

Sarah Svendsen - Biography

Sarah Svendsen is a concert organist living and teaching in Ontario, Canada. She teaches organ, piano, voice, flute, theory, and university audition preparation. Sarah is also the Music Director at Collier Street United Church where she oversees the Music Outreach Program. This program offers free music education to children and teens. In her performance career, Sarah has both broadcasted live as well as recorded for the Canadian Broadcast Corporation and has played internationally in places such as St. Paul's Cathedral in London, U.K.. She also has a comedic duo with best friend Rachel Mahon. Entitled *Organized Crime Duo*, the group uses slapstick comedy, skits and light-acrobatics to provide musically themed fun for all ages (www.organizedcrimeduo.com). Sarah sits on the National Strategic Planning Committee for the Royal Canadian College of Organists (RCCO), is a travelling clinician for the RCCO, and is a regular guest artist for the Toronto D.A.R.E. Arts program for at-risk children. Sarah holds a Masters in Music from the Yale School of Music as well as a Church Music Diploma from the Yale Institute of Sacred Music. She is currently pursuing her Doctorate in Music at the University of Toronto. For more information or to contact Sarah, please go to www.sarahsvendsen.com.

Workshop suggestions:

1. Organist Practice and Performance Hygiene: A Lecture on the Musculoskeletal Concerns of Organists with a Participatory Preventative Exercise Seminar
2. Divine Musical Outreach: Designing Secular Music Programs in a Sacred Space
3. Masterclasses:
 - a) Functional Church Musician Instruction for the Novice (Reformed Hymn Playing)
 - b) Performance (Beginner to Advanced)

Concerts:

Sarah offers a child-friendly matinee with audience participation. This concert can be in addition to a standard concert or stand alone.