

# CHRISTOPHER S. MARKS

102 THOMAS ROAD • DEWITT, NY 13214  
PHONE (315) 449-4819 • E-MAIL [csmarks@syr.edu](mailto:csmarks@syr.edu)

## EDUCATION

---

- 1995 – 1999      Eastman School of Music                      Rochester, NY  
*Doctor of Musical Arts in organ performance*
- 1997              Eastman School of Music                      Rochester, NY  
*Performer's Certificate in organ*
- 1994 – 1995      University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign      Urbana, IL  
*Master of Music in organ performance*
- 1992 – 1994      University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign      Urbana, IL  
*Master of Music in piano performance*
- 1988 – 1992      University of Richmond                      Richmond, VA  
*Bachelor of Music in piano performance*
- *summa cum laude* with departmental honors

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

---

- 2006 – present      University of Nebraska-Lincoln                      Lincoln, NE  
*Assistant Professor of Organ*
- 2002 – 2006      Syracuse University                      Syracuse, NY  
*Assistant Professor, University Organist*
- **Duties:** as below – the new job title represents a promotion to tenure track.
- 1999 – 2002      Syracuse University                      Syracuse, NY  
*University Organist, Hendricks Chapel Organist, Affiliate Artist*
- **Duties:** teaching organ majors and non-majors at the Setnor School of Music, teaching music theory classes, playing weekly interdenominational chapel services in Hendricks Chapel, accompanying the Hendricks Chapel Choir, performing weddings, funerals, and convocations as needed, overseeing maintenance of organs, overseeing the Malmgren organ concert series.

Summer 1999            Göteborg Organ Art Center            Göteborg, Sweden  
*Doctoral Dissertation Editor*

- **Duties:**        helping a doctoral student edit an English dissertation on nineteenth-century German organ music.

Spring 1999            Eastman School of Music            Rochester, NY  
*Graduate Instructor*

- **Duties:**        teaching organ repertory class.

Fall 1998              Eastman School of Music            Rochester, NY  
*Music Theory Teaching Assistant*

- **Duties:**        teaching intermediate keyboard skills class.

1997-1998            Eastman School of Music            Rochester, NY  
*Organ Teaching Assistant*

- **Duties:**        teaching secondary organ students, preparing materials for the organ repertory class.

1995-1998            Eastman School of Music            Rochester, NY  
*Accompanying Graduate Assistant*

- **Duties:**        accompanying (on piano) a wide range of instruments and voices for lessons, recitals, and classes.

1999                    South Presbyterian Church            Rochester, NY  
*Organist and Choir Director*

- **Duties:**        playing service music on organ and piano for one weekly service, directing one adult choir.

1995-1998            All Saints Episcopal Church            Irondequoit, NY  
*Organist and Choirmaster*

- **Duties:**        playing service music on the organ for two weekly services, directing one adult choir, performing administrative duties for the music program.

1994-1995            Faith United Methodist Church            Champaign, IL  
*Organist*

- **Duties:**        playing service music on the piano and organ for three weekly services, accompanying one adult choir.

1992-1994            First United Methodist Church            Urbana, IL  
*Organist and Director of Music*

- **Duties:**        playing service music on the piano and organ for two weekly services, accompanying one adult choir, performing administrative duties for the music program.

## CLASSES TAUGHT

---

### University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Applied organ lessons, graduate and undergraduate

MUSC 265: Musicianship III

MUSC 977: Performance Practice

### Syracuse University

Applied organ lessons at undergraduate and graduate levels

MTC 147: Ear Training I – Freshman first semester ear training

MTC 245-246: Chromatic Harmony I and II – Sophomore level core music theory class

MTC 248: Ear Training IV – Sophomore second semester ear training

MHL 500: Selected Topics: Survey of Organ Literature

MTC 540: Survey of Basic Theory – Graduate level theory refresher course

MTC/MHL 566: Selected Topics in History and Analysis

Church Music Literature: Survey of sacred music repertoire

Music of J. S. Bach

Performance and Analysis

### Eastman School of Music (teaching assistant)

Applied organ lessons (community education)

Organ Literature

Intermediate Keyboard Skills

## SERVICE AND OUTREACH

---

### University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2006

Music library committee member

Theory search committee member

Graduate supervisory committees: 8 DMA committees

Undergraduate concerto competition jury member

Organized High School Organ Day, Nov. 11

Syracuse University (selected activities)

