

The "Organ Heard 'Round The World": Cameron Carpenter to Launch Worldwide Touring Organ

1 message

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Subject: The "Organ Heard 'Round The World": Cameron Carpenter to Launch Worldwide Touring Organ

Cameron Carpenter announces his new Worldwide Touring Organ, his new contract with Sony Classical, and a celebration at Lincoln Center.

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PRESS RELEASE

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CAMERON CARPENTER

The "Organ Heard 'Round The World": Cameron Carpenter to Launch Worldwide Touring Organ

*Day-long Lincoln Center festival, Sony Classical album,
international television special and European tour to
launch artist's personal instrument in 2014*

- Will be Carpenter's preferred instrument for all touring, recording
- Will allow Carpenter to perform anything from his repertoire at any venue worldwide
- Designed by Carpenter, built in the USA by Marshall & Ogletree

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--Berlin, June 5, 2013. Today [Cameron Carpenter](#), the "extravagantly talented" (The New York Times) "smasher of cultural and classical music taboos" (The New Yorker Magazine) announces the Spring 2014 launch of his long-awaited International Touring Organ; his March 9, 2014 launch festival at Lincoln Center (shows at [2pm](#) and [7pm](#); and the signing of his new recording contract with [Sony Classical](#), with release of the first album in early 2014.

Currently under construction in the USA, the organ consists mainly of a modular five-

keyboard console; a massively parallel processing system utilizing samples from several organs key to Cameron's artistic development; and a proprietary "geographic" concert audio system scalable to the largest concert halls, medium alternative venues such as nightclubs, open-air use, and television. Built by digital organ pioneers [Marshall & Ogletree LLC](#) of Needham, MA, the touring organ will allow Cameron's repertoire – already legendary for its diversity, from the complete works of Bach, Franck and Liszt to hundreds of transcriptions of orchestral, piano and vocal music, film music and jazz – to expand in ever more compelling directions.



"My vision is to keep the best of the classical organ – its emotional magnitude, its sonic range, its coloristic drama – but to liberate these from the pipe organ's immobility, its moving parts, its cost, its institutionality. I want the "American Classic" cathedral organ to combine with its counterpart, the cinema organ, in a single instrument. It has to have the cathedral organ's expansiveness, and the Wurlitzer's rapidity and audacity. It will be ethereal and rhythmless at times – and at other times more rhythmically intense than any pipe organ in the world."

Cameron will officially open the organ on March 9, 2014 in a day-long festival at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall. Produced by Columbia Artists Music LLC, the festival includes two full-length concerts among other events. The introduction of the organ on one of the most important American stages is only to be expected from Cameron's American management CAMI Music LLC, where Cameron's manager **Toby Tumarkin** says "Cameron is one of the most daring artists with whom we've ever worked. Our Lincoln Center launch festival will be a perfect showcase not only of this historic organ but also the depth and breadth of Cameron's artistry." Following this, the organ will fly to Europe in

advance of Cameron's extensive May 2014 tour of major European concert halls, including the Baden-Baden Festspielhaus, Vienna Konzerthaus, Cologne Philharmonie, Frankfurt Alte Oper, and many others.



Sony Classical has just signed Cameron Carpenter to a long term multi-album recording contract, with the international release of his debut Sony album to be recorded on his touring organ for 2014 release. The album will combine a variety of Cameron's famous transcriptions and settings of classical and modern music -

including a cycle of "song treatments" ranging from the American Songbook to the present day - with a world premiere recording of Cameron Carpenter's new work for organ, *Music for an Imaginary Film* (2013).

In addition to the audio album, the release will include a DVD examining Cameron's work, his touring organ dream, and its path from vision to reality. (*A formal announcement of the documentary and television partners will be made separately*).

Bogdan Roscic, President of Sony Classical, said: "Cameron is one of the very few artists who could even contemplate a project like this. With his charisma, his mind-boggling virtuosity, his ability to create original music for himself and others, but above all his vision for a new organ, he will give the most majestic and all-encompassing of instruments a new place on the world's stages. We are tremendously excited to be his partners as the touring organ begins its journey."

Perception of the organ as an institutional instrument is something Cameron looks forward to shifting with the touring organ. "Organists almost never own their instruments – meaning they play at the pleasure of whomever does. The organ scene is rife with stories of organists who have lost instrument relationships of years at the behest of a change in management. Such a situation is too insecure for real artistic freedom, and the digital organ stands to give organists the chance for deeper relationships with their craft – of which this organ may be a bold first step." **Cornelia Schmid**, President of Konzertdirektion Schmid, who helped Cameron secure the financing to purchase his

instrument, agrees. "Owning an instrument is a natural thing for most instrumentalists. For Cameron as an organist who appears at all major venues of the world, it should be natural, too. I admit that this idea might seem quite unusual, but so is Cameron. We are glad Konzertdirektion Schmid can support making his dream come true, and we're convinced that this will be not just is a new episode in Cameron's success story, but also a unique and very enriching contribution to modern musical life."

Founded by degreed organists Douglas Marshall and David Ogletree, organbuilding firm **Marshall & Ogletree** shot to fame in 2003 with their first organ, a monumental instrument for Trinity Church Wall Street in NYC. Built to replace the pipe organ damaged on 9/11, and subsequently declared Trinity's long-term organ, it was the first digital instrument to replace a major pipe organ in a venue of national prominence. The decision was immediately controversial, but not to Cameron Carpenter – who, then a student at The Juilliard School, began working closely with Marshall & Ogletree to expand the artistic palettes of their instruments by hybridizing the "American Classic" cathedral organ with the sound of the American theatre organ in ways that could never be achieved in a pipe organ. "We're thrilled that Cameron has chosen M&O to build his dream instrument," says M&O co-founder **David Ogletree**. "This is the organ that will literally be heard 'round the world', and it will be a 'pilgrimage organ' as never before possible: one whose pilgrimage brings it to the listener, rather than the historical reverse."

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Cameron Carpenter is represented by CAMI Music LLC (www.camimusic.com) for North America and Asia, and Konzertdirection Schmid (www.kdschmid.de) for Europe, UK/Nordic/AU/NZ and Russia.



Video

On **CNN Next**. June 25, 2012 **Cameron Carpenter** breaths new life into the ancient organ.



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