers, Kungl. Skytteanska samfundet, and member honoris causa of the Royal Canadian College of Organists.