Choral search committee member, 2005

Interdenominational Protestant chaplain search committee, 2004

Organized Malmgren concert series at Hendricks Chapel, 1999-2006

School of Music Curriculum committee member, 2005-2006

College of Visual and Performing Arts College Board member, 2004-2005

Performed frequently for graduation ceremonies, convocations and other university events

Played for interdenominational chapel services on Sunday mornings

Accompanied and performed with the Hendricks Chapel Choir

American Guild of Organists

Organized and taught for Pipe Organ Encounter 2006, Syracuse

Sub Dean of Syracuse Chapter, 2004-2006

Performed on multiple “outreach” recitals, presented by AGO members in rural churches that would not otherwise be likely to have recitals on their organs, 2004-2006

Taught for Pipe Organ Encounter 2001, Rochester, NY

Organized and taught for Pipe Organ Encounter 2000, Syracuse

Other professional

Judge for finals of the Arthur Poister Competition in Organ Playing, 2004-2006

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND PRIZES

---

Faculty development grant from College of Visual and Performing Arts, Syracuse University, for solo recording *Discoveries*. (2004)

STARS grant, from Syracuse University Faculty Computing and Media Services, for development of online teaching materials. (Fall 2004)

Outstanding Faculty of the Year Award, Setnor School of Music, Syracuse University (2004) – voted on by the students in the school of music

First prize, Arthur Poister Organ Competition, Syracuse, NY, 1998  
Harold Gleason Emerging Artist Award, Eastman School of Music, 1997  
Second prize, Fort Wayne Organ Competition, 1997  
Second prize (tie, no first prize awarded), Ruth and Clarence Mader  
National Organ Playing Competition, 1996  
First prize, San Marino Organ Competition, 1996

## PERFORMANCES

---

Selected list of recent performances (all invited solo recitals unless otherwise indicated)

June 30, 2006 : Organ Historical Society National Convention, Schaghticoke, NY, program including world premiere of *Variations on Beach Spring* by Alfred V. Fedak

April 28, 2006 : Union College, Schenectady, NY

November 20, 2005 : St. Rita Catholic Community, Dallas, TX

October 16, 2005 : Colgate University, Hamilton, NY, with Boston Brass

September 25, 2005 : St. Thomas Church, New York, NY

July 18, 2005 : Organ Historical Society National Convention, New Bedford, MA

April 22, 2005 : Colgate University, Hamilton, NY, program including world premiere of *In the Presence of Mystery* by Mark Volker

December 9, 2004 : State University of New York, Fredonia, with Boston Brass

November 21, 2004 : Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea, OH

January 27, 2004 : Society for New Music concert, Setnor Auditorium, Syracuse University (works for organ and narrator; organ, percussion and tape)

December 7, 2003 : Society for New Music concert, Colgate University, Hamilton, NY (works for organ and narrator; organ, percussion and tape)

October 7, 2003 : Cannon Chapel, University of Richmond, Richmond, VA

July 27, 2003 : "Cazenovia Counterpoint" Society for New Music Concert, First Presbyterian Church, Cazenovia, NY (works for organ and trumpet, solo organ)

## RECORDINGS AND PUBLICATIONS

---

*Discoveries: Christopher Marks Plays the Crouse Holtkamp*, Raven OAR-790 – full solo recording, 2005.

“The Crouse Holtkamp restored”, *The American Organist*, Vol. 39, No. 4 (April 2005), pp. 86-7.

*50 Years of the Crouse Holtkamp*, Syracuse University Recordings – one performance as part of an anthology, contributed to liner notes, 2003.

All organ examples on the CD’s accompanying *Harmonic Practice in Tonal Music* (1<sup>st</sup> edition, 1999) by Robert Gauldin

## ORGAN TEACHERS

---

Michael Farris, Rochester, NY, 1995-1999

Gerre Hancock (improvisation), 1996-1997

Carla Edwards, Urbana, IL, 1994-1995

Michael Farris, Urbana, IL, 1993-1994

Suzanne Bunting, Richmond, VA, 1988-1992

E. Robert Irwin, Greenville, NC, 1984-1988

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

---

College Music Society

American Guild of Organists

Organ Historical Society