

## Carol Williams

D.M.A., ARAM, Dip Ram, AD (Yale), FRCO, FTCL, ARCM, San Diego Civic Organist Emerita

### **Ambition:**

*"I want to bring the classical organ to new audiences. Jazz, rock, blues, classical... and with my performance, make you feel good and come closer to God through music."*

### **Education:**

British born Carol was a child prodigy nurtured in a Welsh musical family. She began private lessons at age five and could read music before English. Carol began performing organ recitals throughout the UK, chauffeured by her father at age eight. Dr. Williams's formal training started with five years at the Royal Academy of Music where she specialized in organ performing as a student of David Sanger and obtained the Academy's prestigious Recital Diploma together with an LRAM (organ) and an LRAM (piano) and there also studied Harpsichord with Virginia Black. Carol was awarded all the major prizes for organ performance and, during her studies she became a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists; a Fellow of Trinity College London; and an Associate of the Royal College of Music. Carol commuted from the UK for a year to study with Daniel Roth, the Organist at the Church of St. Sulpice, Paris. Moving to the United States she undertook postgraduate study at Yale University under the direction of Professor Thomas Murray and was awarded an Artist Diploma together with the Charles Ives prize for outstanding achievement. Carol undertook her Doctoral studies with Professor McNeil Robinson at the Manhattan School of Music and received the Helen Cohn award for her D.M.A. degree in 2001.

### **History:**

Carol recently moved to Central Virginia with her husband Kerry seeking an opportunity to grow in a church community with a fine organ and choir. Carol was appointed the "first woman in the world" to hold the title of "Civic Organist" and is the "first woman to now hold the title "Civic Organist Emerita" as San Diego Civic Organist and Artistic Director of the largest Organ festival in north America from 2001-2017. Carol has traveled the globe performing with choirs, orchestras and entertaining with solo organ. She has extensive experience directing and composing for choirs, hand bells and orchestras in church settings, auditoriums and theaters. Dr. Williams has been invited to perform throughout the United States, England, France, Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Monaco, Luxembourg, Holland, Poland, Germany, Denmark, Singapore, South Korea, China and Russia. Carol throws out a wide net to entice new audiences to God through music. She is known widely for her expert classical skills and collaborations with various symphonies, jazz, blues, pop and rock musicians including the BBC Concert Orchestra, San Diego Symphony Orchestra and the Beijing Symphony Orchestra just to name a few. As a featured musician on many Blogs, PodCasts, Radio Stations and TV News stories in America and the United Kingdom, Carol is host to documentaries and a talk show. In the United Kingdom, Dr. Williams has been elected an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music (ARAM) in recognition of her contribution to music. A couple of her highlight concerts has been for Princes Diana, the Virgil Fox Memorial Concert and the 10th anniversary concert of the Walt Disney Concert Hall Organ.

### **Notable Church Affiliations:**

Chapel Organist, Yale University, New Haven, CT Associate Organist at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Long Island's Garden City, NY Artist in Residence at St. Paul's Cathedral in San Diego, CA,

### **Presently:**

Concert Organist; Composer; Conductor; San Diego Civic Organist Emerita -Director of Music St. Thomas Aquinas Charlottesville University Parish; Artistic Director of Viscount North America; Host of "TourBus" the documentary series (*featuring the great & small, famous & unique pipe organs of the world, its music, people and places*); Host of the YouTube series "On The Bench with Dr. Carol" (*interviewing musicians*)

### **Philanthropy:**

Carol donates several performances per year for various charity fund raising efforts.

### **Appeal:**

Carol performs heavy flashy classical pieces, theater, jazz, pop and everything in-between. Her programs are of vast diversity, elegance and include her special charismatic humor. Williams' performances are received with "rock star" enthusiasm. Managed by Kerry J. Bell management@melcot.com [management@melcot.com](mailto:management@melcot.com) **619-540-6008**

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